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Statement by

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on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)

**at the General Debate of the First Committee
on All Disarmament and International Security Agenda Items**

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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, including the 2012 Tehran Summit. In this context, I would like to highlight the Movement's views on some important issues.

Mr. Chairman,

3. This year's session is unique, as it takes place against the backdrop of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament. NAM welcomes the reaffirmation by the HLM that nuclear disarmament continues to be the highest priority of the international community. The high level of participation and strong expression of support for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons is a clear manifestation of the critical importance of nuclear disarmament to international peace and security.
4. 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 method of addressing these issues, in accordance with the UN Charter.
5. NAM reiterates its deep concern over the greatest threat to peace posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and the doctrines of the NWS and NATO that set out rationales for the use or threat of use of such weapons.
6. 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.

7. 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.
8. The total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against their use or threat of use. Until that goal is achieved, 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.
9. While noting the convening of the conference on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, NAM recognizes the growing importance of humanitarian considerations as being among the fundamental and global concerns in the context of deliberations on nuclear weapons. Ultimately, the highest priority of the international community is nuclear disarmament.

Mr. Chairman,

10. 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.
11. 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.
12. While welcoming the efforts made during the 2013 session of the Conference on Disarmament on its programme of work, as well as on the CD's decision CD/1956/Rev.1 to establish an informal working group of the CD, NAM notes the deliberations of the working group in its meetings during the CD's 2013 session. The Movement encourages all states to demonstrate the necessary political will so that the CD fulfills its mandate.

13. On its part, NAM stands ready to engage constructively 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.

Mr. Chairman,

14. NAM believes that nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation reinforce each other and are essential for strengthening international peace and security. Legitimacy of nuclear non-proliferation measures stems from nuclear disarmament. Pursuing non-proliferation alone while ignoring nuclear disarmament obligation is both counterproductive and unsustainable. NAM emphasizes that proliferation concerns are best addressed through multilaterally negotiated, universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory agreements.

15. In the context of resolutions adopted by the Security Council in the areas covered by multilateral WMD treaties, including resolutions 1540 (2004), 1673 (2006), 1810 (2008) and 1977 (2011), 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.

16. NAM States Parties to the NPT call for the full and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of the Treaty and final documents of its Review Conferences. In this context, they express their determination to continue pursuing, during the 2015 review process of the Treaty, 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 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. 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 and nuclear security rests with the individual States. 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 in the Middle East of a nuclear-weapon-free zone. 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. NAM also supports the establishment in the Middle East of a zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction.
24. NAM State Parties to the NPT reiterate their serious concern over the long 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 zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East 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 convening the conference 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 strongly reject the alleged impediments presented by the Conveners for not convening the Conference on schedule and urge them to seek out credible assurances regarding the unconditional participation of Israel, and to convene the Conference without any further delay to avoid any further possible negative repercussions on the effectiveness and credibility of the NPT, its 2015 Review process and the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime as a whole.
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, the ratification of the CTBT by Chad, Guinea Bissau, and Iraq is welcomed.

Mr. Chairman,

27. NAM States Parties to the 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. They also welcomed the accession of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Convention.
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 negotiations to conclude a legally binding verification Protocol and in this regard urge the party rejecting negotiations to reconsider its policy. They further underline the importance of facilitating, without restrictions, international cooperation and assistance in the biological field without discrimination in conformity with the Convention.

Mr. Chairman,

29. NAM remains concerned over the developments related to the anti-ballistic missile systems and the threat of weaponization and militarization of outer space and calls for the commencement of negotiations in the CD on a universal legally binding instrument on the prevention of an arms race in outer space.
30. 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.

31. As 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.

Mr. Chairman,

32. 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.

33. NAM remains deeply concerned over a wide range of security, humanitarian and socio-economic consequences arising from the illicit transfer, manufacture and circulation of small arms and light weapons (SALW). 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 the elements of international cooperation and assistance.

34. 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.

Mr. Chairman,

35. I wish to share with the Committee members that NAM will introduce a draft resolution as a follow-up of the HLM. The primary purpose of this resolution is to build upon the universal support for nuclear disarmament. The resolution will contain, inter alia, the following three elements:

- negotiations on a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons,

- designation of 26 September as the International Day for the total elimination of nuclear weapons, and
- convening of an international conference on nuclear disarmament in 2018.

In addition to this resolution, NAM will be submitting -- resolutions, for which it counts on support from all countries.

36. 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.