Explanation of Vote on Draft Resolution L.18
by Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

The Islamic Republic of Iran voted in favor of the draft resolution L.18 entitled "No first placement of weapons in outer space" because it considers that the provisions of L.18 are generally in line with the objective of prevention of an arms race in outer space. In its PP 2, the draft underlines the importance of the existing legal regime prohibiting placement of nuclear weapons or other kind of weapons of mass destruction in outer space. The paramount importance of strict compliance with such a prohibition is reaffirmed in PP 5 of L.18. Although placement of weapons other than weapons of mass destruction in outer space is not expressly prohibited under international law, we believe such a placement would be in contravention of the established global principle of the use of outer space exclusively for peaceful purposes. We attach importance to OP 5 of L.18 which calls upon all States to uphold that principle and commit themselves to refrain from placing weapons in outer space, pending the conclusion of an international agreement to prevent arms race in outer space in all its aspects.