Statement by

H.E. Mr. Rachmat Budiman
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on

Cluster 3 Issues:
Implementation of the provisions of the Treaty relating to the inalienable right of all Parties to the Treaty to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination

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, 30 April 2013
Mr. Chairman,

While associating itself with the statement made by the Non-Aligned Movement States Party to the NPT on Cluster 3, my delegation would like to make additional comments as follows.

It is beyond doubt that peaceful use of nuclear energy and technology is of great significance for social and economic development, as well as for climate change and air pollution mitigation in many parts of the world.

In Indonesia, like in many other countries, nuclear energy and technology play an important role in addressing many aspects of national development programs in the areas of health, food and agriculture, water resource management, environmental protection and industry.

Taking into account of these benefits, which are enjoyed in various areas, we firmly believe that peaceful uses of nuclear energy must be further promoted by all States Parties to the NPT. This objective, however, cannot be achieved if the right of all States Parties to acquire, develop and use nuclear energy and technology for peaceful purposes as enshrined in Article IV of the NPT, is not fully protected.

In accordance with Article IV, we all have to ensure that the benefits of nuclear energy and technology are accessible to all States Parties that resolve to employ it. They should have access to technology, equipment and materials for the peaceful use of nuclear energy, without discrimination.

Bearing in mind the social, economic and environmental benefits mentioned above, we would like to emphasize that the right to develop and use nuclear technology should in no way be restricted for the purpose of preventing proliferation.

Mr. Chairman,

We are aware of the fact that the development and use of nuclear technology might involve a risk of proliferation. However, we do not share the automatic assumption that the rising interest of many countries in nuclear energy and technology will necessarily result in higher risk of nuclear proliferation in the future.

It is worth reminding ourselves that over the last decades, the threat of proliferation has been sufficiently dealt with by promoting and strengthening the safeguards system as well as safety and security.
We believe that a politicization of peaceful uses of nuclear energy would not only get in the way of the inalienable right to develop and use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, but would also go against the countries possessing advanced nuclear technology and those that aspire to a peaceful nuclear program.

Mr. Chairman

Under the Treaty, IAEA plays a central role in areas of technology transfer for peaceful purposes. Indonesia supports IAEA technical cooperation programme that serves as the main vehicle for IAEA to deliver its mandate to promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear technology. Through its technical cooperation programme, the IAEA has helped Member States to build, strengthen and maintain capacities in the safe, peaceful and secure use of nuclear technology in support of sustainable economic development.

In our experience, the benefits of the Technical Cooperation program are tangible. Since becoming a member in 1957, Indonesia has participated actively and constructively in the work of the IAEA. We take part actively in and benefit widely from the IAEA Technical Cooperation Program. As a result of its decades of technical cooperation with the IAEA, Indonesia is now ready to share its achievements and experience in many areas of nuclear technology for development with other countries.

We are pleased to inform that last year, through the IAEA Peaceful Uses Initiative (PUI), Indonesia provided support to the IAEA technical cooperation projects in Myanmar, Cambodia, and Jordan in the field of agriculture and the utilization of research reactors.

Furthermore, we have also shared our experience and best practices in various forums and cooperative frameworks, such as the IAEA Scientific Forum and the Regional Cooperative Agreement. Indonesia also actively participates in IAEA coordinative research projects involving various institutions and member states.

It is our belief that many other countries are now also in the position to do so, thanks to the IAEA Technical Cooperation Program. In light of this, we believe it is important for all of us to further strengthen the IAEA Technical Cooperation Program in assisting developing States parties in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and to redouble our efforts to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of its Technical Cooperation program, in accordance with Action 55 and Action 56 of the 2010 NPT Review Conference outcome document.
Indonesia is strongly of the view that the IAEA Technical Cooperation program should be further supported by providing it with adequate resources. We are concerned over the continued decline in the rate of attainment of IAEA Technical Cooperation Fund targets over the last few years while the demand for technical assistance continues to increase as result of more developing countries joining IAEA since 2008. According to the IAEA DG report, in the 2012, the rate of attainment was around 88%, compared to 86% in 2011 and 96% in 2008. Only 95 countries contributed to the Technical Cooperation Fund in 2011, as compared to 114 countries in 2009.

In this connection, we would like to call for all parties to the NPT, that are all also members of the IAEA, to work collectively to implement their commitment, as stipulated in Action 54 of the outcome document, to make every effort and to take practical steps to ensure that IAEA resources for technical cooperation activities are sufficient, assured and predictable.

In line with Action 55 of the outcome document, Indonesia supports the IAEA Peaceful Uses Initiative (PUI) launched in 2010, aimed at raising 100 million dollars by 2015 as extra-budgetary contributions to IAEA activities. In addition to the IAEA Technical Cooperation Fund, Indonesia has also contributed to the PUI to help support the implementation of several IAEA technical cooperation projects in developing countries.

Mr. Chairman,

Action 57 of the outcome document underlined the need for all States Parties to the NPT to ensure that, when developing nuclear energy, including nuclear power, the use of nuclear energy is accompanied by commitments to appropriate and effective levels of safety and security.

Rest assured, Mr. Chairman, that Indonesia vigorously upholds the principle of "safety first" in all aspects of nuclear activities. Indeed, our national safety requirements and standards give no room for complacency. Indonesia, through its Nuclear Energy Regulatory Agency, continues to pursue policies and regulations that further stress the importance of ensuring nuclear safety standards at all levels. In 2012, we successfully established a regulation on Safety and Security in Nuclear Applications. To further bolster our efforts in the field of nuclear safety, Indonesia is now preparing for an IAEA Integrated Regulatory Review Service mission that will take place in 2014, to conduct a full scale assessment of the country regulatory infrastructure.

At the international level, Indonesia has actively promoted cooperation in the field of nuclear security. Apart from being an active member of the Asian
Nuclear Safety Network aimed at establishing a strong network and forum for exchange of experience and best practices, Indonesia is actively involved in the implementation of the IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear Safety, by providing its experts to support various activities conducted under the Plan.

Mr. Chairman,

The tragic accident at Fukushima in 2011 has reminded all of us that in exercising our right to develop and use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, we must ensure that nuclear safety is not compromised.

We should be able to prevent nuclear accidents from recurring in the future. In this regard, nuclear safety must be strengthened worldwide. However, while we address concerns over nuclear safety and security, we must also avoid efforts that could impede or complicate the exercising of the right to use and develop nuclear energy and technology.

To conclude, Mr. Chairman, we would like to call on this Second Preparatory Committee to reaffirm the validity of Article IV, with a view to ensuring that the rights of all States Parties are fully protected, and that no State Party is limited in the exercise of its rights to develop, research, produce and use nuclear technologies for peaceful purposes.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.