Mr. Chair,

I am taking to floor to explain Switzerland’s yes vote on draft resolution L.2 entitled “The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East”.

Our yes vote to this resolution reflects the continued importance we attach to the full implementation of the relevant NPT obligations by its States parties.

However, we once again note with regret that the resolution refers to only one dimension of the nuclear proliferation risk in this region and continues to single out one State. The value of this resolution would be reinforced if it addressed the situation in the region objectively and comprehensively, including by taking into account a number of recent violations of norms in the area of WMD in the region.

Mr. Chair,

The establishment of a WMD free zone in this region is a goal jointly adopted by NPT States Parties and an objective my country fully supports. Such a zone is even more important given the fact that the region has seen various types of threats related to WMD. We hope the upcoming Conference in the framework of the UNGA will lay the groundwork for a positive and inclusive process that facilitate forward movement on this issue and results in the eventual participation of all States of the region, which will be essential for such a zone to be realised.

Thank you.