Statement by

H.E. Dr. Desra Percaya
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to the United Nations

on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement

at

The Thematic Debate of the First Committee
of the 69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly
on Nuclear Weapons

New York, 20 October 2014
Mr. Chairman,

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

2. NAM expresses its concern at the threat to humanity posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and of their possible use or threat of use.

3. The Movement reaffirms its principled positions on nuclear disarmament, which remains its highest priority, and on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects. The efforts aiming at nuclear non-proliferation should be parallel to simultaneous efforts aiming at nuclear disarmament.

4. Notwithstanding the longstanding calls for the total elimination of nuclear weapons, reiterated by the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament, concrete steps towards that path remain elusive. The Movement is deeply concerned by this dismal state of affairs.

5. NAM reiterates its deep concern over the slow pace of progress towards nuclear disarmament and the lack of progress by the Nuclear-Weapon States (NWS) to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, in accordance with their relevant multilateral legal obligations and their unequivocal undertakings in 2000 and 2010.

6. Compliance by the NWS with their nuclear disarmament obligations and commitments under the NPT is imperative and must not be delayed any further. Furthermore, the NWS must accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear weapons in a transparent, irreversible and internationally verifiable manner.

7. The Movement also calls on the NWS to immediately cease their plans to further modernize, upgrade, refurbish or extend the lives of their nuclear weapons and related facilities.
8. The Movement underscores the importance of the General Assembly resolution 68/32 entitled "Follow-up to the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament", which provides a concrete pathway for realizing the objective of nuclear disarmament. The Movement is confident that the full implementation of this resolution will ensure tangible progress on nuclear disarmament. NAM urges the early commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament, on a comprehensive nuclear weapons convention pursuant to UNGA resolution 68/32. The Movement is presenting an updated version of this resolution in this session, which it hopes will garner wholehearted support from everyone.

9. NAM welcomes the first General Assembly Ministerial Plenary Meeting to commemorate the “International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons”, held on 26 September 2014, and further welcomes the reaffirmation by Ministers participating that nuclear disarmament continues to be the priority of the international community.

10. NAM affirms the importance of humanitarian considerations in the context of all deliberations on nuclear weapons and in promoting the goal of nuclear disarmament. NAM welcomes the growing focus on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons, including at the two Conferences in Oslo and Nayarit. It looks forward to a successful third Conference to be held in Austria in December 2014. At the same time, NAM underscores that the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the assurance that they will never be produced again, is the only absolute guarantee against the catastrophic humanitarian consequences arising from their use.

11. Pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, NAM reiterates its call for the early commencement of negotiations on effective, universal, unconditional, non-discriminatory, irrevocable and legally binding security assurances to all NNWS by all NWS against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under all circumstances.
12. NAM State Parties to the NPT express their profound disappointment that the 2010 NPT Review Conference Action plan on the Middle East has not been implemented. This continuing delay runs contrary to the letter and spirit of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East as well as violates the collective agreement reached at the 2010 NPT Review Conference. They strongly reject the alleged impediments for not implementing the 2010 Action plan on the Middle East and the 1995 Resolution, and call for the speedy and full implementation of these collective commitments without any further delay to avoid any additional possible negative repercussions on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime as a whole, including the effectiveness and credibility of the NPT and its 2015 Review process.

13. NAM States Parties to the NPT also emphasize that the indefinite extension of the Treaty does not imply the indefinite possession of nuclear weapons by the NWS, and that any such assumption is incompatible with the object, purpose and integrity of the Treaty, as well as with the broader objective of maintaining international peace and security.

14. Finally, the Movement would like to stress that on its part, it remains ready to engage constructively with all countries to work actively to help fulfil the collective vision of a world free from all nuclear weapons. But this vision can be realised, if the required political will and action will be clearly demonstrated by all quarters.

Thank you.