Mr. Chairman,

1. I am honored to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement on the Disarmament Machinery.

2. NAM remains concerned at the continuous erosion of multilateralism in the field of disarmament, non-proliferation, and arms control. The Movement is determined to continue promoting multilateralism as the core principle of negotiations in these areas and as the only sustainable approach to address these issues, in accordance with the UN Charter.

3. NAM underscores the importance of multilateral disarmament machinery, consisting of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral negotiating body on disarmament, the United Nations Disarmament Commission as a universal deliberative body and subsidiary organ of the General Assembly, and the First Committee. NAM stresses the importance of preserving and strengthening of the nature, role and purpose of each part of this machinery.

4. Enhancing the effectiveness of UN disarmament machinery is a shared objective. Based on its existing rules of procedure and methods of work, this machinery has produced landmark treaties and guidelines. NAM believes that the main difficulty lies in the lack of political will by some States to achieve progress, particularly on nuclear disarmament.

5. NAM reaffirms the importance of the Conference on Disarmament (CD) as the sole multilateral negotiating body on disarmament, and reiterates its call on the CD to agree by consensus on a balanced and comprehensive program of work without any further delay taking into account the security interests of all States. In this regard, the movement reaffirms the importance of the principle contained in the final document of the SSOD-I that "The adoption of disarmament measures should take place in such an equitable and balanced manner as to ensure the right of each State to security and to ensure that no individual State or group of States may obtain advantages over others at
any stage”.

6. To instill a fresh impetus to global nuclear disarmament efforts, NAM calls for the urgent commencement of negotiations, in the CD, for the conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, as called for in resolution 70/34 presented by the Movement. NAM expresses its appreciation for the Working Paper Submitted by Mongolia on behalf of the Member States of G-21 on ‘Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear Disarmament’ contained in the document CD/2067.

7. Regarding the UNDC, NAM expresses regret that the UNDC has been unable to reach an agreement on any recommendations since 2000 due to the lack of political will and inflexible positions of Nuclear-Weapons States (NWS) despite the Movement's constructive role and concrete proposals throughout deliberations, especially in the Working Group on "Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons". NAM calls upon UN Member States to display the necessary political will and flexibility in order to enable the Commission to agree on substantive outcomes in its present cycle.

8. For its part, NAM stands ready to engage constructively on the advancement of the issues on the UN disarmament agenda and the ways and means of strengthening the disarmament machinery. NAM underscores the importance of the convening of the Fourth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to Disarmament, as it would offer an opportunity to review, from a perspective more in tune with the current international situation, the most critical aspects of the disarmament process, and to mobilize the international community and public opinion in favor of the elimination of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and of the control and reduction of conventional weapons. In this regard, the Movement welcomes the successful
convening of two substantive sessions in 2016 of the Open Ended Working Group on SSOD-IV chaired by Ecuador.

9. NAM stresses that United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) should be adequately strengthened and its research and information functions accordingly extended, as provided for by the final document of SSOD-I.

10. Since the display of political will is fundamental to an effective performance by the disarmament machinery, NAM urges all countries to work together, cooperate further and tangibly demonstrate their commitment to ensure that the disarmament machinery will once again and in not too distant a future unleash its potential to advance peace and security for the entire world.

11. This year, the Movement is once again tabling the draft resolution titled “United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament” and a draft decision titled “Open-ended Working Group on the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament.” The Movement once again seeks the support of all Member States for the adoption of the draft resolution without vote.

Thank you.