L.22: Decreasing the operational readiness of nuclear weapons

India has been sponsoring a resolution entitled 'Reducing Nuclear Danger' which as been adopted by this Committee by a large majority for more than a decade now. When this resolution on decreasing operational readiness was introduced for the first time in 2007 and again in 2008, 2010 and 2012, India extended support given the common objectives and congruence in the context of the two resolutions. Unlike some of the sponsors of this resolution, India’s approach is to assess resolutions by an objective standard and on their merits. Despite the no vote exercised by some of the sponsors on L.18, India has voted for the resolution L.22 in view of the importance we attach to de-alerting as an important and practical step in the process of reducing nuclear danger.

However we have abstained on PP8. India’s position on the NPT is well known. India is not a party to the treaty and is not bound by its outcome documents. Further, the issue that this resolution seeks to address is not limited to the context of a specific treaty, a point that some of the co-sponsors have themselves made to us with regard to our resolution.

We hope that the sponsors of this resolution will adopt an objective standard for casting the same vote for similar resolutions.