

**Statement by
the Republic of Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement**

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Mr. Chair,

1. I am pleased to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.
2. NAM recognizes the common interest of all humankind and the inalienable, legitimate sovereign rights of all States in the exploration and use of outer space for exclusively peaceful purposes and for the benefit of all peoples irrespective of the degree of their economic or scientific development. NAM reconfirms its stand to oppose and reject any acts denying or violating this common interest and emphasizes that prevention of an arms race in outer space, including a ban to deploy or use weapons therein, would avert a grave danger for international peace and security. NAM expresses its serious concern regarding the threats to international peace and security by the possible weaponization of outer space or turning outer space into a domain for warfare and armed conflicts.
3. NAM emphasizes the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space, including bilateral agreements, and with the existing legal regime concerning the use of outer space. NAM also calls for the promotion and strengthening of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes.
4. NAM rejects the declaration by the United States in 2018 that “Space is a warfighting domain” or “the next battle field” and accordingly reemphasizes the urgent need for the commencement of substantive negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament (CD) on a legally binding and multilaterally verifiable instrument, inter alia, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space (PAROS) in all its aspects, including through the establishment of an ad hoc committee under this agenda item as early as possible, NAM takes note of a draft treaty on the “Prevention of the Placement of Weapons in Outer Space, the Threat or Use of Force Against Outer Space Objects” (PPWT), presented jointly by Russia and China in the CD on 12 February 2008 and updated in 2014. NAM countries welcome the consensual adoption on 16 August 2024 of the report of Governmental Experts (GGE) on the substantive elements of a legally binding instrument on the prevention of arms race in outer space established pursuant to GA resolution 77/250, and considers this important and positive development as a

key opportunity to advance further practical measures for prevention of an arms race in outer space and a good basis for further negotiations towards adopting an international legally binding instrument. NAM further notes the discussions, which took place within the Open-Ended Working Group on Reducing Space Threats through norms, rules, and principles of responsible behavior.

5. NAM continues to be concerned over the negative implications of the development and deployment of anti-ballistic missile (ABM) defense systems and threats of weaponization of outer space that have, inter alia, contributed to the further erosion of an international climate conducive to strengthening of international security. The abrogation of the ABM Treaty brought new challenges to international peace and stability and the prevention of an arms race in outer space. NAM remains seriously concerned about the negative security consequences of deployment of strategic missile defense systems, which could trigger an arms race(s) and lead to further development of advanced missile systems and an increase in the number of nuclear weapons.
6. NAM welcomes General Assembly resolutions 79/19 on “Prevention of Arms Race in Outer Space” and 79/20 on “No First Placement of Weapons in Outer Space”, both of which reaffirm the importance and urgency of the objective of preventing an arms race in outer space and the willingness of all States to contribute to reaching this common goals, as well as resolution 79/51 on “Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures in Outer Space Activities”, which reaffirms that “preventing an arms race in outer space is in the interest of maintaining international peace and security”.
7. NAM also views that the highly important and critical issue of PAROS should be addressed in a broad and holistic manner, through the development of legally binding instrument on the PAROS. NAM also takes note of discussion on norms, rules, and principles for the responsible behaviour of States in outer space without prejudice to imperative of developing a legally binding instrument to prevent an arms race in outer space.
8. NAM underlines the fundamental importance of the prevention of an arms race and utilizing outer space for exclusively peaceful purposes to present and future generations and the necessity of safeguarding it from any geopolitical competition. Accordingly, NAM stresses the necessity of avoiding duplication of discussions at the UN regarding the prevention of an arms race in outer space and welcomes the efforts by NAM Member States to consolidate the discussions at the UN on prevention of arms race in outer space, and takes note, in this regard, of the GA Decision 79/512, which established an Open-Ended Working Group on PAROS in all its aspects. NAM calls upon all States to engage constructively in the OEWG to adopt further measures on the prevention of arms race in outer space.
9. NAM underscores that voluntary TCBMs may partially contribute to reducing mistrust and enhancing the safety of outer space operations in the short-term. That said, they can neither be a substitute nor pre-condition for the early conclusion of a legally-

binding instrument on the prevention of an arms race in outer space, including the prohibition of the placement of any weapons in outer space, as well as the threat or use of force against outer space objects. In this regard, NAM welcomes the adoption of the “Recommendations to promote the practical implementation of the TCBM in outer space activities with the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space in conformity with the recommendations set out in the report of the GGE on this issue”, in the 2023 Substantive Session of the UN Disarmament Commission.

10. NAM calls upon all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective and to the relevant existing treaties in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation.
11. NAM strongly urges States to refrain from any unilateral coercive measures which contravene international law and which could impede or prevent space activities for peaceful purposes by developing countries and the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of the principles and treaties governing international space law.
12. The exploration and use of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interests of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, and shall be the province of all mankind. Outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, shall be free for exploration and use by all States without discrimination of any kind, on a basis of equality and in accordance with international law, and there shall be free access to all areas of celestial bodies. In this regard, NAM acknowledges the Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the interest of all States and underlines the imperative of assisting developing countries to benefit from peaceful activities in outer space in a fair and equitable manner.
13. NAM continues to reaffirm the need for a universal, comprehensive, and non-discriminatory multilateral approach toward the issue of missiles in all its aspects, negotiated multilaterally within the UN. Any initiatives on this subject should take into account security concerns of all states and the relevant principles of SSOD-I and their inherent right to peaceful uses of space technologies.

Thank you.