Statement by
H.E. Ambassador Makmur Widodo
Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia

in the Meeting of Subsidiary Body I
of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties
To the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

to Introduce a Proposed Language for the Outcome of Subsidiary Body I
on behalf of the
Members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries Parties
to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

New York, 3 May 2000

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Mr. Chairman,

It is a privilege for Indonesia, in its capacity as Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement's (NAM) Working Group on Disarmament to address the meeting of Subsidiary Body I this morning. It is also a pleasure for me in this capacity to welcome you as the Chairman of this important body. We are confident that under your able guidance, Subsidiary Body I will embark on productive work and proceed towards contributing to a successful outcome of this conference.

Let me avail of this opportunity to pledge the Movement's support to you in the discharge of your difficult task.

Mr. Chairman,

In our previous intervention in Main Committee I, on behalf of NAM States Parties to the NPT, we underlined that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is an obligation and a priority and not an ultimate goal, and even less a goal that is linked, subjected or conditioned to general and complete disarmament. In that intervention, we also recalled NAM's long-standing and principled position on nuclear disarmament and related issues of non-proliferation and nuclear tests, reinforced by our Heads of State or Government at the 1998 Durban Summit in South Africa and again emphasized by our Foreign Ministers at the recent Meeting in Cartagena, Colombia. I further recalled the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control. In that intervention, we also emphasized the conclusion of SSOD I that priority in disarmament negotiations should be nuclear weapons.

The Non-Aligned States Parties therefore call on the Nuclear Weapon States to unconditionally adhere to their commitments to fulfill with determination their nuclear disarmament obligation under Article VI of the Treaty, and to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to the cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and on nuclear disarmament. In this regard also, the Non-Aligned States Parties call for the early commencement of negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament and for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time, including a nuclear weapons convention prohibiting the development, production, testing, stockpiling, transfer, threat or use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination.
In light of the foregoing, we have been mandated by the Members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries Parties to the NPT to introduce and submit a proposed language as the basis for consideration as well as for the outcome of Subsidiary Body I. We are of the view that this contribution reflects NAM's constructive approach towards the review process of the Treaty in the context of ensuring the success of this Review Conference.

The proposed language we are now introducing are basically taken from the relevant paragraphs of the Working Paper that we introduced last week and which has been subsequently circulated as document NPT/CONF.2000/18, dated 24 April 2000. We believe the proposed language is of paramount importance to the mandate of Subsidiary Body I and has been taken from paragraphs 1, 2, and 4 of the Introduction; paragraphs 1, 3, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34 of the said NAM Working Paper. To highlight the proposed language, it is printed in bold text.

We would like to request that the proposed language be fully considered, reflected, assimilated and embodied into the Final Document of the Conference and serve as the basis of the work of Subsidiary Body I. We would further request that the proposed language be circulated as a Conference Room Paper.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.