EXPLANATION OF VOTE – (AFTER THE VOTE)

Resolution L.10

Madam Chairperson,

I wish to take this opportunity to explain the yes vote of Brazil on Draft Resolution L.10, entitled “Prevention of an arms race in outer space”.

Brazil supports the establishment of a substantive programme of work of the Conference on Disarmament, preferably on the basis of the “Five-Ambassadors Proposal”. We consider that proposal to contain a balanced approach to the four basic areas of concern to the majority of CD membership, namely: negative security assurances; nuclear disarmament; the negotiation of a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices; and the prevention of an arms race in outer space, this last one the object of draft Resolution L.10, just adopted.

We lent our support to Resolution L.10 because we are convinced that, to restore its credibility, the Conference on Disarmament should start as soon as possible concrete negotiations, after so many years of inaction and paralysis. Our support for the establishment of an ad hoc committee on the prevention of an arms race in outer space should be seen in this context, that is to say it should come in parallel to an early political decision on the work programme of the CD, as well as on possible negotiations on the other items of the agenda of the Conference, specifically those covered in the A-5 proposal or variations thereof, that might command consensus in Geneva.

Thank You.