UNGA: FIRST COMMITTEE

L.27: Reducing nuclear danger

Explanation of vote

Statement by Dell Higgle
Ambassador for Disarmament

26 October 2010

As delivered
Mr Chairman

New Zealand has a deep and enduring commitment to the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world. Our work in the New Agenda Coalition and in a number of other contexts, including advocating for the de-alerting of nuclear weapons, reflects our belief in the need to take immediate practical steps towards the achievement of that goal.

While L.27, entitled "Reducing nuclear danger", contains a number of practical measures for which we are strong and active advocates, we are unable to support it and voted 'no' given that it fails to acknowledge the importance of the universalisation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as a step towards a nuclear-weapon-free world, and the responsibility of all states which possess nuclear weapons to reduce nuclear danger.