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**Statement by
H.E. Hasan Kleib**

**Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia
to the United Nations**

**at the General Debate of the
2009 United Nations Disarmament Commission**

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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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

www.indonesiamission-ny.org email: ptr@indonesiamission-ny.org

Mr. Chairman,

The Indonesian delegation is pleased to congratulate you on your election to the chairmanship of this session of the UNDC, and extends its congratulations to the members of the bureau. We are confident that your wisdom and extensive experience will facilitate a successful outcome of this session.

My delegation associates itself with the statement made this morning by the Non Aligned Movement.

We thank the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs for his statement on the opening of the Commission's session on Monday, reminding us of the great potential that the Commission possesses for achieving consensus on the useful principles, guidelines and recommendations in the disarmament field, even in difficult times. We surely should be able to agree on elements of a draft declaration for the fourth disarmament decade, which we have been entrusted to do in this session. And if that cannot be achieved during this session, it should be achieved at the most in the next session.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation reaffirms the importance of the UNDC as the only truly specialized, authoritative, and deliberative organization of the UN disarmament machinery. UNDC remains central to our effort as the only institution with universal membership that can sustain in-depth deliberations on the critical issues at stake and the substantive recommendations on how these goals can be feasibly achieved.

Despite several setbacks in the past few years to arrive at substantive agreement, the Commission should continue to strive to get back on path of productivity. It is to be noted that in the past, this Commission has played a critical role in generating global visibility in the areas of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, and the control of conventional arms. The viability and utility of this Commission are demonstrated by the many productive sessions that have taken place, including those in which agreements were reached on guidelines for establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones and conventional arms control; guidelines and recommendation for objective information on military matters; guidelines for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security; guidelines for international arms transfer, to name a few.

Indeed the present Commission session occurs at a time of opportunity where positive signals have been exchanged among states. It is encouraging to note that words of dialogue and mutual respect seem to take prominence over tough talk of sanctions and threats. This environment bodes well for building trust and making progress.

If we so wish, we can achieve progress once again.

Mr. Chairman,

This year we will be occupied with addressing two agenda items.

With regard to the agenda item “recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation of nuclear weapons”, where efforts at nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation have slowed in the past decade, recently, major nuclear possessors, have made positive signals in the direction of achieving the international community’s core nuclear objectives, including reference to Article VI of the NPT, which is the cornerstone of the nonproliferation and disarmament regime.

Indeed, the current international climate is opportune for a more ambitious diplomatic push. The effort should include deep reductions in nuclear arms towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons on the one hand, and encouragement for all states to commit on their nonproliferation obligations, on the other. We must seize this historic moment to achieve our nuclear disarmament goals.

An agenda item on nuclear disarmament issues, which is mandated by decision 52/492, should always be one of the agenda items of the UNDC. For this cycle, the NAM has proposed a similar nuclear agenda item as the previous cycle. This agenda item takes into account already the balance of interests in addressing the nuclear issue. We hope that the new international environment will help in making progress possible, where it could not in the past cycle.

Mr. Chairman,

With regard to the agenda item on “the elements of a draft declaration of the 2010s as the fourth disarmament decade”, to which we are mandated to address by General Assembly resolution 61/67, the Commission should take into account the declaration of the three previous disarmament decades. It needs to build on the initiatives already begun, as well as capitalize on the political will that is gaining strength worldwide.

The fourth disarmament decade could play an important role in the mobilization of the goal to reverse the current trend in the field of arms control, disarmament and nonproliferation, including indicative targets for accelerating attainment of the objectives of the general and complete disarmament under effective international control.

We believe that the wide range of disarmament issues can be considered for inclusion in the elements of a declaration for the fourth disarmament decade.

Given the diverse interpretation of resolution 61/67, we call on the members of the Commission to work earnestly towards successfully concluding the elements of a declaration as soon as possible.

Finally Mr. Chairman,

We pledge our delegation’s support and cooperation to you, to the members of the bureau, and to all delegations for realizing a successful session.

Thank you.