Mr. Chairman,

I have requested for the floor to make a general statement in support of the draft resolution “Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction” contained in the document L.12. Pakistan shares the concerns reflected in the draft resolution about terrorists and non-State actors acquiring and using weapons and materials that could cause mass destruction.

We need to remain vigilant in this regard.

Increased international cooperation including initiation of negotiations on a Radiological Weapons Convention therefore should be given serious consideration.

We, the member states, have come a long way in developing and putting in place measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction. Mechanisms like 1540 Committee, GICNT and Nuclear Security Summit (NSS) have been valuable in this regard.

Pakistan has remained at the forefront of fighting terrorism. In addition to its active engagement with 1540, GICNT and NSS, Pakistan participates in Container Security Initiative (CSI); Secure Freight Initiative (SFI); IAEA Incident Trafficking Database (ITDB) and as an observer in Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI). We joined Chemical weapons convention CWC as a non-possessor state. Pakistan subscribes to the IAEA Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive sources and has ratified Convention on Nuclear Safety and the Convention on Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and Facilities (CPPNMF) including its 2005 Amendment.

We have enacted and enforced export control measures, national physical protection and other related actions to prevent WMD technology from falling into the hands of terrorists. Our commitment in this regard remains second to none.

Faithful implementation of existing treaty regimes such as CWC and BTWC can effectively address most of these threats. We agree with the widely held view that the best guarantee against the threat of possible use of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons lies in their total elimination.

Through our continued efforts, ‘we the people of the United Nations’ will prevail to eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.