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Statement by H.E. I Gusti Agung Wesaka Puja Ambassador/Permanent Representative to the Republic of Indonesia on behalf of the Group of Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons at the First Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

Cluster 3

Vienna, 9 May 2012

My delegation fully associates itself with the statement made by the Non-Aligned Movement States Party to the NPT.

Mr. Chairman,

Indonesia strongly believes that nuclear technology is an indispensable component of the socio-economic and technological development of people all around the world, especially those living in developing parts of the world. It is the very rationale behind Article IV of the NPT, which recognizes the inalienable rights of every State to the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Therefore, since we ratified the Treaty, we are of the firm belief that, by obligating ourselves not to aspire for nuclear weapons, the Treaty will guarantee our right to develop and use nuclear technology and energy for the maximum benefit of our people. That said, we remain and will continue to be of the view that the inalienable right of the States Parties to develop and use nuclear energy and technologies for peaceful purposes should be guaranteed and should by no means be restricted, and therefore, the observance of Article IV of the NPT is absolutely vital. If we are to believe that all pillars of the NPT are mutually reinforcing, we have to avoid making a nonproliferation provision a pretext to deny such inalienable rights. Instead, we must further promote the development and utilization of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes in a manner that takes care of any possible proliferation concerns. In this regard, Indonesia strongly supports the research and development for proliferation-resistant technology. As an example of this, Indonesian experts have, among other things, recently successfully converted our research reactor from using HEU to LEU as a target in the production of radioisotopes. While technical feasibility of this conversion has been proven, the economic feasibility remains to be evaluated.

Mr. Chairman,

While being aware of the fact that the development and use of nuclear technologies that are essential for human progress <u>might</u> involve a risk of proliferation, we cannot share the opinion of those who see an automatic relation between the growing interest in nuclear technology and a parallel increased risk of proliferation. Not only does such a view not justify reinterpretation of the provisions of article IV, it also ignores the historical fact that the threat of proliferation has been satisfactorily dealt with over the last decades, more than other pillars of this Treaty, by the promotion and the strengthening of the safeguards system as well as safety and security.

Mr. Chairman,

Nuclear technology plays an important role in addressing many aspects of Indonesia's national development programs, particularly in the area of health, food and agriculture, water resources management, environmental protection and industry. Therefore, we remain convinced of the potential benefits of the responsible use of nuclear technologies and of the synergies fostered by international co-operation in the nuclear field, for which the work of the IAEA is of great importance. Since becoming a member in 1957, Indonesia has participated actively and constructively in the work of the IAEA. We take part actively in and widely benefit from the IAEA Technical Cooperation Program. As a result of its decades of technical cooperation with the IAEA, Indonesia is now ready to share its achievements and experience in many areas of nuclear technology for development with other countries.

Indonesia is strongly of the view that the Technical Cooperation of the IAEA should be further supported by providing it with adequate resources. Therefore, we call for all parties to the NPT to work collectively to implement their commitment, as stipulated in Action 54 of the 2010 Review Conference Outcome Document, to make every effort and to take practical steps to ensure that IAEA resources for technical cooperation activities are sufficient, assured and predictable. Despite the fact that the IAEA does not have organic relations with the NPT, all States Parties of this Treaty that are also members of the IAEA are morally obliged to translate the commitment into an IAEA policy guidance.

Mr. Chairman,

We are continuously a firm believer in the principle of "safety first" in all aspects of nuclear activities. Our national safety requirements and standards gives no room for complacency. The safety record of our nuclear activities and facilities over the decades, including the three research reactors throughout the country, confirms that principle. We also support global efforts to strengthen nuclear security worldwide. We take part in that endeavor actively. Notwithstanding, it is our conviction that nuclear safety and security should continue to be framed in the context of promoting nuclear technology for peaceful purposes.

Finally, we are of the view that this PrepCom should reaffirm the validity of Article IV with a view to ensuring that the rights of all States Parties are fully protected and that no State Party is limited in the exercise of its rights to develop research, produce and use nuclear technologies for peaceful purposes.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.