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Statement by

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on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement

at

the Thematic Debate of the First Committee of the 70th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on Regional Disarmament and Security

Mr. Chairman,

- 1. I am very pleased to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement on this very important cluster theme.
- 2. NAM States Parties to the NPT reiterate their serious concern over the 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.
- 3. NAM State Parties to the NPT reiterate their profound disappointment that the 2010 action plan on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction has not been implemented. 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. This runs contrary to the letter and spirit of the 1995 Resolution which constitutes the original terms of reference of establishing this zone. It also violates the collective agreement reached at the 2010 NPT Review Conference.
- 4. 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 are 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 Review process.

- 5. Recalling the opposition expressed by the US, UK and Canada at the concluding session of the 2015 NPT Review Conference, NAM States Parties to the NPT express their disappointment that as the result of such opposition, consensus on new measures regarding the process to establish a Middle East Zone free of Nuclear Weapons and all other Weapons of Mass Destruction was not achieved. This could undermine efforts towards strengthening NPT regime as a whole. NAM reemphasizes the special responsibility of the co-sponsor States of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East in implementation of that resolution. NAM is concerned that the persistent lack of implementation of the 1995 Resolution, contrary to the decisions made at the relevant NPT Review Conferences undermines the effectiveness and credibility of the NPT and disrupts the delicate balance between its three pillars, taking into account that the indefinite extension of the Treaty agreed at the 1995 Review Conference inextricably linked to the implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East does not entail the right to indefinitely possess nuclear weapons.
- 6. 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 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. NAM expresses great concern over the acquisition of nuclear capability by Israel which poses a serious and continuing threat to the security of neighbouring and other States, and

condemns Israel for continuing to develop and stockpile nuclear arsenals. 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.

- 7. NAM believes that the establishment of Nuclear-Weapon-Free zones (NWFZs) created by the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok, Pelindaba, the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone treaty as well as Mongolia's Nuclear-Weapon-Fee-Status are positive steps and important measures towards strengthening global nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation. They reiterate that in the context of NWFZs, it is essential that nuclear-weapon States should provide unconditional assurances against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons to all States of the zone. 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.
- 8. NAM urges States to conclude agreements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned with a view to establishing new NWFZs 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 (SSOD-I) and the Principles and Guidelines adopted by the UN Disarmament Commission in 1999.
- 9. NAM would also like to emphasize the importance of the UN activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament.

10.NAM is presenting two draft resolutions entitled "Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace", and "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament" relating to this cluster theme. The Movement once again seeks the support of all Member States for the adoption of the aforesaid draft resolution and draft decision, without vote.

Thank you.