

**STATEMENT BY
THE HONOURABLE ABDULLAH AHMAD BADAWI
AT THE ROUNDTABLE OF THE HIGH LEVEL PLENARY MEETING
UNITED NATIONS AT NEW YORK
14 SEPTEMBER 2005**

1. Speaking on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, I must state that the strengthening of the UN is fundamental for the promotion of multilateralism. The UN system should be made accountable and responsible to the Member States, without the interference of the big powers.

2. The Draft Outcome Document that will be presented to the Leaders for their consideration and adoption is not a perfect document. Nevertheless, it is the best effort by the President of the General Assembly following difficult and protracted negotiations.

3. It is regrettable that the Draft Outcome Document adopted by the Permanent Representatives represents a "roll-back" from previously agreed positions and therefore retrogressive. We are not seeking new commitments but the honouring of commitments previously agreed.

4. The entire process has not been very transparent, and pressure has been exerted on Member States to agree to the Draft Document at all cost. In the process, many fundamental issues of importance to the developing countries issues have been left out.

5. Among these issues are those related to International Trade, Development, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Communicable Diseases, International Debt, etc.

6. Trade and Development are particularly important to the developing countries as their development depends on them.

7. Crucial issues which deserve attention such as disarmament have been given short shrift. In particular, there is no reference at all to the subject of disarmament including the issue of non-proliferation. This is indeed regrettable as disarmament is a central challenge confronting humanity.

8. Coming on the heels of the failed 2005 NPT Review Conference, this omission would only serve to reinforce the adverse repercussions on the disarmament regime which has been painstakingly negotiated since the end of the Second World War.

9. On the 60th anniversary of the UN, we must reiterate and indeed reaffirm the importance of full and non-selective implementation of the three pillars of the NPT, namely nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear technology.

10. Pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, efforts for the conclusion of a universal, unconditional and legally binding instrument on security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States by the nuclear-weapon States must continue to be pursued as a matter of priority.

11. The message from the 60th UNGA should categorically abhor and call for the total elimination of all forms of weapons of mass destruction.

12. Developing countries will continue to stress on these issues at every international fora in the years to come in order to ensure that commitments made are honoured.