

**Statement by the delegation of the Republic of Indonesia**

**on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement States Parties to the  
NPT**

**Cluster 2 Specific Issue: Regional issues, including with respect  
to the Middle East and implementation of the 1995 Middle East  
Resolution**

**Second Preparatory Committee for the  
2020 Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation  
of Nuclear Weapons**

**Geneva, 30 April 2018**

Mr. Chairman,

1. The Group reaffirms that the Treaty recognizes the right of any group of States to conclude regional treaties in order to assure the total absence of nuclear weapons in their respective territories, which the Group considers to be a contribution towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons. The Group further welcomes the efforts aimed at establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones in all regions of the world, and in this regard strongly supports the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East.
2. The Group expresses deep concern over the long delay in the implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East and urges the three co-sponsors of the resolution to fulfill their responsibility by taking all necessary measures to fully implement it without any further delay.
3. The Group expresses its serious concern that no progress has been achieved with regard to Israel's accession to the Treaty, the placement of all Israel's nuclear facilities under the IAEA

full-scope safeguards and the delay in the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, all of which are objectives and priorities that were stressed at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences.

4. The Group affirms its commitment to the establishment of a zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East region in accordance with the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences.
5. The Group calls on the international community to fulfill its responsibilities in implementing the 1995 resolution on the Middle East to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone and other weapons of mass destruction, and initiate the convening of a conference to establish such a zone taking the 1995 Middle East Resolution as its terms of reference, and in accordance with the outcomes of the 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences.
6. The Group deeply regrets that the sponsors of the 1995 resolution on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone and other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East have not fulfilled the commitments they made in the 2010 work plan regarding the implementation of the 1995 Resolution.
7. The Group underlines that the 2020 Review Conference should substantially focus on the Middle East, including through the establishment of a subsidiary body to its Main Committee II to assess the implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East, as well as creating a standing committee comprising members of its Bureau to follow up intersessionally on the implementation of the recommendations made by the Review Conference concerning Israel's prompt accession to the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the placement of all its nuclear facilities under the IAEA full-scope safeguards, which should report to the 2025 Review Conference and its Preparatory Committee.
8. The Group expresses its disappointment that, as a result of opposition by the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada at the 2015 Review Conference 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. The Group is concerned that the persistent failure to implement the 1995 resolution, contrary to the decisions made at the Treaty's Review Conferences, undermines the non-proliferation regime effectiveness and credibility of the Treaty and disrupts the delicate balance between its three pillars, taking into account that the indefinite extension of the Treaty is inextricably linked to the implementation of the 1995 resolution. Reaffirming that the Resolution remains valid until its objectives are fully achieved, the Group strongly calls for its implementation without any further delay.

9. Without disregarding the special responsibility of the 3 co-sponsors of the 1995 Resolution in its implementation, The Group also re-emphasizes the importance of the mandated responsibility of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in the implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East, and accordingly, calls upon him to accelerate his efforts to ensure the convening, without any further delay, of a successful conference.
10. The Group underscores that such efforts should be undertaken in accordance with the elements contained in paragraph 25 of the Group's working paper on the Middle East submitted to this session, and should be focused on convening the conference no later than 2020, with the aim of launching a process to negotiate and conclude a legally binding treaty on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction.
11. In this regard, the Group underlines the importance of the demands and practical proposals contained in the mentioned Working Paper, and calls for their full endorsement and implementation without delay.
12. The Group urges the convening of the conference without any further delay, in order to avoid any negative repercussions on the credibility of the Treaty and on the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime as a whole.

13. The Group strongly rejects the claims contained in a working paper submitted by one State Party that the NPT Review Conference cannot be the primary mechanism for progress on the implementation of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East. The Group also strongly opposes the imposition of new preconditions that are totally not within the scope of the Treaty or the 1995 Resolution for the commencement of the necessary negotiations among States of the region. The Group stresses that 1995 Resolution was adopted by the Review Conference itself, and formed the basis for the indefinite extension of the Treaty. The Group believes that such arguments are counterproductive and that such pre-conditions clearly aim at delaying the launching of serious negotiations on this agreed binding commitment
  
14. The Group once again reaffirms its determination to extend its fullest cooperation and exert its utmost efforts with a view to ensuring the early establishment in the Middle East of a zone free of nuclear weapons.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.