I would like to explain the position of my delegation regarding the draft resolution L.65/Rev.1 entitled “Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices”.

The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly believes that any instrument which is to ban the production, and provide for the total elimination, of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, should be comprehensive and non-discriminatory. It must be of a nuclear disarmament nature and accordingly, its scope must cover the past, present and future production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and provide for the verifiable declaration and total elimination of all stocks of such materials worldwide at a fixed date.

Accordingly, such an instrument should oblige all nuclear-weapon possessors and all nuclear-weapon States, without exception, to completely end the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and to declare and destroy all their stockpiles of such materials within a specified framework of time, in an irreversible and transparent manner, and under strict international verification.

We voted in abstention on L.65/Rev.1 because it does not advocate an instrument capable of addressing all the above-mentioned conditions, and instead, advocates the commencement of negotiations on such a treaty on the basis of a limited mandate contained in an old document which is no longer relevant to today's realities. The mandate for negotiating a treaty banning fissile material must include not only future but also past production of fissile material for nuclear weapons and provide for the internationally verifiable elimination of all the existing stockpiles of such material the worldwide.

Finally, while the previous GGE on this issue proved clearly that there is no consensus on the subject, we see no added value in establishing another group of experts, however with different name, but somehow with the same mandate.