Statement by

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to the United Nations in New York

Main Committee I
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Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Mr. Chairman,

I wish to congratulate you on your election as the Chair of this important Committee. Our work here is critical to continue strengthening the implementation of the NPT as well as our collective endeavors to attain a world free of nuclear weapons.

My delegation also wishes to associate itself with the statement made by our Iranian colleague, on behalf of the Non-Alignment Movement States Parties to the NPT on Main Committee I.

Mr. Chairman,

Forty-five years have passed since the entry into force of the NPT. As yet, the implementation of Article VI on nuclear disarmament has gone far from our expectation.

As a long standing promoter of a world free of nuclear weapons, Indonesia believes that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. For so long as even a single nuclear weapon exists, humankind is in danger of suffering a nuclear catastrophe - either by design or by accident. It is based on this conception that Indonesia associates itself with the joint statement on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons delivered by Austria.
Nuclear weapons have the destructive capacity to totally eliminate human civilization. It’s mere existence thus holds the entire humanity as hostage to its menacing potentials, and its accidental detonation—moreover, its intentional use—would unleash a massive catastrophe. Hence, we expect that a clear reference to the humanitarian dimension and impact of nuclear weapons be adequately reflected in the outcome document of the 2015 NPT Review Conference.

Against such a grim background, nuclear disarmament should therefore be prioritized and should not be held hostage by the progress on non-proliferation issues as they are in fact mutually reinforcing. They should be pursued simultaneously, not one at the cost of the other.

In this context, NWS are obliged to pursue the dismantling of their existing nuclear arsenal, not only with a concrete specified timetable, but also with equal vigor and purposefulness as in their efforts to promote non-proliferation agenda. Indonesia fully support the proposal made by the Group of Non-Aligned states parties to the NPT on the specified time frame for nuclear disarmament.

In the absence of a comprehensive and non-discriminatory Nuclear Weapons Convention, the NPT remains to be the cornerstone for non-proliferation and disarmament machinery. In this Review Conference, Indonesia urges NWS not to back pedal their commitment for the total elimination of nuclear weapons. To this day, we are still unable to answer the international call to undertake complete disarmament and achieve a
world without nuclear weapons, let alone committing on a tangible date of its implementation.

Mr. Chairman,

As a way forward to strengthen the Treaty, Indonesia encourages a paradigm-shift in terms of strategic view of nuclear weapons' actual role and contribution toward the maintenance of one's security.

In fact, possession of nuclear weapons -or the ambition to achieve one- has stood up as one of the few factors behind anomalies of behavior demonstrated by state actors in defying international norms, most particularly humanitarian norms.

Ambition toward mastery -or maintaining one's supremacy- in terms of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery have made state entities behave in a strangely erratic and irrational manner. Senselessly redirecting valuable resources from otherwise productive sectors, into building destructive devices with menacing apocalyptic potentials, totally defies any notion of sensibility.

The possessions of nuclear weapons give a false guarantee of security, or even perhaps false sense of supremacy, both to the possessing country as well as those under its nuclear umbrella. In reality, the presences of nuclear weapons in their arsenal have significantly escalated their threat factor exponentially.
There is a dark irony that the existence of the nuclear weapon itself has opened the possibility for it to either fall to the unwanted third party, or be unintentionally detonated in an accidental scenario. None of that would happen if the inhumane weapon itself had not existed in the first place.

For a start, Indonesia urges for NWS to begin by delisting nuclear weapons and nuclear options from their strategic doctrines, while constructively collaborate with other nations to devise a Nuclear Weapon Convention (NWC) encompassing the 3 (three) NO’s, namely “No use of nuclear weapons”, “No test of nuclear weapons”, and “No production or development of nuclear weapons”.

Mr. Chairman,

Indonesia is proud of its credentials as a non-nuclear weapon state (NNWS), and has consistently taken steps to continue to be at the forefront in promoting the realization of a free world without nuclear weapons.

As part of this strong commitment, Indonesia is pleased to share with the Committee that in 2012, as an Annex II country, it has completed its ratification process for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Since 2013, together with Hungary, Indonesia as co-presidents of Article XIV of the CTBT, has collaborated with partnering states to strive for the early entry into force and the universality of the CTBT.
In this regard, Indonesia reiterates its call on all States that have not signed or ratified the Treaty - particularly those listed in the Annex 2 – to do so without delay. As long as the CTBT and its monitoring system are not legally in operational, threats to international peace and security caused by the use of nuclear weapons still exist.

While nuclear weapon still exists, the risk that it can be used by design or accident will remain. Indonesia, therefore, re-affirms that all NNWS deserve a legally-binding negative security assurances provided by the NWS, in which they will not use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against NNWS, pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons. Providing security assurances to the NNWS is a tangible part of the process towards nuclear disarmament.

In this regard, Indonesia expresses full support and call for the full implementation of resolution 69/58 entitled “Follow-up to the 2013 high level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament”, through which the General Assembly inter-alia called for the urgent commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament for the early conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons. Any delay or effort to prevent the negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament is contrary to the decision taken by the previous NPT Review Conferences (1995, 2000 and 2010).
Mr. Chairman,

It is Indonesia's conviction that the Treaty's aims will be achieved only when there is concrete action on all its three pillars in a balanced and non-discriminatory fashion. It is worth reminding that an indefinite extension of the NPT does not imply an indefinite possession of nuclear weapons by the NWSs. Nor does it imply an indefinite preservation of the status of non-members to remain outside the Treaty, defeating its universality.

The universalization of the NPT with full implementation of its provisions, and the total elimination of the world nuclear arsenal, are the only true guarantee that will liberate this world of ours from the menacing threats of nuclear weapons. The time is now ripe for us to come to our senses, to give our future generations their due, a world worthy of living, and not a dead planet with radioactive debris and burning ashes.

On that note, Indonesia wishes to seize this opportunity to welcome the accession of the State of Palestine to the Treaty on 15 February 2015. Indonesia solemnly hopes that this noble step taken by Palestine signals that the hope for peace still lives in our heart no matter what the obstacle is.

Mr. Chairman, I thank you.