Statement by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement at the First Committee Thematic Debate: Combined Clusters V-VII Other Disarmament Measures, Regional Disarmament, and Disarmament Machinery

76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

New York, 18 October 2021
Mr. Chairman,

1. I am honored to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. Written submissions under these clusters are available online.

2. NAM is concerned with illegal and malicious use of new ICTs and expresses strong condemnation and rejection against it. NAM further reiterates the need to prevent the cyberspace from becoming a theater of military operations. NAM calls for the intensification of efforts towards safeguarding cyberspace from becoming an arena of conflict, and ensuring instead its exclusive peaceful uses, which would enable the full realization of potential of ICTs. The development of any international legal framework to address such issues should be pursued within the UN with the active and equal participation of all states.

3. NAM also takes note of the conclusions of the GGE on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security, in its 2013, and 2015 reports.

4. NAM notes the conclusion of the OEWG on cyber security, as the first inclusive mechanism. NAM also welcomes the consensual adoption of its outcome document.

5. NAM affirms inalienable rights of States in the development and use of ICTs for peaceful purposes.

6. NAM condemns the misuse of ICTs, including the internet and social media, to incite and commit acts of terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

7. NAM emphasizes the importance of observance of environmental norms in the preparation and implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements. NAM reaffirms that international disarmament forums should take into account environmental norms.

8. NAM stresses the importance of the reduction of military expenditures, in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments. NAM urges all States to devote resources made available from there to address the new challenges in the fields of development, poverty eradication and the elimination of the diseases that afflict humanity, including the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Chairman,

9. NAM believes that Nuclear-Weapon-Free zones (NWFZs) established by the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok, Pelindaba, the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone treaty as well as Mongolia’s Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Status are important measures towards nuclear disarmament. It is essential that NWS provide unconditional assurances against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons to all States of the zone under any circumstances. NAM calls upon all NWS to ratify related
protocols to all treaties establishing NWFZs, withdraw any reservations, and respect the denuclearization status of these zones.

10. NAM urges States to conclude agreements establishing new NWFZs in regions where they do not exist, in accordance with the provisions of the Final Document of the SSOD-1 and the Principles and Guidelines adopted by the UNDC in 1999.

11. NAM emphasizes the importance of UN activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centers for peace and disarmament.

Mr. Chairman,

14. On Disarmament Machinery, NAM believes that the main difficulty lies in lack of political will by some states to achieve progress, particularly on nuclear disarmament.

15. NAM reaffirms the importance of the Conference on Disarmament (CD) and reiterates its call on the CD to agree by consensus on a balanced and comprehensive program of work without any further delay. NAM strongly rejects any politicization of the work of the CD and calls upon all member states to fully respect its rules of procedures and agreed methods of work.

16. NAM underlines the importance of UNDC and calls upon States to agree on “Recommendation for Achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.” NAM hopes that the UNDC will hold its substantive sessions as soon as possible.

17. NAM underscores the importance of convening the Fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (SSOD-IV). It would offer an opportunity to review the most critical aspects of disarmament process. It will also mobilize international community and public opinion in favor of elimination of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and of control and reduction of conventional weapons.

18. NAM is deeply concerned over the inadequate representation from NAM countries in UNODA. NAM requests the Secretary-General and the High Representative to undertake steps to ensure equitable representation in that office. NAM calls for transparency and strict application on the principle of equitable geographical representation, in particular in the composition of groups of governmental experts established in the field of disarmament.

19. Under these clusters, NAM submits the following draft resolutions:
   a. Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control;
   b. Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;
   c. Relationship between disarmament and development;
   d. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace;
   e. United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament;
f. Convening of the Fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament.

20. NAM will appreciate support by all member states.

Thank you.