Statement by

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of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations

on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)

at the Second United Nations Conference to Review
the Progress Made in the Implementation of
the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat, and Eradicate
the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons
in All Its Aspects

New York, 27 August 2012
Madam President,

At the outset, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement I congratulate you on your election to preside over this very important Second Review Conference of the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (PoA).

NAM is confident that under your able stewardship there can be tangible progress at this Review Conference. NAM assures you and the esteemed Bureau Members of its full cooperation and productive contribution.

NAM also assures all Member States of its constructive engagement in advancing the full implementation of the PoA in a meaningful manner.

Madam President,

NAM reaffirms the total validity of the Programme of Action, as well as calls for the full implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons the purpose of which, inter alia, is to promote and facilitate international cooperation and assistance in marking and tracing and to enhance the effectiveness of, and complement, existing bilateral, regional and international agreements to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

NAM emphasizes the importance of a prompt and full implementation of the Programme of Action, and in this regard, stresses that international assistance and cooperation is an essential aspect in the full implementation of the Programme of Action.

NAM recognizes the significant imbalance in the production, possession and trade in conventional weapons between the industrialized and the Non-Aligned Countries, and calls for a significant reduction in the production, possession and trade of conventional weapons by the industrialized states with a view to enhancing international and regional peace and security.

NAM remains deeply concerned over the illicit transfer, manufacture and circulation of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and their excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread in many regions of the world. NAM recognizes the need to establish and maintain controls over private ownership of small arms. NAM calls on all States, in particular major producing States, to ensure that the supply of small arms and light weapons is limited only to Governments or to entities duly authorized by Governments and to implement legal prohibitions preventing the illicit trade of small arms and light weapons.

NAM encourages all initiatives by States to mobilize resources and expertise as well as to provide assistance to strengthen the full implementation of the UN Programme
of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in SALW in All Its Aspects.

NAM expresses disappointment at the inability of the UN Conference to Review the Progress made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in SALW in All its Aspects, held in New York, from 26 June to 7 July 2006, to agree on a final Document. NAM notes the fourth Biennial Meeting of States held in New York, from 14 to 18 June 2010, which considered the national, regional and global implementation of the Programme of Action. NAM encourages all States to consider, as appropriate, the recommendations of the Final Document of the aforementioned Meeting, while emphasizing that the procedure followed to adopt the BMS 4 final outcome should not represent a precedent for the future.

Madam President,

Underlining that international assistance and cooperation is an essential aspect in the full implementation of the Programme of Action, NAM encourages that developed States and international and regional organizations should, upon request of the developing countries, render cooperation and assistance, particularly technical and financial assistance, without conditionalities in the following areas relating to the implementation of the PoA: (i) weapons collection/destruction; (ii) disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, including the effective collection, control, storage and destruction of weapons, particularly in post-conflict situations; (iii) stockpile management, marking, tracing and record-keeping; (iv) transborder customs cooperation and networks for information-sharing among the customs, law enforcement, and border control agencies; (v) cooperation in maritime border surveillance in conformity with international law; (vi) capacity-building, public awareness, education and confidence-building programmes; (vii) legislation; (viii) national coordination; (ix) transparency; (x) and preparation of national reports.

NAM encourages that States, in particular developed countries, should increase the channeling to developing countries, upon their request, of capacity-building, training and equipment such as mobile X-ray gates, body scanners, advanced radar systems for border control and protective means like bullet-proof jackets, to law enforcement agencies, cross-border cooperation and operation, mutual legal assistance and information-sharing and exchange.

NAM encourages that States, in cooperation with appropriate international and regional organizations, including the three UN Regional Centers for Peace and Disarmament, should consider establishing and improving mechanisms, such as trust fund arrangements, under the auspices of the United Nations, for the mobilization of reliable assistance to developing countries upon their request for the implementation of programmes to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.
NAM encourages that major arms exporting countries and States in a position to do so should provide to developing countries, upon their request, the necessary technology, equipment and requisite training to improve marking, tracing, record-keeping and destruction of small arms and light weapons for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument.

NAM views that the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, in collaboration with the relevant United Nations agencies, should be requested to continue carrying out studies on i) the financial and technical needs of developing countries for full implementation of the Programme of Action; ii) the quantum of financial and technical assistance provided since 2001 and its impact on the capacities of States to implement the PoA, and to submit them for consideration and further action by Member States.

NAM also supports establishing a mechanism within the United Nations that provides online access for developing countries to the technical studies and academic research related to small arms and light weapons in addition to those that are already available.

Furthermore, NAM views that there should be reports by those developed States on their PoA-implementation specific financial and technical assistance, including the provision of relevant equipment, provided to developing countries. Such assistance should not be based on reallocation of resources devoted to economic and social development programmes. The UNODA is requested to compile these reports annually, subject to deliberation and evaluation by Member States, especially beneficiaries, during the Biennial Meeting of States.

Madam President,

NAM requests that its views on international cooperation and assistance, as reflected in its submitted working paper be included in the final document of this Conference.

In closing, NAM wishes to stress that it is imperative that all Member States display the much needed flexibility and the necessary political will so as to achieve tangible progress on the implementation of the PoA and a successful, concrete outcome to this Review Conference.

Thank you.