Mr Chairman

Australia takes the floor on resolution A/C.1/62/L.33/Rev.1 on the *Prevention of the illicit transfer and unauthorized access to and use of man-portable air defence systems*, to which there are approximately 60 co-sponsors.

Australia sought a deferral of action on resolution L.38/Rev.1 when we learned from the Secretariat that a delegation a vote would be called on this resolution, which has traditionally been adopted by consensus.

This resolution has traditionally welcomed international and regional efforts to strengthen transport security against the risk of MANPADS attack. This year, PP10 of the draft resolution welcomes work undertaken on airport vulnerability assessments.

These assessments are technical studies of an airport’s perimeter to assess vulnerabilities to MANPADS attack against arriving or departing aircraft. Taking into account aircraft landing and take-off patterns, the assessments focus on potential launch sites such as parks, cemeteries and vacant allotments. Such assessments are directly relevant to protecting civil aviation from MANPADS attacks by non-state actors.

Mr Chairman

Airport vulnerability assessments are firmly in the interests of all States represented in this chamber. For we all rely on some form of civil air transport. And in some cases, our States have national and other airlines that visit airports across the globe. We all benefit from airport vulnerability assessments, even when undertaken in other States.

We understand, however, the reference to airport vulnerability assessments will not gain consensus.

With respect, we are not convinced by the reasoning given for the deletion of the phrase ‘including through airport vulnerability assessments’ from PP10. However, in an effort to maintain consensus on this resolution, we and co-sponsors propose to introduce an oral revision to PP10, namely the deletion of the phrase ‘including through airport vulnerability assessments’.

We trust that with this change, the resolution will now be adopted by consensus.

I thank you