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Statement by

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to the United Nations**

on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement

at

**The General Debate of the First Committee session
of the 69th United Nations General Assembly**

New York, 7 October 2014

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Mr. Chairman,

1. I congratulate you and other Bureau members on your election, and assure you of the Non-Aligned Movement's full cooperation.
2. NAM reiterates its positions on the entire range of disarmament and international security issues as contained in its Summit and Ministerial documents, in particular—the final document of the 17th Ministerial Conference, held in Algiers in May 2014. In this context,¹ I would like to highlight the Movement's views on some important issues.

Mr. Chairman,

3. The disarmament and international security environment, especially in the realm of nuclear disarmament, continues to be characterized by impasse. Notwithstanding the longstanding calls for the total elimination of nuclear weapons, reiterated by the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament, concrete steps towards that path remain elusive. The Movement is deeply concerned by this dismal state of affairs.
4. In this context, The Movement reaffirms its principled positions on nuclear disarmament, which remains its highest priority, and on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects. NAM Member States stress the importance that efforts aiming at nuclear non-proliferation should be parallel to simultaneous efforts aiming at nuclear disarmament. They expressed concern at the threat to humanity posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and of their possible use or threat of use.

¹ Remain in written statement but not delivered orally.

5. The international community has waited too long for the realization of the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons. The continued espousal of doctrines by some NWS justifying use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against NNWS cannot be justified on any ground.
6. Compliance by the NWS with their nuclear disarmament obligations and commitments under the NPT is imperative and must not be delayed any further. Forward movement on nuclear disarmament cannot be held hostage to progress on non-proliferation or the perceived notions of strategic stability.
7. The Movement underscores the importance of the General Assembly resolution 68/32 entitled "Follow-up to the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament", which provides a concrete pathway for realizing the objective of nuclear disarmament. In this context, the Movement is confident that the full implementation of this resolution, in particular through the commencement of negotiations in the CD for the conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, will ensure tangible progress on nuclear disarmament. The Movement will introduce an updated version of this resolution during this session.
8. The Movement welcomes the first General Assembly Ministerial Plenary Meeting to commemorate the "International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons", held on 26 September 2014. The NAM, as the initiator of this important initiative, further welcomes the reaffirmation of Ministers participating in the meeting that nuclear disarmament continues to be the priority of the international community.

Mr. Chairman,

9. NAM reiterates its deep concern over the greatest threat to peace posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and the military doctrines of the NWS and NATO that set out rationales for the use or threat of use of such weapons.

10. The Movement also expresses its concern over the lack of progress by the Nuclear-Weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals. NAM once again renews its strong call upon the NWS to fully comply with their legal obligations and unequivocal undertakings to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear weapons without further delay, in a transparent, irreversible and internationally verifiable manner.
11. The Movement also calls on the NWS to immediately cease their plans to further modernize, upgrade, refurbish, or extend the lives of their nuclear weapons and related facilities.
12. NAM reaffirms that all NNWS should receive effective, non-discriminatory and legally-binding assurances against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances, pending the achievement of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, which remains the only absolute guarantee against their use or threat of use.
13. NAM affirms the importance of humanitarian considerations in the context of all deliberations on nuclear weapons and in promoting the goal of nuclear disarmament. In this connection, NAM welcomes the growing focus on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons, including at the two Conferences in Oslo and Nayarit. In this regard, the Movement looks forward to a successful forthcoming third Conference to be held in Austria in December 2014. Having said this, NAM reaffirms that the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the assurance that they will never be produced again, is the only absolute guarantee against the catastrophic humanitarian consequences arising from their use.
14. Furthermore, NAM calls upon the NWS to reduce immediately the operational status of nuclear weapons, including through complete de-targeting and de-alerting in order to avoid the risks of unintentional and accidental use of such weapons.

Mr. Chairman,

15. NAM believes that nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation are mutually reinforcing and are essential for strengthening international peace and security. Non-proliferation derives its legitimacy from the larger objective of nuclear disarmament. Pursuing non-proliferation alone while ignoring nuclear disarmament obligations is both counterproductive and unsustainable. NAM emphasizes that proliferation concerns are best addressed through multilaterally negotiated, universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory agreements.
16. NAM States Parties to the NPT call for the full and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of the Treaty and the final documents of its Review Conferences. In this context, they express their determination to continue pursuing, during the 2015 review process, the realization of their priorities, particularly nuclear disarmament.

Mr. Chairman,

17. NAM is of the firm belief that non-proliferation policies shall not undermine the inalienable right of States to acquire, have access to, import or export nuclear material, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes.
18. NAM reaffirms the inalienable right of each State to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy, including the sovereign right to develop full national nuclear fuel cycle, for peaceful purposes without discrimination. The Movement once again reaffirms the sovereign right of each State to define its national energy policies. NAM stresses that any decision on multilateral approaches to the nuclear fuel cycle shall be made by consensus and without prejudice to the inalienable right of each State to develop a full national nuclear fuel cycle.

19. NAM strongly rejects, and calls for the immediate removal of any limitations and restrictions on exports to developing countries of nuclear material, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes, consistent with the provisions of relevant multilateral treaties. In this regard, NAM stresses that the technical cooperation and assistance provided by the IAEA in meeting the needs of its Member States for material, equipment and technology for peaceful uses of nuclear energy shall not be subject to any conditions incompatible with its Statute.
20. NAM once again reaffirms the inviolability of peaceful nuclear activities and that any attack or threat of attack against peaceful nuclear facilities – operational or under construction – poses a great danger to human beings and the environment, and constitutes a grave violation of principles of the UN Charter, international law, and the resolutions of the IAEA General Conference.
21. NAM recognizes that the primary responsibility for nuclear safety rests with individual states. The Movement further recognizes that the responsibility for nuclear security within a State rests entirely with that State. Any multilateral norms, guidelines or rules in nuclear security should be pursued within the framework of the IAEA. The Movement emphasizes that measures and initiatives aimed at strengthening nuclear safety and nuclear security must not be used as a pretext or leverage to violate, deny or restrict the inalienable right of developing countries to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination.

Mr. Chairman,

22. NAM calls upon all Nuclear-Weapon States to ratify related protocols to all treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, withdraw any reservations or interpretative declarations incompatible with their object and purpose, and respect the de-nuclearization status of these zones.

23. NAM strongly supports the establishment of a zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East. Pending its establishment, NAM demands that Israel, the only country in the region that has not joined the NPT nor declared its intention to do so, renounce any possession of nuclear weapons, accede to the NPT without precondition and further delay, and place promptly all its nuclear facilities under IAEA full-scope safeguards. The Movement also calls for the total and complete prohibition of the transfer of all nuclear-related equipment, information, material and facilities, resources or devices and the extension of assistance in the nuclear related scientific or technological fields to Israel.
24. NAM State Parties to the NPT reiterate their serious concern over the delay of almost two decades delay in the implementation of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East and urge the cosponsors of the Resolution to take all necessary measures to fully implement it without any further delay.
25. NAM State Parties to the NPT express their profound disappointment at the fact that the conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction due to have been held in 2012 has not yet been convened, despite the consensus decision of the 2010 NPT Review Conference. The continuing delay in implementing the 2010 Action Plan runs contrary to the letter and spirit of the 1995 Resolution. It also violates the collective agreement reached at the 2010 NPT Review Conference. They stress that the 1995 NPT Extension and Review Conference Resolution on the Middle East and the 2010 NPT Review Conference Action Plan is the basis for establishing the Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction. They strongly reject the alleged impediments for not implementing the 2010 Action plan on the Middle East and the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East, and call for the speedy and full implementation of these collective commitments without any further delay to avoid any additional possible negative repercussions on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime as a whole, including the effectiveness and credibility of the NPT and its 2015 Review process.

26. NAM also stresses the significance of achieving universal adherence to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, including by all NWS, which, inter alia, should contribute to the process of nuclear disarmament. The Movement reiterates that if the objectives of the Treaty were to be fully realized, the continued commitment of all States signatories, especially the NWS, to nuclear disarmament would be essential. In this context, NAM welcomes the recent ratification of the CTBT by Brunei Darussalam, Chad, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq and Niue.

Mr. Chairman,

27. NAM States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons (CWC) note with satisfaction the effective operation of the CWC as the only comprehensive multilateral treaty banning an entire category of WMD, providing for a verification system and promoting the use of chemicals for peaceful purposes. They call upon all concerned possessor State Parties to ensure the complete destruction of their remaining chemical weapons within the final extended deadline. They call for the promotion of international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention without any discrimination and restriction. In this regard, they attach high importance to the adoption by the NAM States Parties to the CWC of a Plan of Action on Article XI on economic and technological development for the full, effective and non discriminatory implementation of all the provisions of the Article XI.

28. NAM State Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) considers that the Convention represents an important component of the international legal architecture related to WMD. They recognize that the lack of a verification system continues to pose a challenge to the effectiveness of the Convention. They call for the resumption of the multilateral negotiations to conclude a non discriminatory legally binding Protocol, dealing with all Articles of the Convention, in a balanced and comprehensive manner to sustainably strengthen the Convention, including through verification measures. They urge the party rejecting negotiations to reconsider its policy. They further emphasize the need for enhancing, without restrictions, international cooperation and assistance and exchanges in toxins, biological agents equipment and technology for peaceful purposes without any discrimination, in conformity with the Convention.
29. In the context of resolutions 1540 (2004), 1673 (2006), 1816 (2008) and S/77 (2011),² adopted by the Security Council in the areas covered by multilateral WMD treaties, NAM underlines the need to ensure that any action by the Security Council does not undermine the UN Charter, existing multilateral treaties on weapons of mass destruction, and international Organizations established in this regard, as well as the role of the General Assembly. NAM cautions against the continuing practice of the Security Council to utilize its authority to define the legislative requirements for Member States in implementing its decisions. In this regard, NAM stresses that the issue of acquisition of weapons of mass destruction by non-State actors should be addressed in an inclusive manner by the General Assembly, taking into account the views of all Member States.

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Mr. Chairman,

30. NAM continues to affirm the sovereign right of States to acquire, manufacture, export, import and retain conventional arms and their parts and components for their self-defense and security needs. NAM expresses its concern about unilateral coercive measures and emphasizes that no undue restriction should be placed on the transfer of such arms.
31. NAM remains deeply concerned over a wide range of security, humanitarian and socio-economic consequences arising from the illicit manufacture, transfer, and circulation of small arms and light weapons (SALW). In this connection, the Movement notes with satisfaction the successful convening of the Fifth Biennial Meeting of States to consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Light Weapons in all its Aspects. NAM calls on all states, in particular major producing States, to ensure that the supply of SALW is limited only to governments or to entities duly authorized by them. NAM also underlines the need for a balanced, full and effective implementation of the PoA and the International Tracing Instrument, and in this regard, stresses the key importance of international cooperation and assistance.
32. NAM stresses the importance of the reduction of military expenditures by major arms producing countries, in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, and urges those countries to devote these resources to global economic and social development, in particular in the fight against poverty.
33. In the context of the thematic debate, NAM will further elaborate on other issues related to conventional weapons, including on the ATT, which was adopted, by vote, by the UN General Assembly on 2nd April 2013, as well as on the issues of Cluster Munitions, Anti-Personnel Land Mines, and Certain Conventional Weapons, and Explosive Remnants of War.

Mr. Chairman,

34. NAM remains concerned over the developments related to the anti-ballistic missile systems and the threat of weaponization and militarization of outer space and reiterates its call for the commencement of negotiations in the CD on a universal legally binding instrument on the prevention of an arms race in outer space.
35. NAM calls for a universal, comprehensive, and non-discriminatory approach toward the issue of missiles within the UN. Any initiative on this subject should take into account the security concerns of all States and their right to peaceful uses of space technologies.
36. As the use of information and communication technologies have the potential to endanger international peace and security, countering such emerging security challenges and reducing their risk is essential. Development of a legal framework to address these issues should be pursued within the UN with the active and equal participation of all States.
37. The Movement notes with concern cases of the illegal use of new Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs), including social networks, to the detriment of Member States of the Movement, and expresses its strongest rejection of those violations. The Movement stresses the importance of ensuring that the use of such technologies is fully in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, International Law and, especially, the principles of sovereignty, non-interference in the internal affairs and internationally-known rules of peaceful coexistence among States.

38. NAM is of the view that Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS) raise a number of ethical, legal, moral and technical, as well as international peace and security related questions which should be thoroughly deliberated and examined in the context of conformity to international law including international humanitarian law and international human rights law. In this regard, NAM States Parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) welcome the informal meeting of CCW experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems held in Geneva from 13-16 May 2014 and support continued deliberations on this issue in the CCW on the basis of an agreed mandate. NAM States Parties to CCW welcome the accession of Iraq to the Convention and its annexed protocols.

Mr. Chairman,

39. NAM remains concerned at the continuous erosion of multilateralism in the field of disarmament, non-proliferation, and arms control. The Movement is determined to continue promoting multilateralism as the core principle of negotiations in these areas and as the only sustainable approach to address these issues, in accordance with the UN Charter.
40. NAM reaffirms the importance of the Conference on Disarmament (CD) as the sole multilateral negotiating body on disarmament, and reiterates its call on the CD to agree on a balanced and comprehensive program of work. To instil a fresh impetus to global nuclear disarmament efforts, NAM calls for the urgent commencement of negotiations, in the CD, for the early conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, which prohibits their possession, development, production, acquisition, testing, stockpiling, transfer, use or threat of use, and provides for their destruction, as called for in resolution 68/32 presented by the Movement.

41. Enhancing the effectiveness of UN disarmament machinery is a shared objective. Based on its existing rules of procedure and methods of work, this machinery has produced landmark treaties and guidelines. NAM believes that the main difficulty lies in the lack of political will by some States to achieve progress, particularly on nuclear disarmament.
42. While welcoming the efforts made during the 2014 session of the Conference on Disarmament on its programme of work, pursuant to CD's decision CD/1974 to re-establish an informal working group (IWG) of the CD, NAM notes the deliberations of the IWG in its meetings during the CD's 2014 session. NAM also takes note of the structured informal discussions held during the CD's 2014 session on all its agenda items in accordance with the Schedule of Activities contained in document CD/1978. The Movement encourages all states to demonstrate the necessary political will so that the CD fulfils its negotiating mandate.
43. For its part, NAM stands ready to engage constructively on the advancement of the issues on the UN disarmament agenda and the ways and means of strengthening the disarmament machinery. NAM reiterates its view that a special session of the General Assembly should be convened to address these issues.
44. The Movement underlines that the exercise of political will by all States is necessary to achieving concrete results. It is confident that with political courage and working together cooperatively, the First Committee can contribute tangibly to building a more secure world.

Thank you.