

Statement by Mr. Febrian Alphyanto Ruddyard
Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia

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, 28 April - 9 May 2008

on Cluster 2 issues

Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to speak on behalf of the Non Aligned Movement States, which are party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

The NAM State Parties to the Treaty are very concerned at the forces of unilateralism imperiling the long established principles of multilateralism and the international law. We are against the unilaterally imposed prescriptions and, in this regard, stress that multilateralism and multilaterally agreed solutions, in accordance with the United Nations Charter, provide the only legitimate way for addressing the disarmament and international security issues. Here, we would also emphasise that the established multilateral mechanism under the IAEA is the most appropriate way to address the verification and safeguards issues.

The NAM States parties to the NPT underline that the Treaty is a key instrument in the efforts to halt the vertical and horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons, as well as being an essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament.

We fully recognise the role of IAEA as an independent intergovernmental, science and technology-based organization in the UN system, and that which serves as the sole verification agency for nuclear safeguards. It is clear to us that IAEA is the international focal point for nuclear technical cooperation as well.

The Group stresses the importance of the IAEA safeguards system. In this regard, we urge all States that have yet to bring into force comprehensive safeguards agreements to do so as soon as possible. We would point out that the 2000 Review Conference had considered this as a main objective for consolidating and enhancing the verification system for the non-proliferation regime. However, the NAM State Parties would not want to see the international efforts towards achieving universality of comprehensive safeguards to fizzle out because of pursuing additional measures and restrictions on non-nuclear-weapon States (NNWS). We should remember that the NNWS are already committed to non-proliferation norms, and they have renounced the nuclear-weapon option. We also express our strong rejection of attempts by any Member State to use the technical cooperation programme of IAEA as a tool for political purposes in violation of its statute.

Mr. Chairman,

We reiterate that the IAEA's work with regard to safeguards and verification needs to be conducted in accordance with the provisions of its statute and relevant safeguards agreements, including the Model Additional Protocol, where applicable. The Group stresses that it is fundamental to make the distinction between legal obligations and voluntary confidence-building measures, in order to ensure that such voluntary undertakings are not turned into legal safeguards obligations. In this regard, the Group also emphasises that IAEA should ensure avoiding any ulterior acts jeopardising its integrity and credibility. The Group urges States parties to the Treaty, to maintain and strengthen the technical character of IAEA consistent with the role defined for it in the statute.

With respect to safeguards, the Group believes that the differentiated nature of the financial obligations undertaken by States members of IAEA should be recognised and respected by IAEA in its work.

We take note of the ratification by Afghanistan, Botswana, Burundi, Haiti, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Mauritius, Niger, Nigeria, Turkmenistan, and Uganda of the Additional Protocols and the signing of the

Protocols by Belarus, Benin, Cape Verde, Comoros, Dominican Republic, Gabon, Honduras, Malaysia, Senegal, Singapore, Thailand, Tunisia, and Vietnam.

The NAM parties to the Treaty consider that the full implementation of the pertinent resolutions and decisions of the IAEA General Conference on safeguards and verification and those of the Board of Governors relating to strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards are crucial for improving the safeguards system.

It is also important that principles of confidentiality regarding safeguards are adhered to. The Agency is the only organisation that receives highly confidential and sensitive information on the nuclear facilities of the Member States. The confidentiality of the information should be respected and information should not be provided to those not authorised by the Agency to receive it.

We would also emphasise that the reporting by the IAEA on the implementation of safeguards should continue to be factual and technically based. It should show appropriate reference to the relevant provisions of safeguards agreements.

NAM States Parties underscore the strict observation of the provisions of the IAEA Statute, including Article 12, which outlines the mandate of the Agency in verifying compliance with safeguards Agreements, and in particular that any non-compliance should be reported first from the Agency's inspectors.

Mr. Chairman,

The Movement views the Nuclear-weapon-free-zones (NWFZ) as very important. We welcome the efforts for establishing NWFZ in all regions of the world, and call for cooperation and broad consultations in order to achieve agreements freely arrived at among the States of the regions concerned. We consider that the establishment of such zones created by the Treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok, Pelindaba, and Central Asia, as a positive measure towards attaining the objective of global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. We commend the signing of the Treaty on a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia by Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

It is absolutely vital that pending the total and complete elimination of nuclear weapons, the nuclear-weapon States (NWS) provide unconditional assurances against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons to all States. The Group urges States to conclude agreements with a view to establishing new NWFZ in regions where they do not exist in accordance with the provisions of the Final Document of the First Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament and the principles and guidelines adopted by the United Nations Disarmament Commission at its 1999 substantive session. In this context, we believe that further institutionalisation of Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status would be an important action.

The Group of Non-Aligned States Parties to the NPT emphasises the need for strengthening the integrity of the statute of denuclearisation provided for in the Treaty of Tlatelolco by a review of the declarations, that were formulated by the nuclear-weapon States parties to Protocols I and II for possible withdrawal or modification.

We would also like to welcome the ongoing consultations between the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the nuclear-weapon States on the Protocol of the South-East Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty. Our Group calls upon the NWS to become parties to the Protocol of the Treaty at the earliest.

The Movement stresses the importance of the signature and ratification of the Treaties of Rarotonga, Pelindaba and Central Asia by all States in their respective region, as well as the signature and ratification by the NWS that have not yet done so of the relevant Protocols to those treaties.

Mr. Chairman,

NAM States Parties reiterate the speedy establishment of a NWFZ in the Middle East in accordance with the Security Council Resolution 487 (1981), and paragraph 14 of the Security Council Resolution 687 (1991), as well as the relevant General Assembly resolutions adopted by consensus. We call on all relevant parties to take urgent and practical steps towards the fulfilment of the proposal, which was initiated by Iran in 1974 for the establishment of such a zone.

In ending, NAM assures all delegations for continuing to work constructively with them to achieve concrete outcomes on the issues mentioned.

Thank you.