



**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**

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

New York, May 2019

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 and calls on the international community to fulfill its responsibilities in implementing the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East and to continue supporting the realization of this noble objective.
5. 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 plan of action on the implementation of the 1995 Resolution.

6. 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.
7. 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.
8. The Group welcomes United Nations General Assembly Decision 73/546 entitled "Convening a Conference on the Establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and other Weapons of Mass Destruction" and calls upon the Review Conference to support its implementation. The Group urges all countries in the Middle East, without exception, to actively participate in the conference and conduct negotiations in good faith to bring to a conclusion a treaty establishing such a zone. The Group stresses that the 1995 resolution and other

decisions on the subject adopted within the context of the NPT Review Conferences remain valid until the objectives are achieved, and the implementation of Decision 73/546 is without prejudice to their validity and shall not also be construed as their replacement.

9. Without any prejudice to their related responsibilities within the context of the Review Conferences to the NPT with regard to the Middle East, the five nuclear-weapon States should provide all necessary support for the implementation of United Nations General Assembly Decision 73/546, and should present reports on their actions in this regard to the future sessions of the NPT Review Conference and its Preparatory Committee.
10. The Group expresses great concern over the acquisition of nuclear capabilities by Israel, which pose 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 Group also reaffirms that stability cannot be achieved in a region where massive imbalances in military capabilities are maintained, particularly through the possession of nuclear weapons, which allows one party to threaten its neighbours and the region, and constitutes a threat to international peace and security.
11. The Group demands that Israel, the only country in the region that has neither joined the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons nor declared its intention to do so, renounce possession of nuclear weapons, accede to the Treaty without any precondition or further delay as a non-nuclear-weapon State, place promptly all its nuclear facilities under the IAEA full-scope safeguards in accordance with Security Council resolution 487 (1981) and conduct all its nuclear-related activities in full conformity with the non-proliferation regime, in realizing the goal of universal adherence to the Treaty, in particular in the Middle East.
12. 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

13. 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.