

**Statement by  
Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia  
on behalf of the Group of 21  
on Prevention of Arms Race in Outer Space  
8 June 2006**

Mr. President,

First of all, I would like to congratulate you for assuming the Presidency of the Conference on Disarmament. May I also assure you of our support and cooperation in exercising this responsibility. As coordinator of the Group-21, I am honoured to present the following statement on behalf of the Group.

Mr. President,

The Group emphasizes the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and the readiness of States to contribute to that common objective, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies.

The Group also reiterates that outer space and other celestial bodies are the common heritage of mankind. The Group reaffirms that the exploration and use of outer space and other celestial bodies shall be for peaceful purposes and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development.

The Group, however, is deeply concerned over the negative implications of the development and deployment of anti-ballistic-missile defence systems and the pursuit of advanced military technologies capable of being deployed in outer space which have, *inter alia*, contributed to the further erosion of an international

climate conducive to the promotion of disarmament and strengthening of international security.

The Group further reaffirms its recognition that the legal regime applicable to outer space does not in and of itself guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and that the regime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms in that environment. For that purpose, the Group stresses the need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and enhance its effectiveness. The Group also emphasizes the urgent need for the commencement of substantive work in the Conference on Disarmament on the prevention of an arms race in outer space.

The Group would also like to seize this opportunity to call upon all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective. The Group also emphasizes the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space and the existing legal regime concerning its use in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promotion of international cooperation.

Thank you.