India has voted in favor of this resolution consistent with its participation in the three meetings in Oslo, Nayarit and Vienna on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons. Our participation in these meetings was premised on the shared concern on the serious threat to the survival of humankind that could be posed by the use of nuclear weapons and in the hope of gaining international support for increased restraints on use of such weapons and thus correct an imbalance in the international legal discourse that has focused almost exclusively on restraints on possession.

Operative Paragraph 1 of this resolution stresses that it is in the interest of the very survival of humanity that nuclear weapons are never used again, under any circumstances.

Operative paragraph 1 of L21 of the resolution on the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons calls on the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, under any circumstances.

L21 is one of the most long standing resolutions in this Committee anchored firmly in the humanitarian tradition of nuclear disarmament. However, for reasons that are difficult to understand, some of the very states that are in the fore front of the humanitarian discourse and are the lead sponsors of L37 have in the past voted against the resolution on the Convention on the Prohibition of Use of Nuclear Weapons this year contained in L21.

We appeal to these states to reconsider their position and narrow the credibility gap between precept and practice that is difficult to ignore.