



**CHAIR OF
THE COORDINATING BUREAU
OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT**



**STATEMENT TO BE DELIVERED BY THE DELEGATION OF THE BOLIVARIAN
REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA, ON BEHALF OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT
(NAM), DURING THE CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT DECISION TO
POSTPONE THE ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH-
LEVEL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT**

New York, 26 March 2018

Mr. President,

1. It is an honor for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to take the floor and briefly introduce draft decision A/72/L.44, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).
2. As you are well aware, on 24 December 2017 the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted resolution 72/251, which decided to convene a United Nations High-Level International Conference on Nuclear Disarmament from 14-16 May 2018 to review the progress made in the area of nuclear disarmament as a follow up to the 2013 High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament.
3. The resolution in reference also decided that an Organizational Meeting for this International Conference would be held on 28 March 2018.

Mr. President,

4. After consultations with various Member States of the Organization, including of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), who are the initial proponents of the resolution in reference and the convening of this International Conference, it was decided to table this draft decision that would postpone the convening of the organizational meeting until 10 May 2018.
5. We believe that such change of date would be necessary to provide Member States with sufficient time to prepare thoroughly the necessary details for the eventual organizational meeting, with a view to ensure a successful and fruitful outcome of this important International Conference on Nuclear Disarmament, including wider participation at the highest possible levels.
6. In looking forward to the support of all Member States of the Organization to this draft decision, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) seizes this opportunity to reaffirm its principled positions on nuclear disarmament, which remains its highest priority, and on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects.

I thank you, Mr. President.