



**Statement by  
H.E. Retno L.P. Marsudi  
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia**

**at the High-Level Plenary Meeting to Commemorate and Promote  
the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons**

**New York, 28 September 2021**

## **STATEMENT**

### **MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA**

#### **HLPM TO COMMEMORATE AND PROMOTE THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE TOTAL ELIMINATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

**28 SEPTEMBER 2021**

**Mr. President,**

Global nuclear disarmament remains elusive and suffers from frequent setbacks. More than 13 thousand nuclear weapons remain in existence. The threat of nuclear war is ever present with escalating tension between nuclear-weapons countries. We cannot be truly safe from the threat of nuclear weapons until we completely eliminate them.

Today I would like to make two points.

**FIRST, preserve the sanctity of the NPT.**

Let us reaffirm our commitment to the three pillars of the NPT especially the slow-moving disarmament pillar. Nuclear arms race and power projection must be avoided, since they would erode the integrity and credibility of the NPT.

We must seize the momentum towards the 10<sup>th</sup> NPT Review Conference...

- ➔ to encourage frank-dialogue and trust-building between nuclear-weapons countries, and
- ➔ map out next practical steps in nuclear disarmament.

Humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons, their possible use by non-state actors, and human error should be our common ground to accelerate nuclear disarmament.

**SECOND, strengthen the nuclear disarmament architecture.**

The Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons' entry into force this year is a very important milestone. Providing legal framework to delegitimize nuclear weapons and raise moral barriers against their threat.

The Treaty complements and mutually reinforces the NPT rather than undermining it. I call on countries that have not signed the Treaty to do so and be part of the positive force towards global nuclear disarmament.

We also look forward to seeing entry into force of the Comprehensive Test-Ban Treaty and accession of nuclear-weapons countries to Nuclear Weapons Free Zone Treaties.

**Colleagues,**

Total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only way to safeguard humanity. Nuclear war will never be won thus we must work to prevent it from ever being fought.

Thank you.

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