Explanation of Vote on draft resolution entitled "Taking Forward Multilateral Nuclear Disarmament Negotiations" contained in document A/C.1/69/L.21

Pakistan has always supported nuclear disarmament and the goal of achieving a world without nuclear weapons. We continue to share elements of draft resolution, particularly the frustration over the lack of progress on nuclear disarmament negotiations.

A step taken by the sponsors last year i.e. not to propose re-establishment of the OEWG – a measure that had obliged us to abstain on the resolution during 67th session – was a step in the right direction. We strongly believe that any such steps would weaken the CD as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum. Therefore the decision that was taken not to reconstitute the OEWG was a step in the right direction and enabled us to vote in favour of the resolution.

For several years, Pakistan has drawn attention of the international community to the erosion of global consensus underpinning the disarmament and non-proliferation regime. We recognize that there are continuing differences in approaches, perspectives and modalities to overcome the challenges in this important area.

Pakistan has therefore been calling for renewing the global consensus by harmonizing and reconciling these differences. We continue to believe that the best way forward is to convene SSOD-IV so that not only the objectives and agenda of nuclear disarmament is advanced but the entire disarmament machinery could be revitalized.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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