GENERAL STATEMENT BY INDONESIA ON BEHALF OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT BEFORE ACTION ON CLUSTER 7 “DISARMAMENT MACHINERY”

1 November 2007

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honor to speak on behalf of the Non Aligned Movement, and to make this statement before action on Cluster 7.

During this year’s First Committee, many delegations reaffirmed the validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation. They expressed their determination to promote multilateralism as an essential way to develop arms regulations and disarmament negotiations.

In the Final Document adopted by consensus at the conclusion of the SSOD I, the 30th anniversary of which we will be commemorating next year, we stated, among others, that while the final objective of the efforts of all States should continue to be general and complete disarmament under effective international control, the immediate goal is that of the elimination of the danger of nuclear weapons.

In spite of the best efforts of the international community, the existing disarmament machinery has not produced adequate or satisfying results. There is urgent need, therefore, for the revitalization of the machinery and forum appropriately constituted for disarmament deliberations and negotiations. This should begin with the strengthening of the role and responsibility of the United Nations in the sphere of disarmament, in accordance with The Charter. The way towards this, we believe, is through the convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (SSOD-IV).

Mr. Chairman,

In our view, the convening of SSOD-IV is both timely and appropriate, for the following reasons:

a. It can set the future course of action and a balanced approach to reaching a new consensus in arms control, disarmament, non-proliferation and related international security matters, including a comprehensive review of the disarmament machinery.

b. There is a need to address the existing and new threats to international peace and security in a comprehensive and transparent manner with the broad participation of all Member States;

c. In view of these unprecedented threat and challenges, concerted multilateral efforts under the only auspices which offer the only legitimate and lasting solutions has become imperative, and the United Nations should play a more effective role;
There is a general agreement among member states on the need to revitalize the disarmament machinery, including the First Committee, the UNDC and the CD. They cannot afford to allow its agenda to remain deadlocked. Therefore, the disarmament agenda, as contained in the Final Document of SSOD-I should be revived on an urgent basis.

The draft resolution before us contained in document L.17 rev.1 calls for the convening of the Open-ended working group which was established by resolution 60/61 of 6 December 2006 and for it to hold its organizational session in order to schedule its substantive sessions in 2008 and to subsequently submit a report on its work before the end of the 62nd session of the General Assembly.

NAM continues to underline the necessity of working towards the convening of SSOD IV, and reaffirms its strong support of that objective, taking into account the constructive dialogue and active engagement that have existed among Member States, including key delegations, during the 2007 substantive sessions of the OEWG.

In this regard, NAM encourages all Member States to continue to work closely and constructively and to fully utilize the forthcoming substantive sessions of the OEWG to consider the objectives and agenda of SSOD-IV and consequently to support draft resolution L.17 Rev.1.

A second draft resolution under this cluster that NAM is tabling is L.15 entitled “United Nations Regional Centers for Peace and Disarmament”.

NAM underlines that the UN Regional Centers for Peace and Disarmament have been instrumental in promoting understanding and cooperation among States in their respective regions in the fields of peace, disarmament and development. The General Assembly continues its appeal to all Member States, as well as international governmental and non-governmental organizations, to make voluntary contributions to the Centers in order to strengthen, facilitate and implement their programs and activities.

The Non-Aligned Movement hopes that all delegations will be able to join us in supporting these draft resolutions.

Thank you.