Madam Chair,

I take the floor to explain the United States’ votes on L.32, “Renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons,” and L.48/Rev.1, “Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.”

The United States considers that L.32 is, of all the resolutions introduced on nuclear disarmament, the most balanced and realistic. In particular we note its support of compliance with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, its recognition of the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions between the United States and Russia, its call for the immediate commencement of negotiations on an FMCT, and its positive mention of IAEA comprehensive safeguards agreements and the Additional Protocol. This year we applaud the condemnation in the final preambular paragraph of the DPRK’s nuclear test.

At the same time the United States has continued to vote against this resolution because of its support for the CTBT in Operative
Paragraph 9 to the CTBT. As delegates are aware, the United States opposes that treaty.

These considerations apply as well to the United States’ vote on L.48/Rev.1. We cannot support a resolution supporting the CTBT. Nevertheless I would like to note our support for the position expressed in Operative Paragraph 5, which condemns the DPRK’s nuclear test and demands that the DPRK do not conduct further tests.

Thank you, Madam Chair.