Mr. Chairman,

I have asked for the floor to explain our vote on draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/59/L-50 tilted “Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation”. Pakistan will abstain.

In the meetings held to discuss what was initially called the International Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (ICOC), Pakistan had stressed that the issue of missiles was complex. It was, therefore, important to address it a duly constituted multilateral forum so that the views and concerns of all countries could be taken on board.

While we acknowledge that some effort was made to accommodate the concerns of states, the final product, given the Ad Hoc nature of the forum where HCOC was negotiated and lack of proper deliberation, could not gain the support and acceptance of several missile possessor states. As a country which was obliged to respond to the missile threat inducted in our region, the HCOC did not address our security concerns.

Even so, we believe that had the sponsors made some effort to negotiate a generally acceptable text of the resolution being considered, the outcome could have been more positive for the work of this Committee. The divisions which have been so evident this afternoon on account of the inflexible attitude of some of the sponsors could have been avoided. However, they seem more interested in getting the resolution adopted rather than promoting its objectives.

For the reasons I have outlined, my delegation will abstain in the voting.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.