Statement by H.E. Mr. Edi Yusup
Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia in Geneva

on behalf of the Group of Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

on

Cluster 2 issues: Implementation of the provisions of the Treaty relating to non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, safeguards and nuclear-weapon-free-zones

Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

Geneva, 26 April 2013
Mr. Chairman,

1. I am very pleased to speak on behalf of the Group of Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement Parties to the NPT.

2. At the outset, I would like to refer to Working Papers presented by the Group, detailing its positions on the various issues being deliberated under this cluster.

3. The Group emphasizes that the Treaty is an essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament and to halt the vertical and horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons.

4. The Group emphasizes that non-proliferation must be pursued in all its aspects and efforts aiming at nuclear non-proliferation should be parallel to simultaneous efforts aiming at nuclear disarmament.

5. In this regard, the Group attaches great importance to compliance by nuclear-weapon States (NWS) with their obligations under Article I of the Treaty "not to transfer to any recipient whatsoever nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices or control over such weapons or explosive devices directly, or indirectly; and not in any way to assist, encourage, or induce any non-nuclear weapon State to manufacture or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, or control over such weapons or explosive devices".

6. Likewise, the Group underlines the prime importance of compliance by non-nuclear-weapon States (NNWS) parties with their obligations under Article II of the Treaty "not to receive the transfer from any transferor whatsoever of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices or of control over such weapons or explosive devices directly, or indirectly; not to manufacture or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices; and not to seek or receive any assistance in the manufacture of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices".

7. In the view of the Group, any horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons and nuclear weapon-sharing by States Parties constitutes a clear violation of non-proliferation obligations undertaken by those NWS under Article I and by those NNWS under Article II of the Treaty, and could have serious consequences on the effectiveness, relevance and credibility of the Treaty.

8. The Group, therefore, urges these States parties to put an end to nuclear weapon-sharing with other States under any circumstances and any kind of security
arrangements, including in the framework of military alliances. In this context, the Group underlines the special responsibility of NWS in this regard.

9. The Group reaffirms that, as stipulated in Decision 2 of the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference, the proliferation of nuclear weapons would seriously increase the danger of nuclear war, that the Treaty has a vital role to play in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons and that every effort should be made to implement the Treaty in all its aspects to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices, without hampering the inalienable right to peaceful uses of nuclear energy by States parties to the Treaty.

10. The Group strongly believes that efforts by NWS to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear weapons shall be undertaken in a transparent, irreversible and internationally verifiable manner. Furthermore, the Group calls on the NWS to dismantle or convert for peaceful uses, the facilities and related equipment for the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

Mr. Chairman,

11. The Group stresses the importance of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards agreements and urges all States that have not yet done so to bring into force comprehensive safeguards agreements as soon as possible, in order to achieve their universality and to consolidate and enhance the verification system for the non-proliferation regime.

12. The Group calls upon the NWS to conclude full-scope safeguards agreements with IAEA in accordance with its statute, for verifying the fulfillment of their obligations assumed under the NPT.

13. The Group underlines that the IAEA is the sole competent authority responsible for verification of the fulfillment of safeguard obligations assumed by States parties under the Treaty. At the same time, the Group emphasizes that the work of the Agency with regard to safeguards and verification has to be conducted in accordance with the provisions of its Statute and safeguards agreements.

14. The Group stresses the statutory role of IAEA in nuclear disarmament, including applying safeguards on nuclear materials derived from the dismantling of nuclear weapons, and recognizes the Agency's capability to verify nuclear disarmament agreements.
15. The Group further emphasizes that it is fundamental to make a clear distinction between legal obligations and voluntary confidence-building measures and that such voluntary undertakings shall not be turned into legal safeguards obligations. In this regard, the Group also emphasizes that IAEA shall ensure avoiding any ultra vires acts which would jeopardize its integrity and credibility.

16. The Group also underlines the essential responsibility of the IAEA in maintaining and observing fully the principle of confidentiality regarding all information related to the implementation of safeguards, including reporting, in accordance with the Agency's Statute and safeguards agreements. The Group emphasizes that the regime for the protection of confidential information needs to be highly strengthened in particular through the implementation of IAEA General Conference resolutions GC(54)/RES/11 and GC(56)/RES/13. Furthermore, the Group underlines the necessity of IAEA reporting on the implementation of safeguards being factual and technically based and reflecting appropriate reference to the relevant provisions of safeguards agreements, while ensuring the protection of confidential information.

17. The Group stresses that all IAEA members States shall strictly observe its Statute and nothing should be done to undermine its authority. Furthermore, the Group calls upon all States to avoid any pressure or interference in the Agency's activities, especially its verification process, which could jeopardize its efficiency and credibility.

18. The Group once again reaffirms the importance of Decision 2 of the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference which stipulates that universal adherence to the Treaty is an urgent priority. In this regard, the Group urges all States not yet party to the NPT, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, to accede to the Treaty, without any further delay and preconditions, as non-nuclear-weapon States, and to place their nuclear facilities under IAEA full-scope safeguards.

19. The Group emphasizes that strict observance of and adherence to the IAEA comprehensive safeguards and to the Treaty are a condition for any cooperation in the nuclear area with States not parties to the Treaty, or for any supply arrangement with such States for the transfer of source or special fissionable material, or equipment or material specially designed or prepared for the processing, use or production of special fissionable material.

20. The Group confirms that the obligation under article III of the Treaty in verifying the peaceful nature of nuclear programmes provides credible assurances enabling States parties to engage in the transfer of nuclear equipment, material and
technology for peaceful purposes in accordance with article IV of the Treaty. Therefore, States parties to the Treaty are called upon to refrain from imposing or maintaining any restriction or limitation on the transfer of nuclear equipment, material and technology to States parties with comprehensive safeguards agreements.

21. In this regard, the Group supports furthering safeguarded worldwide nuclear disarmament and the development of appropriate legally binding verification arrangements, in the context of IAEA, to ensure the irreversible removal of fissile material from nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosives devices. The Group further urges the Review Conference to examine such legally binding verification arrangements and the means to make them operational. The Group also calls for the establishment by the Review Conference of a standing committee to monitor and verify the nuclear disarmament steps undertaken unilaterally or through bilateral agreement by the NWS.

Mr. Chairman,

22. The Group continues to consider the nuclear-weapon-free zones created by the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok, Pelindaba and Semipalatinsk to be a positive step and important measure towards attaining the objective of global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

23. In this regard, the Group strongly supports the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, as a priority, and calls for the full implementation of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East, which is an integral and essential part of the package of decisions reached without a vote that enabled the indefinite extension of the Treaty in 1995. This resolution remains valid until its objectives are achieved. Pending the establishment of such a zone, the Group demands that Israel, the only country in the region that has not joined the NPT nor declared its intention to do so, to renounce possession of nuclear weapons, to accede to the NPT without any precondition and further delay, to place promptly all its nuclear facilities under IAEA full-scope safeguards and to conduct all its nuclear related activities in conformity with the non-proliferation regime. The Group recalls that the Tehran NAM Summit of 2012 expressed great concern over the acquisition of nuclear capability by Israel which poses a serious and continuing threat to the security of neighbouring and other States, and condemned Israel for continuing to develop and stockpile nuclear arsenals.

24. NAM State Parties to the NPT express their serious concern over the long delay in the implementation of the 1995 Resolution and urge the three cosponsors of the Resolution to take all necessary measures to fully implement it without any
further delay. NAM State Parties to the NPT recalls the consensus decision contained in the Final Document of the 2010 NPT Review Conference on convening, in 2012, of a Conference on the establishment of a NWFZ in the Middle East, and express their profound disappointment on not convening the conference in 2012 as scheduled. They are of the view that the failure to convene the Conference in 2012 is contrary to the letter and spirit of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East and contradicts and violates the collective agreement contained in the Final Document of the 2010 NPT Review Conference. They strongly reject the alleged impediments presented by the Conveners for not convening the Conference on schedule, and express their serious concern that the 2nd PrepCom for the 2015 NPT RevCon is meeting while the Conference has not been convened yet. They urge the UN Secretary General, the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Russian Federation, to convene the Conference without any further delay in order to avoid any negative repercussions on the relevance and credibility of the NPT, its 2015 Review process and the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime as a whole.

25. The Group welcomes continued consultations between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and NWS on the Protocol to the Bangkok Treaty, and urges the NWS to become parties to the Protocol as soon as possible. The Group welcomes the fact that four of the nuclear-weapon States have ratified the Protocols to the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Pelindaba Treaty) that they have signed, and encourages the remaining nuclear-weapon-State to complete its ratification process. The Group also encourages the one non-nuclear weapon State that has yet to become party to Protocol III of the Treaty, to complete this process without delay.

26. The Group reaffirms that, in the context of nuclear-weapon-free zones, it is also essential that all NWS provide unconditional, non-discriminatory and concrete legal assurances against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons to all NNWS of the zone that are parties to the NPT. In this regard, the Group strongly calls for the withdrawal of any related reservations or unilateral interpretative declarations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of such treaties.

27. In conclusion, the Group reiterates that implementation of the non-proliferation requirements should be carried out without hampering peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Thank you. Mr. Chairman.