Mr Chairman,

I wish to take this opportunity to explain the vote of Brazil on Resolution L.38 entitled “The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation”.

Even though Brazil has not adhered to the HCOC, my delegation voted in favour of the draft resolution – as we did in 2005 - basically because we acknowledge and respect the fact that one hundred and thirty States have already subscribed to the Code as a practical step against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery.

We also share the importance, as contained in PP3, of regional and international efforts to prevent and curb comprehensively the proliferation of ballistic missile systems designed to deliver weapons of mass destruction, as a contribution to international peace and security. Furthermore, we deem positive the view expressed in PP7 that States should not be excluded from utilizing the benefits of space for peaceful purposes.

We are not in a position, however, to join the thrust of OP2 that invites all States that have not yet subscribed to the Code of Conduct to do so.

Thank you