Explanation of Vote by Norway

Mr. Chair,

Norway has joined consensus on resolution L.47 on the Conference on Disarmament.

Let me, however, reiterate my delegation’s impatience with the current state of affairs in the Conference. This body has not delivered anything of substance for more than 11 years.

We also question the notion that the CD is "the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community". Important progress has been achieved in other fora, where all states have been invited to take part in negotiations.

The CD with its 65 member states is far from universal, and a credible and relevant multilateral negotiating body should be open to any country. As expressed in our statement last week, if the CD remains paralysed, there will be stronger calls for considering optional avenues in order to move the disarmament agenda forward.