Statement by

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on Behalf of the Arab Group

Before
Cluster five of the first committee:
The Debate on other disarmament measures

New York, November 2012,
Mr. Chairman,

The delegation of Egypt delivers this statement on behalf of the Arab Group. The Arab Group aligns itself with the statement made by the representative of Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chairman,

Concerning the cluster on “other disarmament measures”, The Arab Group underscores that multilateralism and multilaterally agreed solutions, in accordance with the United Nations Charter, provide the only sustainable method of addressing disarmament and international security issues. The Arab Group calls upon all Member States to renew and fulfill their individual and collective commitments to multilateral cooperation, and stresses its conviction in the role of the United Nations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation.

Mr. Chairman,

The Arab Group is concerned about increasing global military expenditure, a substantial part of which could otherwise be spent to promote development and eliminate poverty and disease, particularly in the developing countries, including Arab Countries. And reiterate the significance of following up on the implementation of the action programme adopted at the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, as well as follow-up to the impact of increased military expenditure on the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals.

Mr. Chairman,

The existence of weapons of mass destruction and its continuous modernization is one of the greatest threats to international peace and security and the environmental equilibrium of our planet. The Arab Group stresses that international disarmament forums should fully take into account the relevant environmental norms in negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation, and that all States through their actions should contribute fully to ensuring compliance with environmental norms in implementation of treaties and conventions to which they are parties.

Mr. Chairman,

The Arab Group expresses its continuing concern at the potential for the use of information and communications technologies against the interests of States in political, military, economic and scientific spheres. The Group welcomes the United Nations positive contribution to consideration of this matter, including through the work of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security which was formed and held its first meeting this year. We underscore the need to pursue international cooperation in this area.

Thank You