

**Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia
at the
2007 Annual Meeting of State Parties
to the Biological Weapons Convention**

Mr. Chairman,

1. Allow me at the outset to express my pleasure to see you chairing the Meeting of State parties of the Biological Weapons Convention. We believe that under your able guidance we will have a fruitful outcome as we have witnessed during the review conference last year and at the meeting of experts last August.
2. Indonesia would also like to take this opportunity to associate itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished Ambassador of Cuba on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chairman,

3. During the Meeting of Experts last August, experts from different Member States as well as from international organizations, research communities, and non-governmental organizations contributed constructively to our deliberations. We believe that this exercise enriched our understanding on how to increase our cooperation, and at the same time, it help us identify different challenges faced by State parties.
4. It is my delegation's view that it is important for State parties to take adequate measures in implementing the Convention, including through the enactment and enforcement of national legislation. The recommendations and presentations delivered at the last meeting of experts could serve as inputs for State parties to further strengthen their national efforts in preventing the misuse of biological agents.
5. At the same vein, we realize that State parties have different capacities, experiences, and resources. In this respect, the second topic of our meeting is very significant to our collective goal of strengthening the Convention.
6. We realize that due to its nature, the use of biological weapons will indiscriminately affect and spread beyond boundaries. The use of this type of weapons in times of conflict, or otherwise as a weapon of terror, will also affect and threaten neighboring countries. Therefore, regional and sub-regional cooperation should serve as an important strategy for the

promotion of all the provisions of the Convention, and as a means of achieving the goals we have set for abolishing biological weapons.

7. We also believe that our endeavors in strengthening the Convention should not hamper the rights of each Member State's efforts to benefit from the development of biological agents for peaceful purposes. On the contrary, Member States should enhance international cooperation in the field of peaceful uses of biological agents, including the effort to combat infectious diseases.
8. To conclude, Mr. Chairman, let me express my delegation's sincere hope that this meeting will produce positive and tangible results.

Thank you.