Statement by Mr. Desra Percaya
Representative of the Indonesian Delegation

at the First Session of the Preparatory Committee
for the 2010 Review Conference of the States Parties
to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

on Nuclear disarmament and security assurance

Vienna, 9 May 2007

Mr. Chairman

My delegation would like to associate itself with the statement made by the Ambassador of Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chairman,

Negative security assurances (NSAs) have become a perennial issue since the inception of the NPT. Under NSAs, NWS have committed that nuclear weapons will not be used against NNWS. NSAs are widely viewed both as an incentive for states not to seek nuclear weapons as well as concrete steps toward nuclear disarmament.

Although NNWS have pressed for stronger NSAs through a legally binding instrument, NWS remain for the most part opposed to codifying these commitments. In 1995, NWS made statements to the CD offering voluntary NSAs to NNWS. In the same year, the UNSC also adopted resolution 984 that recognizes the legitimate interests of NNWS to receive NSAs from NWS in the context of NPT.

NSAs have also been extended through some treaty-based NWFZs, which contain protocols that encode NSAs for the NNWS party to those zones. However, exploiting NWFZs to obtain building NSAs for NNWS can be only a partial solution to the demands for a legally-binding NSAs.

This is in fact because not all NNWS are covered by NWFZ treaties. Moreover, the entry into force of the existing NWFZs and their Protocols of accession have not yet finalized or ratified. Another example can also be seen in the process of the establishment of a Central Asian NWFZ, in which some NWS still have substantive difficulties to support such a zone.

The proposed decision by the current CD Presidency to start negotiation in the CD with a view to finding a common ground can be used as a good start to deal with NSAs in a more transparent and comprehensive manner in the framework of the Ambassador-5 proposal.

Thank you Mr. Chairman