

2/5/08 AM

**Statement by H.E. Mr. I Gusti Agung Wesaka Puja
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to the United Nations, WTO, and other International Organizations in Geneva**

**on behalf of the Group of Non-Aligned States Parties
to the Treaty of the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
at the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee
for the 2010 Review Conference of the States Parties
to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
Geneva, 2 May 2008**

on specific issue: Nuclear disarmament and security assurances

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Mr. Chairman,

Speaking on behalf of the Group of Non-Aligned States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, allow me to highlight some important elements on the issue of nuclear disarmament and security assurances.

On nuclear disarmament, the Group of Non-Aligned States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons reaffirms that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute assurance that there will be no use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and the sole global guarantee against potentially devastating scenarios of nuclear use, be it irrationally deliberate or irresponsibly accidental, that can bring about unbearable human suffering and loss of life.

The Group of Non-Aligned States parties to the Treaty recalls that the fourteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries had expressed serious concern that the development of new types of nuclear weapons was being considered, and reiterated that the provision for the use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States was in contravention of the negative security assurances that had been provided by the nuclear-weapon States. The Group also recalls that the Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries had restated that the development of new types of nuclear weapons contravened the assurances provided by the nuclear-weapon States at the time of the conclusion of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty that the Treaty would prevent the improvement of existing nuclear weapons and development of new types of nuclear weapons.

For non-nuclear-weapon States, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is anchored on the premise of the achievement of nuclear disarmament as a principle objective. Based on that fact, non-nuclear-weapon States have thus accepted to renounce the military nuclear option and benefit from their inalienable right to peaceful nuclear applications, in the context of the delicate balance existing between the three main pillars of the Treaty expecting balanced and full implementation of such pillars by all. The Group believes that the status of nuclear-weapon States provided for under the Treaty is indeed transitional. Commitments undertaken under Article VI are ones that require full implementation. Such requirement earns an even greater sense of urgency after the indefinite extension of the Treaty in 1995, and the identification of the road map to nuclear

disarmament represented by the 13 practical steps identified and agreed by consensus in 2000.

The Group thus emphasises that the indefinite extension of the Treaty by no means implies the indefinite possession by the nuclear-weapon States of their nuclear arsenals and considers, in that regard, any assumption of indefinite possession of nuclear weapons, as incompatible with the integrity and sustainability of the nuclear non-proliferation regime, both vertical and horizontal, and with the broader objective of maintaining international peace and security.

Mr. Chairman,

On the topic of security assurances, we further reaffirm that non-nuclear-weapon States should be effectively and unconditionally assured by nuclear-weapon States that there will be no use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States. Pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, the Group reiterates that efforts to conclude a universal, unconditional and legally binding instrument on security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States should be pursued as a matter of priority.

At the 2000 Review Conference, the States parties to the Treaty had agreed that legally binding security assurances by the five nuclear-weapon States to the non-nuclear-weapon States parties strengthened the nuclear non-proliferation regime, and called on the Preparatory Committee to make recommendations on the issue to the 2005 Review Conference of the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. The Group parties to the Treaty believe that the 2010 Review Conference should indeed focus substantially on this crucial issue.

Mr. Chairman,

The NAM parties to the NPT reiterate that it is the legitimate right of States that have given up the nuclear-weapon option to receive security assurances. In that regard, the Group calls for the negotiation of a universal, unconditional and legally binding instrument on security assurances, believing that such assurances to the non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty fulfil the undertaking to the States that have willingly given up the nuclear-weapons option by becoming parties to the Treaty. The Group believes that legally binding security assurances within the context of the Treaty would provide an essential benefit to the States parties and facilitate further progress in both nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

Mr. Chairman,

In keeping with the above-mentioned position and in accordance with the consensus outcome of the 2000 Review Conference, the Group of Non-Aligned States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons calls for the establishment of a subsidiary body on security assurances, for further work to be undertaken to consider legally binding security assurances by nuclear-weapon States.

In conclusion, the NAM States parties to the Treaty confirm that in their collective view, the only assurance against the dangers posed by nuclear weapons against human civilization remains general and complete disarmament. We call upon Nuclear-Weapon-States to share our vision through practical measures to be agreed at the 2010 Review Conference, for a safer and more secure world for all. Thank you.