Statement by H.E. Mr. Triyono Wibowo
Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia
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Mr. President,

Allow me to join previous speakers in conveying a message of sympathy to the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombing. The tragic and catastrophic incident occurred 68 years ago proves to be a vivid horrifying memory and a constant reminder that total elimination of nuclear weapons is of our noble duty.

I would like to commend you for your tireless efforts in conducting intensive consultations with CD Member States to produce a draft Programme of Work. I would also like to appreciate you for devoting this plenary session to further discuss the first proposal of the Secretary-General of the Conference on the establishment of an Informal Working Group with a mandate to produce a Programme of Work.

Indonesia will study a draft Programme of Work that you have prepared which will be circulated at the end of this plenary. Indonesia hopes that the Conference can reach a long-awaited consensus on a Programme of Work. After May 2009, the Conference hasn’t yet succeeded in adopting a balance and comprehensive Programme of Work. During this year’s session, the Conference has had three attempts to come up with a Programme of Work but still could not reach consensus. Annual failure to adopt a Programme of Work seems to be the *plat du jour* of the Conference.

The Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament’s proposals put forth on 18 June 2013 deserves our serious consideration and support. The proposals are an attempt to break a 17 year impasse in the CD and also to revitalize the working methods of the Conference. The inability of the CD to produce a Programme of Work is not due to lack of diplomatic skill on the part of a President or Ambassadors to the CD, but rather there is no real political will to reach consensus.

The idea to establish a working group with a mandate to produce a Programme of Work is informal in nature. Therefore, any discussions arises in an Informal Working Group will not necessarily be binding or limit position of respective member states. Such an Informal Working Group actually gives member states of the CD the opportunity to have an open and frank interactive discussion and to understand more on the complexity of the issue and how to deal with it.

Mr. President,

Political will of member states of the CD can only be demonstrated if there is a willingness to make a breakthrough and unlock the CD. Implementing the
Secretary-General of CD’s proposals, I believe, could serve as a solution to break the impasse.

In that regard, the responsibility to produce a draft Programme of Work remains in the hands of the CD Presidents. An Informal Working Group is just assisting the CD Presidents in discharging their duties. Therefore, the respective mandate of a chairperson of an Informal Working Group and the CD President is not conflicting. As previously mentioned by the Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference last week, that since the CD is the master of its own procedure and faith, then it is up to the Member States to move the CD forward.

I thank you, Mr. President.