

Please check against delivery



Statement by

Mr. Febrian A. Ruddyard

Head of Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia

at the General Debate of the

First Preparatory Committee Meeting

**for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to
the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

Vienna, 2 – 12 May 2017



Mr. Chairman,

Let me first congratulate you on your election as Chairman of this Preparatory Committee meeting. We believe that under your guidance, the first session of the PrepCom would be able to lay the necessary ground for next year's meeting towards a successful NPT Review Conference in 2020.

Indonesia also fully associates itself with the statement made on behalf the Group of Non-Aligned Movement States Parties to the NPT.

The first PrepCom bears high significance as it is the start of the preparation for the 2020 Review Conference. It has the responsibility to ensure that the credibility and relevance of the Treaty are upheld. There is a real need to work together to ensure that all states parties and stakeholders play their role effectively in the 2017 PrepCom, its follow up leading to the 2020 Review Conference.

Therefore, we commend your initiative, Mr. Chairman, in organizing several regional dialogue and consultations on NPT, which went successfully. As the host of the Asia-Pacific Regional Dialogue and Consultations on NPT, Indonesia is looking forward to having a fruitful meeting with you and other delegates. We hope that all of the inputs gathered in the regional dialogues will make significant contribution for the First PrepCom.

Mr. Chairman,

The fact that the NPT is a discriminatory treaty which gives different rights and obligations to different categories of membership has made the issue of balance in the implementation of the Treaty as the most vital element.

The objectives of the NPT can only be achieved with a balanced, comprehensive and non-discriminatory implementation of its three pillars – non-proliferation, disarmament, and peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

In light of the ongoing frustration which surrounds the lack of progress towards disarmament, strengthening the NPT regime would require mending the imbalance between all three pillars of the Treaty.

The three pillars, should remain together if they are to function properly. To single out any of those pillars to be left behind would certainly be catastrophic to the very building those pillars collectively support.

Non-proliferation derives its legitimacy from the greater objective of nuclear disarmament. The NPT enjoyed wide support because apart from barring proliferation, it provided a legal commitment on complete nuclear disarmament as well as guaranteed and supported peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

The point where non nuclear-weapon states decide to forego their rights to acquire nuclear weapons is the point where nuclear-weapon states have the moral obligation to start the process of disarming their nuclear arsenals.

Regrettably, we have lost an important momentum at the 2015 NPT Review Conference; in times where we are witnessing that some nuclear weapons states continue to rely on nuclear weapons in their military doctrine. Even more, instead of disarming or eliminating, they are modernizing, advancing and developing new types of nuclear weapons.

In light of this, Indonesia is of the view that there should be a shift in the principles of nuclear disarmament, which, in addition to the humanitarian imperative, would further render deterrence doctrine obsolete. It is a shift from the principle of "undiminished security for all", which has provided elusive legitimation for the existence of nuclear weapons, to the principle of "increased security for all".

Mr. Chairman,

Despite the successful outcome of the 2010 RevCon, it is regretful to see that Action Plans on disarmament are the least implemented, compared to the implementation on other pillars.

The progress towards nuclear disarmament remains slow. While it is claimed that thousands of nuclear weapons have been retired and dismantled in the two largest possessors of nuclear weapons, through their bilateral strategic agreement, they are yet to be verifiable and transparent.

Nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction continue to be possessed. Some are modernizing and developing them even further.

The adoption of UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/71/258 on Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations, which calls on member states to participate in the 2017 UN Conference to negotiate a legally-binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons including their total elimination, has given a glimmer of hope for progress in the field of disarmament.

In this context, Indonesia is convinced that the negotiation on the treaty for the prohibition of nuclear weapons will in fact strengthen the NPT. Complementary to the NPT, such treaty is aimed toward categorically and universally banning nuclear weapons.

In light of this, Indonesia envisages the treaty for the prohibition of nuclear weapons to affirm its mutually reinforcing nature with the NPT.

My delegation underlines that nuclear disarmament must be complete, verifiable and irreversible, and highlights that the IAEA is a credible and capable organization in safeguarding nuclear disarmament.

The Agency, in accordance with its safeguards statutory mandate, has responded to member states requests for assistance related to verification tasks, including in connection with nuclear disarmament and arms control agreements. Indonesia believes that when requested to do so, the IAEA must be ready to perform verification tasks in this regard.

Mr. Chairman,

We have been consistently of the view that the CTBT is a key element in the international regime for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. The entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) is essential in strengthening nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation pillars of the NPT regime. It is our shared obligation as members of international community to reach this objective.

Indonesia calls for the earliest entry into force of the CTBT and attaches great importance of the universalization of the Treaty. Indonesia also reiterates its call on all States that have not signed or ratified the Treaty - particularly those listed in the Annex 2 – to do so without delay.

Indonesia would like to once again recognize that the establishment of Nuclear Weapon Free Zones represent positive steps toward attaining the objectives of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

In this regard, we call upon all concerned parties to double the efforts to convene the long-awaited Conference on the Middle East's Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. A nuclear weapons free zone of the Middle East will go a long way in helping enable regional and international for the cause of peace and security.

Mr. Chairman,

In order to prevent new states to acquire nuclear weapons, the most realistic step, as in the case of biological and chemical weapons, is to work towards outlawing nuclear weapons once and for all.

Outlawing nuclear weapons will not only prevent new states to acquire nuclear weapons as mandated by Article II of the NPT, but also push nuclear weapons states to expedite their commitment and obligations to nuclear disarmament.

It is clear that the Additional Protocol (AP) is an important tool to strengthen Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement (CSA) as part of verification measures to monitor and verify compliance with the NPT. Indonesia continues to call on all States which have not yet done so to conclude and to bring into force additional protocols as soon as possible.

Mr. Chairman,

Indonesia welcomes the continued implementation of Iran's nuclear commitments under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), including Iran's provisional application of the Additional Protocol.

Indonesia looks forward to further positive developments on the implementation of nuclear-related measures of the JCPOA, and trusts that in the future, with the successful implementation of the JCPOA and as stipulated in the agreement, the Iranian nuclear programme will eventually be treated in the same manner as that of any other non-nuclear-weapon state party to the NPT.

Indonesia encourages all parties to faithfully implement the JCPOA, and reiterates its call for the international community to maintain a positive atmosphere for the implementation of JCPOA.

Mr. Chairman,

We are fully aware of the fact that the development and use of nuclear energy and technologies, which are essential for human progress, involves a risk of proliferation. However we remain 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 be by no means be restricted.

Therefore, the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of Article IV of the Treaty plays a crucial role in achieving the objective of the Treaty.

Indonesia also calls on all States Parties that as a fundamental principle, preferential treatment shall be given to the non-nuclear-weapons States Parties to the NPT when it comes to all activities in the promotion of peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

To conclude, **Mr. Chairman**, I believe that this meeting has quite a number of works to do to recover from our lost momentum in 2015 Review Conference. This Preparatory Committee Meeting shall be our important phase to prepare the building block of 2020 Review Conference, which we cannot afford to have another failure. Let us work hard as if this is the last meeting of NPT ever, and let us be innovative and optimistic as if we still have other 1000 meetings of NPT Review Conference.

Indonesia is prepared to work collectively with all States Parties in pursuing the balanced and non-discriminatory implementation of the three pillars of NPT, as well as a universal NPT.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.