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Statement by  
Dr. Desra Percaya  
Delegates of  
the Republic of Indonesia

at the General Debate

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**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

325 East 38<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10016 • Tel. (212) 972-8333 • Fax. (212) 972-9780

[www.indonesiamission-ny.org](http://www.indonesiamission-ny.org) email: [ptri@indonesiamission-ny.org](mailto:ptri@indonesiamission-ny.org)

Mr. Chairman,

On behalf of the Indonesian delegation, allow me first to extend to you my warmest congratulations on your election to chair the First Committee session this year. I am confident that under your able leadership, our Committee will achieve a successful and productive outcome.

Indonesia associates itself with the statements made both on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, and the statement which will be presented on behalf of ASEAN.

The global situation remains uncertain with serious differences and the existence of conflict in many parts of the world. The situation is worsening with the financial crisis and its contagion spreading far off on the one hand, and the huge military expenditure of major powers continuing unabated on the other hand. We continue to be concerned with the advancement of armament at the cost of development, particularly when a staggering 1.4 billion of the humanity continues to struggle in extreme poverty.

Despite some earnest efforts by many member states, including non-governmental actors, the disarmament machinery regrettably remains mired in deadlock and a lack of consensus on some of the fundamental and previously agreed points on the global disarmament agenda.

The signs are bleak. After more than a decade, the CD has not been able to agree on its program of work even after intense efforts by its Presidents. It is also unfortunate that after the three years cycle, the 2008 session of the UNDC ended without substantive recommendations. Similarly, the open-ended working group on SSOD IV could not reach agreement on the objectives and agenda of the SSOD IV despite a lot of hard work. And, after the failure of the last NPT Review Conference, the two Prepcom meetings for the 2010 NPT Review Conference has for the most part dealt with procedural matters, rather than substantive work.

However, we see a ray of hope. A momentum is emerging as a result of the creative work by a group of states, and eminent individuals, for achieving a world free of nuclear weapons. The outcome of the "International Conference on Nuclear Disarmament" organized by Norway in Oslo last February is promising. The adoption of a Cluster Munitions Convention at the Dublin Diplomatic Conference last May is heartening. The establishment and the announcement of the composition of the "International Commission on Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament" initiated by the PM of Australia last September is also encouraging.

Mr. Chairman,

It is vital for the sustainable peace and security of our planet that we persevere for a global security order where nuclear weapons will no longer play a role. Today, we are more convinced than ever that nuclear disarmament is imperative for international peace and welfare. We are faced with the dangers of nuclear weapons finding their way into more military arsenals, and the risk that these old tools of deterrence might become new tools for terrorists with devastating consequences.

Non-proliferation is vital, but it is not sufficient. Nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament are mutually reinforcing, and both must be pursued vigorously in a balanced and non-discriminatory manner. Otherwise, we might soon enter a new nuclear arms race with new types, uses and rationales for such weapons, and eventually more warheads.

The NPT as the primary instrument for controlling and eliminating nuclear weapons risks falling apart, with further proliferation risks. It is extremely concerning that instead of eliminating nuclear weapons, some nuclear powers have plans to modernize or develop new types of nuclear weapons or create new rationales for their use.

While attempts to bring those outside the regime is commendable, we view that it should be conducted in a way that reinforce rather than undermine global non-proliferation norms. In this context, we deeply regret the decision made by the 45-nations members of the Nuclear Supplier Group (NSG) to grant an unconditional specific waiver on nuclear export guidelines to States outside the NPT. With this decision, what incentive would remain for other States to join the Treaty? We believe that the decision is likely to bring more harm than good for non-proliferation regime and to dismiss warnings for others to abandon their nuclear ambitions. It will also create more problem than solution to our efforts to prevent nuclear proliferation at the global and regional levels.

On the CTBT, despite the number of countries under Annex II has declined considerably, there are deeply disturbing signal pointing in the opposite direction. Instead of working towards the entry into force of the CTBT, the two nuclear weapon states, which were among the first to sign the Treaty, have not yet ratified it. There is also no positive indication on the part of three NPT non-state parties for signing the Treaty. For its part, Indonesia is seriously undertaking preparation at present for the ratification of the CTBT, with the involvement of our national stakeholders

Meanwhile, talks and negotiations on a verifiable fissile material cutoff treaty (FMCT) should start immediately either in the CD or under the NPT. The treaty would ban the existing stocks and future production of key components of nuclear

weapons, enriched uranium and plutonium. This will form a cornerstone in the nuclear disarmament process. We believe that the call by the United States for negotiating an FMCT without verification is in direct contravention to the position of all CD members, as signified by the Shannon mandate.

Mr. Chairman,

In order to realize systematic and progressive efforts for nuclear disarmament, renewed negotiation between the United States and Russia, as the largest possessors of the world's nuclear weapons, is required. It is important to point out that while the Moscow Treaty calls for each country to reduce its arsenal by the end of 2012, there are no provisions on the verification for destroying excess warheads, which can be kept in operational reserve. In this regard, we view that it is suitable for the IAEA to be involved in the monitoring and verification of nuclear arsenals of the nuclear-weapon-states, particularly in the US and Russia.

Following the failure of submitting a report to the General Assembly in 2004, the Panel of Governmental Experts on Missiles in all its aspects, established by resolution 59/67 of 2004, was able to agree on a substantive report to be submitted to the current GA session. Despite the complexity on this issue, the Panel has finally managed to reach a conclusion, which among others, states that this issue needs to be discussed further within the UN system.

The work towards the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free-zones for strengthening global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime is continuing. As mandated by the resolution 62/31 of 2007, the States parties to the Bangkok Treaty have started direct consultations with the nuclear-weapon-states with a view to ensuring their early ratification to the Protocol of the Treaty. The parties of other nuclear-weapon-free zones must also work toward the universalization of such zones.

Mr. Chairman,

While the focus on the threat posed by weapons of mass destruction and their proliferation is unavoidable, we underscore that it should not dilute the attention on the regulation and reduction of conventional weapons. The proliferation of these weapons, particularly the illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), continues to seriously threaten peace and security in many regions of the world.

As the state party to the Mine Ban Convention, Indonesia has, twice this year, committed to implementing the provision of the Convention by destroying some of its anti-personnel mines in the stockpile. Meanwhile, we support efforts for the promotion and universalization of this Convention in our region, and hope that they would be intensified further with the involvement of civil society.

A history was made at the Diplomatic Conference held in Dublin in May 2008, when 111 participating states and the civil society sat together to adopt a Convention on Cluster Munitions. This is a milestone of achievement for the humanity and the disarmament agenda, and Indonesia is very pleased with it. The Convention will facilitate the international community to better address the disasters caused by the use of inhumane cluster munitions. Being part of a region, which is most affected by the use of cluster munitions, Indonesia hopes that the countries in the Southeast Asian region would consider joining this Convention.

We are, however, concerned that in spite of an agreement on a report, the work of the Group of Governmental Experts established by the resolution 61/89 of 2006, to adopt common international standards for the export, import and transfer of conventional arms towards an Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), remains inconclusive. The gap is still wide in order to be able to arrive at an effective treaty that we are aiming for. We encourage the member states to intensify their efforts in this respect.

We recall resolution 62/52 which welcomed the relocation of the Regional Center for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific to Khatmandu. We hope that the relocation to the region will bring further benefit for the countries of the region. We reaffirm our support for the operation and further strengthening of the Center.

Finally Mr. Chairman,

As we said earlier, a momentum is emerging to work towards achieving a world free of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and at the same time to control the inhumane conventional weapons. The international community is rightly expecting that this momentum will reach its peak later this year. The rest of the world awaits strong leadership and bold actions by the major powers to implement their relevant obligations and commitments under the existing disarmament and non-proliferation regimes. Only then, we can all feel more optimistic about securing a peaceful and stable future for our world, which this and the future generations truly deserve.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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