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Statement by

**Mr. A. Anindityo Adi Primasto,
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations**

on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement

at

**the Thematic Debate of the First Committee
of the 70th Session of the United Nations General Assembly
on Disarmament Machinery**

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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

325 East 38th Street, New York, NY 10016 • Tel. (212) 972-8333 • Fax. (212) 972-9780

www.indonesiamission-ny.org

email: ptri@indonesiamission-ny.org

Mr. Chairman,

1. I am honored to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement on the Disarmament Machinery.
2. NAM remains concerned at the continuous erosion of multilateralism in the field of disarmament, non-proliferation, and arms control. The Movement is determined to continue promoting multilateralism as the core principle of negotiations in these areas and as the only sustainable approach to address these issues, in accordance with the UN Charter.
3. NAM underscores the importance of multilateral disarmament machinery, consisting of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral negotiating body on disarmament, the United Nations Disarmament Commission as a universal deliberative body and subsidiary organ of the General Assembly, and the First Committee. NAM stresses the preserving and strengthening of the nature, role and purpose of each part of this machinery.
4. Enhancing the effectiveness of UN disarmament machinery is a shared objective. Based on its existing rules of procedure and methods of work, this machinery has produced landmark treaties and guidelines. NAM believes that the main difficulty lies in the lack of political will by some States to achieve progress, particularly on nuclear disarmament.
5. NAM reaffirms the importance of the Conference on Disarmament (CD) as the sole multilateral negotiating body on disarmament, and reiterates its call on the CD to agree by consensus on a balanced and comprehensive program of work without any further delay taking into account the security interests of all States. In this regard, the movement reaffirms the importance of the principle contained in the final document of the SSOD-I that "The adoption of disarmament measures should take place in such an equitable and balanced manner as to ensure the right of each State to security and to ensure that no individual State or group of States may obtain advantages over others at any stage".

6. While welcoming the efforts made during the 2015 session of the Conference on Disarmament on its programme of work, pursuant to CD's decision CD/2022 to re-establish an informal working group (IWG) of the CD, NAM notes the deliberations of the IWG in its meetings during the CD's 2015 session. NAM also takes note of the structured informal discussions held during the CD's 2015 session on its agenda items in accordance with the Schedule of Activities contained in document CD/2021. The Movement encourages all states to demonstrate the necessary political will so that the CD fulfils its negotiating mandate.
7. To instill a fresh impetus to global nuclear disarmament efforts, NAM calls for the urgent commencement of negotiations, in the CD, for the early conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, which prohibits their possession, development, production, acquisition, testing, stockpiling, transfer, use or threat of use, and provides for their destruction, as called for in resolution 69/58 presented by the Movement. NAM supports the Working Paper Submitted by Indonesia on behalf of the Member States of G-21 on 'Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear Disarmament' contained in CD/2032.
8. Regarding the UNDC, NAM expresses regret that the UNDC has been unable to reach agreement on any recommendations since 2000 due to the lack of political will and inflexible positions of some Nuclear-Weapons States, despite the Movement's constructive role and concrete proposals throughout deliberations, especially in the Working Group on "Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons". NAM calls upon UN Member States to display the necessary political will and flexibility in order to enable the Commission to agree on substantive outcomes in its present cycle.

9. For its part, NAM stands ready to engage constructively on the advancement of the issues on the UN disarmament agenda and the ways and means of strengthening the disarmament machinery. NAM reaffirms that a Fourth Special Session of the UN General Assembly devoted to Disarmament (SSOD-IV) remains the most appropriate forum for furthering the priorities established by SSOD-I.
10. NAM stresses that United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) should be adequately strengthened and its research and information functions accordingly extended, as provided for by the final document of SSOD-I.
11. This year, the Movement is once again tabling the draft resolution entitled "Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation" and a draft decision on the "Open-ended working group on the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament". The Movement once again seeks the support of all Member States for the adoption of the aforesaid draft resolution and draft decision, without vote.
12. Since the display of political will is fundamental to an effective performance by the disarmament machinery, NAM urges all countries to work together, cooperate further and tangibly demonstrate their commitment to ensure that the disarmament machinery will once again and in not too distant a future unleash its potential to advance peace and security for the entire world.

Thank you.