Intervention by the delegation of Indonesia for the thematic debate on Nuclear Weapons

First Committee of the UN General Assembly
October 10, 2006

Mme Chairperson,

• Allow me to reiterate the point that was highlighted by this delegation in its statement during the general debate of this committee last week: we believe in the need to ABOLISH all nuclear weapons and will work to that end with the international community. We believe that nuclear weapons are dangerous in ANYONE’S hands, including in the hands of NWS. In addressing the issue of nuclear weapons, we should NEVER lose sight of the catastrophic danger associated with such weapons, which could result from accidents or miscalculations.

• We therefore support the call of the WMD Commission and share the belief that existing stock of such weapons should be outlawed and eliminated in a systematic and progressive manner. Rhetoric alone will not suffice to address this issue. The NWS have a moral obligation to move away from nuclear weapons. This should start with the States holding the largest arsenal of nuclear weapons, namely the US and Russia. Their strong leadership is important and they should do so through setting an example.

Mme Chairperson,

• We look forward to the commencement of a new cycle in the review process of the NPT next year. In the preparation for the 2010 Review Conference, and in response to the current impasse since the last Review Conference, there is an urgent need to strengthen the integrity of the NPT. In our common efforts to pursue disarmament and non-proliferation objectives, the State parties need:

  o To demonstrate maximum flexibility and sufficient political will in order to bridge the gap and to create common ground in reaching consensus and agreement on procedural and substantive issues;

  o To respect the existing obligations and commitments under the NPT and the agreements in the previous Review Conferences, rather than intensifying measures under the mechanism outside the NPT regime.
Having said that Mme Chairperson, let me now comment on the recent nuclear test conducted by the DPRK. We reiterate our position that the nuclear test conducted by the DPRK is unacceptable under any justifiable reason.

The nuclear test conducted by the DPRK would only increase new tension and threaten the stability in the Asia-Pacific region. The test would also trigger nuclear proliferation in the region and impede efforts by the international community to undertake comprehensive nuclear disarmament in accordance with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

We are of the view that the possession and development of nuclear weapon does not warrant the security and survival of any country. We are also deeply concerned over the prospect of nuclear proliferation in Asia, which stretches from West to East Asia, particularly when the same issues in other regions have subsided.

We strongly urge the Government of the DPRK to refrain from developing nuclear weapons following its recent test and also urge all parties concerned to resume the Six-Party Talks in order to seek a peaceful solution over the North Korea’s nuclear issue.