Thank you Madam Chair,

I have taken the floor to explain my delegation's position on the draft resolution L.48/rev.1 entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

Since the Islamic Republic of Iran supports the total ban on weapons of mass destruction and their development, in particular nuclear weapons, my delegation voted in favor of the resolution. However, the prospect for the CTBT entry into force has faced a serious set back by the rejection of the ratification process by the United States. It only partially supports the CTBTO preparatory commission. Although a nuclear testing moratorium has been declared, some efforts are underway in United States which put into question their commitment on moratorium.

After the adoption of the Nuclear Posture Review by the United States which provides for the development of new types of nuclear weapons, possible use or threat of use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States and targeting nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapons States Parties to the Treaty, millions of dollars have been allocated to reduce the time necessary to resume a nuclear test up to 18 months. The Nuclear Posture Review furthermore recognizes "the need for a revitalized nuclear weapons complex, that will be able, if directed, to design, develop, manufacture, and certify new warheads in response to new national requirements; and maintain readiness to resume underground nuclear testing if required." Test explosions are a key step in the design, development and refinement of nuclear weapons. It could also be carried out by either simulated nuclear test by using super computers or by sub-critical tests.

According to the recent reports, the US National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) promised that "the production of plutonium triggers for current weapons, called pits, would remain limited at about 50 per year. Under the Bush plan, the new plutonium center could produce 125 pits a year, a number that would satisfy current planning for the 2,200 new Reliable Replacement Warhead stockpile of the future."

As recommended by the WMD Commission, the United States, which has not ratified the CTBT, should reconsider its position and proceed to ratify the treaty. Only the ratification of the CTBT offers the prospect of a permanent and legally binding commitment to end nuclear testing.

Thank you Madam Chair,