Mr. Chairman,

Even though India agrees with the basic objective of the Resolution - the complete elimination of nuclear weapons - the Indian delegation voted against it because of the flawed means recommended to pursue this objective.

India also agrees that nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation are intertwined and mutually reinforcing. However, we consider the principles of non-proliferation, as enshrined in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, to be discriminatory. Moreover, operative paragraph 1 of this resolution calls upon India to join the NPT as a Non-Nuclear Weapon State. This is unrealistic and unacceptable. India is prepared to go beyond this divisive debate and remains committed to working for equal and legitimate security for all through global disarmament.

Thank you.