Mr. Chairman,

India has abstained on the Resolution overall and voted against PP-6, as it believes that it was necessary to limit the focus of this Resolution to the region that it intends to address.

According to customary international law, as encapsulated in the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, States adhere to treaties considered to be in consonance with their national interest based on their freely exercised sovereign choice. The references to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in this Resolution in the context of the call for universalization of the Treaty are at variance with this principle.

Notwithstanding its inability to support this Resolution, India hopes that the Resolution will enable progress on its principal focus in the coming years, through positive contributions from the concerned States of the region.

Thank you.