October 29, 2008

EXPLANATION OF VOTE

Draft Resolution L. 58: Renewed Determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons

Finally, Mr. Chairman,

The United States considers that L.58, “Renewed Determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons,” is of all the resolutions introduced on nuclear disarmament the most balanced and realistic. In particular, we note its support for compliance with the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, its recognition of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Strategic Offensive Reductions, its call for the immediate commencement of negotiations on an FMCT, and its positive mention of IAEA comprehensive safeguards agreements and the Additional Protocol.

At the same time the United States continued to vote against this resolution because of its support for the CTBT in Operative Paragraph 9. As delegates are aware, the United States opposes that treaty. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.