



**STATEMENT BY BRUNEI DARUSSALAM
ON BEHALF OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN
NATIONS (ASEAN)**

**THEMATIC DEBATE ON CLUSTER 6: REGIONAL
DISARMAMENT AND SECURITY OF THE FIRST
COMMITTEE, 80th SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

OCTOBER 2025

Mr. Chair,

1. I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of ASEAN on Regional Disarmament and Security. The full version will be available in the UNJournal.
2. ASEAN remains alarmed by the declining commitment and cooperation in global disarmament, non-proliferation, and arms control mechanisms. Also concerning are the growing risks of nuclear danger and conflict, further expansion and modernisation of nuclear arsenals, the increasing salience of nuclear weapons in military and security doctrines, and the weakening of the disarmament and non-proliferation architecture.
3. ASEAN believes the path forward is through dialogue and cooperation. We must enhance mutual trust, respect international law, and foster a stable, prosperous environment for all.

Mr. Chair,

4. ASEAN reiterates that the total elimination of nuclear weapons remains the only guarantee against their use. We support every effort to create and enhance the role of Nuclear Weapon-Free Zones, underscoring their immense contribution to disarmament, non-proliferation, and international peace and security.
5. On our part, we are committed to preserving Southeast Asia as a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone and free of all other WMDs. Our commitment is enshrined in the Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Treaty and the ASEAN Charter. We also stress the importance of the full and effective implementation of the Treaty, including through its Plan of Action.
6. The Executive Committee of the SEANWFZ Commission is exploring the possibility of allowing individual NWS to sign and ratify the Treaty Protocol without reservations, following a prior written assurance. We welcome any NWS ready to do so.

7. This year, as ASEAN marks the 30th Anniversary since the signing of the SEANWFZ Treaty, we are pleased to welcome the accession of Timor-Leste, which further reinforces the region's commitment to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.
8. We are committed to continue promoting awareness of nuclear weapon-free zones and enhancing coordination and cooperation among existing zones through the sharing of experiences and best practices, and resolution 79/24.

Mr. Chair,

9. ASEAN has also continued to make efforts to promote peaceful uses of nuclear energy.
10. We commend the ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy (ASEANTOM) for their efforts to enhance cooperation among the region's nuclear regulatory bodies and to strengthen nuclear safety, security, and safeguards practices, guided by IAEA standards and international best practices. ASEAN supports strengthening cooperation between ASEANTOM and IAEA, and developing cooperation with nuclear regulatory bodies of other regions and relevant organisations.
11. Additionally, ASEAN successfully conducted the Nuclear Security Detection Exercise Malaysia-Indonesia-Thailand-Singapore 2025 in July, strengthening joint coordination, readiness, and regional incident response mechanisms.
12. The ASEAN Nuclear Energy Cooperation Sub-Sector Network remains the main platform for cooperation on peaceful nuclear energy, while the ASEAN Regional Forum continues its non-proliferation and disarmament dialogue through its Inter-Sessional Meeting on NPD.

Mr. Chair,

13. Before concluding, ASEAN takes this opportunity to inform that Malaysia, on behalf of ASEAN, has tabled the updated biennial resolution entitled, "the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty)". We call on Member States to continue supporting this resolution, a clear testament to ASEAN's unwavering commitment to disarmament and international security – a priority we must uphold together.
14. We hope our efforts can further the goal of achieving global disarmament and a world without nuclear weapons. I thank you.