Explanation of Vote on resolution entitled "United action towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons" contained in document A/C.1/69/L.36

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation continues to disagree with several provisions of the resolution titled "United action towards total elimination of nuclear weapons".

In accordance with our clear and consistent position, we reject the unrealistic call to accede to the NPT as a non-Nuclear Weapon State without conditions. At the same time, we do not consider ourselves bound by any of the provisions including those which are adopted by the NPT Review Conferences or other fora in which Pakistan is not represented.

Pakistan supports the objective of total elimination of Nuclear Weapons, a key goal of this draft resolution. There are also several elements in the draft text that my delegation agrees with. Having said that, we cannot agree to the immediate commencement of FMCT negotiations on grounds explained in detail including in this Committee. It is curious however that a resolution seeking united action towards elimination of nuclear weapons calls for addressing the non-proliferation aspect of fissile materials only. As for universalization of Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement, we wish to underscore that such a measure applies only to States which have out of their free consent assumed legal obligations.

In view of the reservations outlined above, my delegation has abstained on the resolution as a whole as well as on OP-3 and OP-20 and voted against OP-11.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.