Mr. Chairman,

Allow me, at the outset, to express my delegation’s appreciation to the Government of Switzerland and UNDP for their continuous efforts in promoting the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development, and in convening this Review Conference.

Indeed, this Review Conference with a motto “Reduce armed violence, enable development” is pertinent and timely. It provides an opportunity not only to evaluate the efforts that have been undertaken to date and to renew our commitment to achieving the goals laid down in the Geneva Declaration adopted in 2006, but also since we are approaching the MDGs deadline in 2015.

Conflict prevention and resolution, violence reduction, human rights, good governance and peace-building are key steps towards reducing poverty, promoting economic growth and improving people’s lives.

We can promote conflict prevention, resolution and reconciliation, as well as support post-conflict peace-building and reconstruction by working together at national, regional and international levels.

Mr. Chairman,

At the national level, Indonesia continues its efforts to strengthen an enabling environment for sustained socio-economic development, through, inter alia, promoting confidence building measures, good governance, democratic institutions, socio-economic equity, human rights and the rule of law. Peaceful solution to Aceh conflicts have proven to be beneficial not only for the national unity both also to the improvement of the live of every individual in Aceh and in Indonesia in general.

In the regional context, ASEAN carries out various initiatives including the establishment of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR) and soon will establish the ASEAN Peacekeeping Centres Network. Many ASEAN Member States are keen contributors to peacekeeping efforts.

Indonesia strongly believes that Democracy is a key element in the promotion of peace and stability in the region. Therefore, since 2008 Indonesia launched the annual Bali Democracy Forum as an intergovernmental forum for sharing of experience and
cooperation in political development in Asia. The Fourth Bali Democracy Forum will be convening on 8-9 December 2011.

At the global level, Indonesia continues to contribute to the work of the Peacebuilding Commission as it helps countries emerging from conflict by bringing together all relevant actors, including international donors, international financial institutions, national government and troop contributing countries. Indonesia is convinced that national ownership remains the fundamental principle behind which any international engagement should align. In this regard, we underline the need to formulate peacebuilding strategies and programmes that are integrated with host-country strategies. To that end, support to countries emerging from conflict requires a focus on ensuring that their governments have the capacities they require.

Mr. Chairman,

We are aware of the daunting challenges confronted by various countries in resolving the challenges of armed violence and development. It is imperative for countries to create an enabling environment for sustained socio-economic development as a prerequisite to armed violence reduction and conflict prevention.

Therefore, my delegation fervently hopes that this Review Conference and its Outcome Document will contribute to that objective and in general to the purposes of the Geneva Declaration.

Thank you.