

Statement by the Representative of the Republic of Indonesia
on behalf of the Group of the Non-Alignment Movement
2024 Substantive Session United Nations Disarmament Commission
New York, April 2024

Mr. Chair,

1. I am honored to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.
2. I congratulate you on your election as Chair of this substantive session of the Commission, as well as the Vice-Chairs and Chairs of the Working Groups on their assumption. The Movement assures you and your Bureau members of its full cooperation and support.
3. NAM underscores its position regarding the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, and expresses its determination to promote multilateralism as the core principle of negotiation in these areas. In this regard, the Movement reaffirms the centrality of the UNDC, as the sole specialized and deliberative body with universal membership within the UN multilateral disarmament machinery, to consider specific disarmament issues and submit concrete recommendations to the General Assembly. Our commitment to the work of this Commission is part and parcel of our wider commitment towards a revitalized and robust UN disarmament machinery and promotion of multilateralism at large.
4. While welcoming the adoption of the “Recommendations to promote the practical implementation of TCBM in outer space activities with the goal of preventing 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 UNDC, NAM regretted that at the end of its three years cycle in 2023 the UNDC was unable again to reach agreement on the other very important agenda item “*Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons*”.
5. NAM stresses the urgent need for achieving concrete results in the current UNDC cycle, and to that end, urges all Member States, in particular Nuclear Weapon States (NWS), to show required political will and flexibility. NAM hopes that the first year of the current cycle could lay the groundwork to ensure the successful conclusion of this process. The Movement stands ready to cooperate actively and constructively with all parties in order to reach agreement on substantive recommendations on the agenda items of the Commission.

Mr. Chair,

6. NAM reiterates its deep concern over the lack of progress in the implementation of nuclear disarmament obligations and commitments by the NWS and their lack of progress to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals in accordance with their relevant multilateral legal obligations. NAM reaffirms the importance of the unanimous conclusion of the ICJ in its 1996 Advisory Opinion, that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and to bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control. NAM calls upon the NWS to fulfill their multilateral legal obligations on nuclear disarmament and to implement the unequivocal undertaking they provided in 2000 and further reiterated in 2010 so as to accomplish the total elimination of nuclear weapons. NAM reaffirms the need for urgent concrete and time-bound actions by the NWS to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons in accordance with their nuclear disarmament legal obligations and commitments. We continue to consistently reiterate that the only guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons is their total elimination.
7. NAM States Parties to the NPT reiterate the urgent need for accountability of NWS for their disarmament obligations under the NPT through benchmarks, concrete, measurable, and timebound actions on nuclear disarmament with established deadlines, and reporting their implementation of these obligations to the NPT Review Conference in a structured manner that allows NNWS to engage constructively on their reports, and that these reports must contain comparable information including inter alia the number, type, and status of nuclear warhead, the number and types of delivery vehicles, the amount/stock of fissile material produced for military purposes, and measures taken to reduce the role and significance of nuclear weapons. We look forward to concrete and meaningful outcomes on this matter at the upcoming 11th review conference of the Treaty.
8. NAM stresses that progress on nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation in all its aspects is essential in strengthening international peace and security. In this context, the Movement stresses that nuclear disarmament, as the highest priority established by SSOD-I and as a multilateral legal obligation, should not be made conditional on non-proliferation efforts or so-called strategic stability. Confidence building and risk reduction measures should not be a substitute for the total elimination of nuclear weapons.
9. NAM reaffirms its principled positions on nuclear disarmament, which remains its highest priority, and on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects. NAM stresses the importance of ensuring that efforts aimed at nuclear non-proliferation are parallel to simultaneous efforts aimed at nuclear disarmament. NAM expresses concern at the threat to humanity

posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and of their possible use, or threat of use.

10. The Movement underlines that the General Assembly resolution 68/32 and its most recent version resolution 78/28, entitled “Follow-up to the 2013 High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament” provide a concrete roadmap to achieve the objective of nuclear disarmament through the urgent commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament for the early conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons.
11. NAM affirms the importance of humanitarian considerations in the context of all deliberations on nuclear weapons and in promoting the goal of nuclear disarmament. In this context we reaffirm the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law.
12. NAM reaffirms the urgent need for conclusion of a universal, unconditional, non-discriminatory and legally binding instrument to effectively assure all non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances as a matter of high priority, pending the achievement of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, which remains the only absolute guarantee against their use or threat of use.
13. NAM also stresses the significance of achieving universal adherence to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), especially by all NWS, which, inter alia, should contribute to the process of nuclear disarmament.
14. A UN High-level International Conference on Nuclear Disarmament, as decided through the General Assembly resolutions, should be convened. Noting also the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on 22 January 2021 and the convening of its First Meeting of States Parties on 21-23 June 2022, which adopted a declaration and an action plan, and its Second Meeting of State Parties on 27 November – 1 December 2023. It is hoped that the TPNW would contribute to furthering the global objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons. NAM States Parties to the TPNW are fully committed to its implementation and are engaging constructively in preparation for the Third Meeting of States Parties to the TPNW towards achieving a world free of nuclear weapons.
15. NAM reaffirms the importance of the application by NWS of principles of transparency, irreversibility and international verifiability in all measures related to the fulfillment of their nuclear disarmament obligations and undertakings.

Mr. Chair,

16. NAM reiterates its firm belief that non-proliferation policies should not undermine the inalienable right of States to acquire, have access to, import

or export nuclear material, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes. 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.

17. NAM stresses that proliferation concerns are best addressed through multilaterally negotiated, universal, comprehensive and nondiscriminatory agreements. Non-proliferation control arrangements should be transparent and open to participation by all States, and should not impose restrictions on access to material, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes required by developing countries.
18. NAM stresses that the issues related to proliferation should be resolved through political and diplomatic means. Measures and initiatives taken in this regard should be within the framework of international law and should contribute to the promotion of international peace and security.
19. NAM States Parties to the NPT express their disappointment over the consecutive failure of the 9th and the 10th NPT Review Conferences to adopt a consensual outcome document despite constructive engagement made by NAM States Parties to the NPT. This failure should serve as a stimulus to work harder towards achieving nuclear disarmament. NAM States Parties to the NPT stress the importance of fulfilling the commitments made at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences of the Treaty.
20. NAM States Parties to the NPT are also concerned that all NWS, as well as some NNWS, to the extent that the latter subscribe to extended nuclear security guarantees provided by the NWS, have increased the salience of nuclear weapons in their security and nuclear doctrines, policies and postures that is inconsistent with the letter, spirit and objectives of the NPT. NAM States Parties to the NPT therefore urge NWS to put an end to nuclear weapon-sharing with other States under any circumstances and any kind of such security arrangements in times of peace or in times of war.
21. NAM stresses the importance of the adoption of 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". In this regard, NAM welcomes the convening of the First Session of the Conference on the Establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons under the Presidency of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the adoption of a Political Declaration, and also welcomes the convening of the Second Session of the Conference under the Presidency of the State of Kuwait and its outcomes, including inter alia the adoption of the rules of procedure and establishing an informal working committee, and the Third Session under the Presidency of the Republic of Lebanon and the adoption of its report, and most recently the 4th session of the conference on 15-19 November 2023 under the chairmanship of Libya and the adoption of its

report. NAM continues to call upon all States of the region, without exception, to actively participate in this Conference, engage and negotiate in good faith and bring to a conclusion a legally-binding Treaty on the establishment of the Zone. NAM also call upon the invited observers to the conference, if they have not already done so, to accept the invitation and engage constructively with the work of the conference. NAM States Parties to the NPT also stress that the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the NPT, as an integral part of the package that led to the indefinite extension of the nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) in 1995 as well as other relevant decisions on the subject, adopted within the context of the Review Conferences, remain valid until the objective of the establishment of a zone free of nuclear weapons and other WMD in the Middle East is achieved and that the implementation of decision 73/546 is without prejudice to the validity of aforesaid resolution and decisions and shall not also be construed as their replacement.

22. Pending its establishment, NAM demands Israel, the only country in the region that has not joined the NPT nor declared its intention to do so, to renounce possession of nuclear weapons, to accede to the NPT without precondition and further delay, to place promptly all its nuclear facilities under IAEA full-scope safeguards and to conduct its nuclear related activities in conformity with the non-proliferation regime. NAM expresses great concern over the acquisition of nuclear capability by Israel, and condemns Israel for continuing to develop and stockpile nuclear arsenals.
23. NAM underscores the need for strong and genuine political will in support of multilateral disarmament machinery, in particular negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament, which is the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating body.
24. NAM reiterates its call on the CD to agree as soon as possible on a balanced and comprehensive program of work without any further delay in order for it to overcome its long-standing deadlock and to start its substantive work on the four core issues on its agenda. In this context, NAM calls for the urgent commencement of negotiations in the CD for the early conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons.
25. NAM remains seriously concerned at the negative security consequences of the deployment of strategic missile defence systems, which could trigger an arms race(s) and lead to the further development of advanced missile systems and an increase in the number of nuclear weapons.

Mr. Chair,

26. NAM welcomes general discussion in Working Group 2 on the impacts of emerging technologies and express hope that we can develop a common understanding on this topic, without creating a duplicative track. The

members of the Movement will continue to work constructively to ensure a meaningful outcome in this subject.

Mr. Chair,

27. In conclusion, the Movement underscores its full support for the UNDC work, which must be intensified through a reinvigorated political will in order to achieve meaningful outcomes to advance global disarmament and non-proliferation.
28. In this spirit, NAM will submit an updated recommendation to achieve the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

NAM will refer to the relevant provisions in the Working Papers during the negotiations in the two UNDC Working Groups. NAM also would like to underline the importance for the UNDC to take into consideration the recommendations of 121 NAM member states as reflected in the Working Paper, in its final outcome document.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.