Statement by

H.E. Ambassador Dr. Desra Percaya
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia
to the United Nations

on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement

at

The Thematic Debate of the First Committee session
of the 69th United Nations General Assembly
on the Disarmament Machinery

New York, 16 October 2014
Mr. Chairman,

1. I am honored to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

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 the 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 reiterates its call on the CD to agree on a balanced and comprehensive program of work. While welcoming the efforts made during the 2014 session of the CD on its program of work, pursuant to CD’s decision CD/1974 to reestablish an informal working group (IWG) of the CD, NAM notes the deliberations of the IWG in its meetings during the CD’s 2014 session. NAM also takes note of the structured informal discussions held during the CD’s 2014 session on all its agenda items in accordance with the Schedule of Activities contained in document CD/1978. The Movement encourages all states to demonstrate the necessary political will so that the CD fulfills its negotiating mandate.

6. 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 68/32 presented by the Movement.

7. 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 next cycle.

8. 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 also reiterates that a special session of the General Assembly should be convened to address these issues.¹

9. 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, Mr. Chairman.

¹ Para 43 NAM Statement First Committee General Debate 7 Oct‘14