Mr. Chairman,

Over the years, Pakistan has consistently supported the objectives of the CTBT. Accordingly, we have been voting in favour of this resolution in the Committee and will vote for the resolution this year as well.

This year marks the 20\textsuperscript{th} anniversary of the opening of CTBT for signature. We share the concern that even after two decades, the treaty has not entered into force. My delegation continues to believe that the objective of the call in the resolution for promoting signatures and ratifications leading to CTBT’s entry-into-force will be facilitated when major erstwhile proponents of the CTBT decide to ratify it.

Pakistan actively participated in the negotiations of CTBT in the CD and voted in favour of 1996 UNGA resolution for adoption of the treaty. Pakistan attends CTBTO PrepCom meetings as an accredited observer state.

Since 1998, Pakistan is voluntarily observing a unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing. Pakistan has stated that it will not be the first one to resume testing in the region. Recently at the UNGA Plenary, our Prime Minister reiterated our readiness to agree on a bilateral arrangement between Pakistan and India on a nuclear test ban.

The resolution also refers to the adoption of the Security Council resolution 2310 this year. We are wary of the Security Council defining legislative requirements for Member States and entering into areas that are not necessarily under its jurisdiction. We have voted in favour of 4\textsuperscript{th} preambular paragraph (PP-4) of the resolution to signify our support for the object and purpose of the CTBT.

We also are not bound by any provisions which emanate from the NPT or its Review Conferences nor any instrument to which Pakistan is not a party.

My delegation, in line with its consistent support for the objectives and purposes of the Treaty, has voted in favour of the resolution L.28 as a whole, and abstained on its preambular paragraph-7.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.