

OPANAL GENERAL CONFERENCE

XXIV Regular Session

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Mexico City

Remarks by H.E. Mr. Yusra Khan

Republic of Indonesia

H.E. Mr. President

H.E. Secretary General of OPANAL

Excellences,

Distinguished participants

Ladies and Gentlemen

First of all allow me to congratulate Secretary General, for conducting the 24th regular session of the OPANAL General Conference. Allow me also to take this opportunity to congratulate you Mr. President, upon your election at the General Conference of OPANAL. I am confident that under your leadership this conference can contribute significantly to the current global effort on NPT and will be able to bring an enhanced spirit of a new approach to the next negotiation. Indonesia always admires and appreciates the exemplary significant achievement in this region which is the Tlatelolco Treaty -1967-.

At this juncture Indonesia would like to reiterate its fullest support and cooperation to the OPANAL and, through out tremendous effort and initiatives has done on the NPT.

Mr. President:

From the early inception of Indonesia, both government and the parliament of Indonesia has never wavered its support toward nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

We believe that total elimination of nuclear weapon is the only guarantee against the use or threat to us of nuclear weapons. For so long as even a single nuclear weapon exists, humankind is in danger of suffering a nuclear catastrophe –by design or by accident. Nuclear weapons have the destructive capacity to pose a threat to the survival of humanity and as long as they continue to exist the threat to humanity –will remain. If such weapons were to be used again, be intentionally or accidentally immense humanitarian consequences would be unavailable.

Against this backdrop of achieving a world free of nuclear weapons, nuclear disarmament obligations should be prioritized and should not be held hostage by the progress of nonproliferation issues because the issue of nuclear disarmament and nuclear proliferation are mutually reinforcing. Therefore they should be pursued simultaneously; not at the cost of other.

In addition, all global state holders must continue to play their part in helping to bring about the needed political capital, particularly within NWS –Nuclear Weapon States-, so as to enable State parties to move decisively in undertaking their –agreed commitments under all multilateral disarmament regimes. In the absence of comprehensive and nondiscriminatory nuclear weapons conventions, the NPT remains the cornerstone for nonproliferation and disarmament machinery. In regard to next NPT conference 2020 it is important for all States parties of NPT, to genuinely review all progress of the previous outcome document.

Finally, as one of the initiators of South East Asia Nuclear Weapon Free zone, Indonesia of the view that since we have five nuclear weapon treaties, -we would like to encourage cooperation among these- organizations across the region.

Thank you Mr. President!