Mr. Chairman,

The Movement of the Non-Aligned Countries Parties to the NPT takes note of the Joint Statement issued on 1 May 2000 by the Five Nuclear Powers outlining their positions on issues relating to nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy and especially its paragraph 5.

The Non-Aligned States Parties note with concern the conditionalities on their obligations to nuclear disarmament made in the said Joint Statement. In this regard, we recall our long-standing and principled positions on nuclear disarmament and related issues of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear tests, reinforced by our Heads of State or Government at the 1998 Durban Summit in South Africa and again emphasized by our Foreign Ministers at their recent meeting in Cartagena, Colombia. We also recall the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control. We furthermore wish to emphasize the conclusion of SSOD-1 that priority in disarmament negotiations should be nuclear weapons.

In this regard, we stress that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is an obligation and a priority and not an ultimate goal, and even less a goal that is linked, subject or conditioned to general and complete disarmament.

The Non-Aligned States Parties therefore call on the Nuclear Weapon States to unconditionally adhere to their commitments to fulfill with determination their nuclear disarmament obligations under Article VI of the Treaty, and to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to the cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and on nuclear disarmament. In this regard also, the Non-Aligned States Parties call for the early commencement of negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament and for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time, including a nuclear weapons convention prohibiting the development, production, testing, employment, stockpiling, transfer, threat or use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.