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Statement

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General Debate

First Committee of the United Nations

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Mr. Chairman,

Let me first congratulate you and the Bureau Members on your election to chair this session.

We are confident that under your able stewardship, the Committee will be enabled to carry out its work with positive outcomes.

Indonesia associates itself with the statement on behalf of NAM, and the statement made by Myanmar on behalf of ASEAN.

On 26th September, we saw an unprecedented gathering of world leaders and functionaries of government and civil society at the UN where they reinvigorated their resolve to rid the world of nuclear weapons.

This first-ever high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament displayed the keen and clear demand of the international community to eliminate nuclear weapons and realize enduring peace and security for everyone.

The First Committee and other parts of the UN disarmament machinery now need to intensify their work so that the momentum generated at the HLM is sustained, and the heightened focus on disarmament translates into tangible results.

Results would not occur overnight. But my delegation joins in the fervent hope that all states will demonstrate greater political will to actualize their undertakings on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, and they will simultaneously pursue all other agenda items in the First Committee with strong determination.

While Indonesia is cognizant of the differences on how to achieve nuclear disarmament, it is convinced that by continuing to dialogue, building mutual confidence and taking steps to implement the given commitments, we can all play our role to ensuring more convergence and advancement in the processes of the disarmament machinery.

Thus we must help unlock the stalemate in the CD, and enable it to achieve a balanced program of work. The SSOD IV can also contribute to ushering progress in the disarmament machinery, and therefore, we emphasize its convening at an early time.

Mr. Chairman,

In the absence of a comprehensive and non-discriminatory Nuclear Weapons Convention, the NPT remains the foundation of the nuclear non-proliferation and

disarmament regime. But there should be full implementation of the Action Plan of the 2010 NPT Review Conference, and all three NPT pillars must be strengthened.

This also means that a key agreement of the 2010 Outcome - convening of the Conference on the establishment of Middle East zone free from nuclear and other WMDs, which was to happen in 2012, must take place immediately. Delay in this necessary conference risks harming not only the peace progress in the Middle East but the very credibility of the NPT and the effectiveness of its review process.

We must not only echo the fear of nuclear weapons. We must also show through our actions that we mean the realization of the vision of a nuclear weapon free world.

On its part, Indonesia forewent the acquisition of nuclear weapons willfully many years ago, and placed its nuclear facilities and activities under the IAEA safeguards. Moreover, we continue to take steps to strengthen our national framework on nuclear security.

Indonesia also ratified the CTBT last year. Together with Hungary, Indonesia acting as co-presidents of the Article XIV Conference held at the UN on 27th September. We continue to encourage the remaining Annex II countries to demonstrate their political commitment by signing or ratifying the CTBT so that it can enter into force.

In supporting to have nuclear-weapon-free zones in the world, we intend to preserve Southeast Asia as a nuclear-weapon-free zone that is also free of all WMDs. Therefore, Indonesia calls upon NWS to sign and ratify the Protocol to the SEANWFZ Treaty as early as possible.

Indonesia fully stands behind the call for achieving a Nuclear Weapons Convention, designating September 26 as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons along with convening an international conference no later than 2018 to review progress on nuclear disarmament, the three main points stressed by NAM at the recent HLM, and to feature in the resolution by NAM soon, as a follow-up to the HLM.

At the same time and pending complete nuclear disarmament, Indonesia also stands for concluding a universal, unconditional and legally binding instrument on security assurances to all NNWS. We also support working toward a Fissile Material Treaty that will ban all pre-existing stocks as well as future production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. Alongside, we will continue to support progress on PAROS, the other item in the CD.

Mr. Chairman,

It is vital that we achieve progress in other WMD field as well. Since the entry into force of the CWC in 1997, the Convention has historically contributed to a steady and universal progress in the destruction of declared chemical weapons stockpiles.

In this context, we welcome the Syrian Arab Republic's decision to accede to this Convention and looking forward to the result of on-going verification and destruction of its stockpile in collaboration with the OPCW.

As a State party to the CWC, Indonesia strongly encourages that the States Parties, who have not met their extended deadline to destroy their remaining stockpile, could done so without further delay.

With regard to the illegal supply and illegitimate use of conventional weapons by unauthorized actors, Indonesia is deeply concerned by the immense loss of lives and property that this menace causes in many parts of the world.

We should double our efforts to tackle the illicit trade and use of small arms and light weapons, including by enhancing cooperation and assistance to the developing countries that require it, and strengthen the UN PoA (Program of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons).

Indonesia notes the conclusion of the Arms Trade Treaty earlier this year, and maintains that the Treaty must fully take into account legitimate interests of both the arms importing and exporting states equally, and that its usage must be transparent, non-discriminatory, balanced and not for the pursuit of particular political agendas of exporting states.

In closing, we underline the need for an intensified political will, cooperation and collaboration among all countries to attain concrete and positive outcomes in the First Committee.

Let us work together resolutely to help build a safe and peaceful world for all humanity.

Thank you.