MYANMAR

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Statement by

Mr. Pye Soe Aung, Advisor to the Delegation of

the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

at the First Committee Thematic Discussion

on Regional Disarmament and Security

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Mr. Chairman,

1. Myanmar aligns itself with the statements delivered by Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and Malaysia on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations-ASEAN.

Mr. Chairman,

2. The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction today poses threat to the regional and international peace and security. In addition to security concerns, we are also alarmed by over a wide range of humanitarian and socio-economic consequences arising from their proliferation.

3. Regional security and stability are prerequisites particularly for developing countries, as the security, stability and development go hands in hands. The regional disarmament approaches play a pivotal role in the implementation of global disarmament and non-proliferation instruments through national capacity-building and the outreach and advocacy initiatives. Transparency and confidence-building-measures in armament among countries in the region is also key to prevent escalation of tensions in the region.

Mr. Chairman,

4. My delegation would like to extend our appreciation to the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), its Regional Disarmament Branch (RDB) and the three United Nations Regional Centers for their **in**valuable contribution towards global disarmament, international peace and security.

5. Myanmar fully supports the role made by the three United Nations Regional Centers, particularly the Regional Centre in Asia and the Pacific-(UNRCPD) for its assistance to Member States in the region, focusing on practical assistance and capacity-building in order to contribute to national and regional efforts towards arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation, as well as to promote dialogue and confidence-building and peace and disarmament education in the region.

6. In recognition of the contributions made by the Centre, Myanmar together with NAM members always supports and cosponsors the annual draft resolution entitled “United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific”. We will do the same this year.

Mr. Chairman,

7. Let me briefly touch upon Myanmar' efforts on regional disarmament. Myanmar organized a National Roundtable on the Implementation of Security Council Resolution 1540 in cooperation with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs in January 2016.

8. All stakeholders exchanged views on good practices in implementation of the resolution to counter the proliferation of the weapons of mass destruction to non-state actors.

9. Furthermore, United Nations Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific – UNRCPD organized a capacity-building workshop on small arms and light weapons (SALW) in Myanmar in February 2016 for formulating international instruments as well as domestic legislations and available tools for assistance in relation to the control of small arms and light weapons.

Mr. Chairman,

10. Myanmar strongly supports the establishment of regional nuclear-weapon-free zones which have contributed significantly to strengthening global nuclear disarmament.

11. We welcome the successful conclusion of nuclear negotiations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and E3/EU+3, resulting in the finalization of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) on 14 July 2015. We firmly believe that Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) strengthens global nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament norms and consolidates international efforts towards peace and security. In this context, Myanmar reaffirms its commitment to engage the Nuclear Weapon States (NWS) and intensifies the ongoing efforts of all Parties to resolves all outstanding issues in accordance with the objectives and principles of the SEANWFZ Treaty.

Mr. Chairman,

12. Regional disarmament plays the important role in global disarmament regime, which is the main driving force for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free-world. Therefore, we call on all member states to make their best efforts in confidence building measures including transparency and cooperation, to promote regional and global disarmament, peace and security.

I thank you.