

**Statement by
Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia
on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement**

**Thematic Debate: “Conventional Weapons”
First Committee 77th Session United Nations General Assembly**

New York, October 2022

Mr. Chairman,

1. I am pleased to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.
2. Non-fulfillment of the commitments and obligations assumed under the relevant international legally binding instruments especially on conventional weapons continue to pose threats to global peace and security.
3. NAM continues to affirm the sovereign right of States to acquire, manufacture, export, import and retain conventional arms and relevant parts, components, and ammunition for their self-defense and security needs. NAM expresses its concern about unilateral coercive measures in this area, and emphasizes that no undue restriction should be placed on transfer of such arms.
4. 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 to unauthorized recipients in many regions of the world, as well as over the challenges posed by their possession by terrorists, illegal armed groups and transnational organized criminal organizations. NAM also remains deeply concerned over a wide range of security, humanitarian and socio-economic consequences arising from the illicit small arms and light weapons (SALW). NAM calls on all states, in particular major producing States, to ensure that supply of SALW is limited only to governments or to entities duly authorized by them. NAM also underlines the need for a balanced, full and effective implementation of the Program of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (PoA) and the International Tracing Instrument, and in this regard, stresses the urgent need to intensify efforts to promote international cooperation and assistance. NAM also calls on the UN, in its activities in support of the implementation of the PoA, to rely further on the expertise available in developing countries.
5. NAM takes note the successful convening of the Eighth Biennial Meeting of States Parties to the PoA, held in July 2022, and the adoption of its consensual outcome document. NAM welcomes the Meeting’s decision to establish a standing dedicated fellowship training programme on small arms and light weapons particularly for developing countries.

6. Recognizing the adverse humanitarian impact caused by the use of cluster munitions, and expressing solidarity with the cluster munitions-affected countries, NAM calls for providing the necessary financial, technical and humanitarian assistance to unexploded cluster munitions clearance operations, the social and economic rehabilitation of victims as well as to ensure full access of affected countries to material, equipment, technology and financial resources for unexploded cluster munitions clearance.
7. NAM continues to deplore the use, in contravention of international humanitarian law, of anti-personnel mines in conflict situations aimed at maiming, killing and terrorizing innocent civilians. NAM calls upon all States in position to do so, to provide the necessary financial, technical and humanitarian assistance to landmine clearance operations, the social and economic rehabilitation of victims as well as to ensure full access of affected countries to material equipment, technology and financial resources for mine clearance.
8. NAM States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Mine Ban Convention) reiterate their commitment to full implementation of the Oslo Action Plan.
9. NAM States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) call for balanced, transparent and objective implementation of the Treaty, in strict accordance with the principles of the UN Charter, and the inherent right of each State to security and to individual or collective self defense. NAM also underscores that its implementation should, in no way, affect the sovereign right of States to acquire, manufacture, export, import and retain conventional arms and their parts and components for their self-defense, security needs and the maintenance of territorial integrity of its member states.
10. NAM States Parties to the Convention on Prohibition or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW), and its Protocols, encourage other States to become parties to the Convention and its Protocols.
11. NAM is of the view that Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS) raise a number of ethical, legal, moral, technical, as well as international peace and security related questions, which should be thoroughly deliberated and examined in the context of conformity to international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law. In this regard, NAM States Parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) take note of the adoption by consensus of the 2019 Report of the GGE on LAWS and have agreed that there is an urgent need to pursue a legally-binding instrument on LAWS, and take note of the 2022 Report of the GGE on LAWS.

12. NAM States Parties to the CCW welcomed their efforts to advance their positions during the meetings of the Group of Governmental Experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems, in particular, in relation to the need for new legally-binding provisions for addressing the humanitarian and international security challenges posed by emerging technologies in the area of LAWS.
13. NAM recognizes the significant imbalance in production, possession and trade in conventional weapons between the industrialized and the Non-Aligned Countries, and calls for a significant reduction in production, possession and trade of conventional weapons by the industrialized states with a view to enhancing international and regional peace and security.
14. Finally, NAM expresses concern at the increasing global military expenditure, which could otherwise be spent on development needs. NAM further stresses the importance of the reduction of military expenditures, in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, and urges all States to devote resources made available from there to economic and social development, in particular in the fight against poverty.

Thank you.