PAKISTAN

Explanation of Vote

On draft resolution “Towards a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World: Accelerating the implementation of disarmament commitments”

Contained in document A/C.1/61/L.13/Rev.2

Madam Chairperson,

Pakistan supports the objectives of universal and non-discriminatory nuclear disarmament.

In 2004, my delegation had appreciated the efforts of the sponsors in revising the contents of the resolution to accommodate Pakistan’s position.

Last year, the decision by the sponsors of the resolution to call for Pakistan’s accession to the NPT without conditions obliged us to abstain on the resolution as a whole and to vote against OP-5 of the resolution.

The history and context of nuclear testing in South Asia is clear. Pakistan was not the first to test. The nuclear test in South Asia in 1974 followed by further nuclear explosions on 11 and 13 May 1998 disrupted the strategic balance in the region. Pakistan had no choice but to conduct its tests to restore strategic stability.

We are disappointed that this year the sponsors have chosen to insert discriminatory and selective modifications in OP-6 by condemning nuclear tests conducted by “States that are not yet parties to NPT”. This is yet another example of compromising on principles of objectivity, non-discrimination and fairness. The sponsors are obviously unable to speak the whole truth to power. By doing so, the New Agenda Coalition has undermined its own credibility as well as the object and purpose of the draft resolution.

In view of the unwarranted and unacceptable changes made in the draft resolution, Pakistan will be obliged to vote against it.

I thank you Madam Chairperson