

## Statement by Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia

on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement State Parties to the NPT

at the Third Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

<u>Cluster 1 Specific Issue:</u> Nuclear disarmament and security assurances

New York, May 2019

## Mr. Chairman,

- 1. It is my honor to speak on behalf of the Group of Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement Parties to the NPT.
- 2. The Group reaffirms the Movement's principled positions on nuclear disarmament, which remains its highest priority, and on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects. We stress the importance of ensuring that efforts aimed at nuclear non-proliferation are parallel to simultaneous efforts aimed at nuclear disarmament. We express concern at the threat to humanity posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and of their possible use or threat of use.
- 3. We reiterate our deep concern over the slow pace of progress towards nuclear disarmament and the lack of progress by the Nuclear-Weapon States (NWS) to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals in accordance with their relevant multilateral legal obligations.
- 4. We take note of the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on 7 July 2017 at the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination. It is hoped that when entered into force, the Treaty would contribute to furthering the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons.
- 5. The Group reiterates its strong call for the full and systematic implementation of the unequivocal undertaking given by the nuclear-weapon States at the 2000 Review Conference, including through the implementation of the 13 practical steps, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, which was also reaffirmed by the 2010 Review Conference.
- 6. In this connection, the Group emphasizes, in particular the prime importance of and urgent need for the full and prompt implementation of the commitments by the NWS under Action 5 of the 2010 "action plan on nuclear disarmament". In this context, the Group further recalls that the NWS had committed to accelerate concrete progress on the steps leading to nuclear disarmament.

- 7. The Group expresses its disappointment over the lack of progress in the implementation of the NWS' commitment under Action 3 of the 2010 Final Document. In this regard, the Group calls for full compliance of the nuclear-weapon States with such undertakings towards fulfilling their legal obligations under Article VI.
- 8. The Group stresses the urgent necessity of negotiating and bringing to a conclusion, a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, containing also a phased program for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified time frame.
- 9. We remain deeply concerned by the lack of progress towards achieving the total elimination of nuclear weapons, despite some reports of bilateral and unilateral reductions. Any such reductions are undermined by the modernization of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, and related infrastructure by the NWS. The Group is also concerned about the lack of tangible progress in enhancing transparency, in accordance with Action 5 (g).
- 10. The Group notes with grave concern the current extensive investment, by the nuclear-weapon States, on modernization of their nuclear forces and developing more effective and newer, including low-yield nuclear warheads, which, by increasing the role of these inhumane weapons in their military doctrines, lowers the threshold for the actual use of nuclear weapons. The Group strongly calls for putting an immediate end to this trend that in fact is a new nuclear-arms race and thus a clear violation of article VI of the Treaty.
- 11. The Group also stresses that reductions in deployments and in operational status cannot substitute for irreversible cuts in, and the total elimination of, nuclear weapons and, accordingly, calls on the nuclear-weapon States to apply the principles of transparency, irreversibility and international verifiability to all such cuts, to further reduce their nuclear arsenals, both warheads and delivery systems, thus contributing to the fulfillment of their nuclear disarmament obligations and facilitating the realization of a world free of nuclear weapons at the earliest date.
- 12. The Group emphasizes that the indefinite extension of the Treaty does not imply the indefinite possession by the NWS of their nuclear

arsenals. Any assumption of indefinite possession of nuclear weapons is in contravention of the obligations under the Treaty and also incompatible with Treaty's object and purpose as well as the 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,

- 13. The Group is of the firm belief that, the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and pending that it is the legitimate right of all non-nuclear-weapon States that have given up the nuclear-weapon option by becoming parties to the Treaty to receive effective, universal, unconditional, non-discriminatory and irrevocable legally binding security assurances against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under all circumstances.
- 14. The Group reaffirms that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, States must refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations.
- 15. The Group firmly believes that any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would be a crime against humanity and a violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, in particular international humanitarian law. The Group further believes that the mere possession of nuclear weapons is inconsistent with the principles of international humanitarian law.
- 16. The Group is also of the view that, pending the conclusion of negotiations on universal, legally binding, effective, unconditional, nondiscriminatory and irrevocable security assurances to all non-nuclearweapon States parties to the Treaty against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under all circumstances, and taking into account that the existing commitments with regard to negative security assurances

are limited, conditional and insufficient, all NWS shall assure without any condition and discrimination, all non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under all circumstances.

17. In closing, the Group reiterates the urgent need for the conclusion of a universal, legally binding instrument on granting unconditional, non-discriminatory, effective and irrevocable security assurances to all NNWS parties to the Treaty against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances, as a matter of high priority.

Thank you.