Mr. Chairman,

I have taken the floor to explain the position of my delegation in not participating in the voting process of the Committee regarding draft Resolution A/C.1/65/L.33, entitled “Treaty Banning the Production of Fissile Material for Nuclear Weapons or Other Nuclear Explosive Devices”.

It is a source of grave concern and regret that the adoption of resolutions by the General Assembly on certain subjects under discussion within the CD framework has been misused as leverage by some countries to prioritize the items on the agenda of the CD.

I would like to reiterate that my delegation is of the firm belief that addressing the existence of nuclear weapons, as the greatest threat to the security of all nations, should be the highest priority in the negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament. Therefore, negotiations on a legally binding instrument on nuclear disarmament should be put at the top of the work of the Conference on Disarmament.

A treaty which is to ban the fissile material for nuclear weapons purposes should not be developed as a mere non-proliferation instrument. We will never accept such an approach. In this context, the scope of such a treaty should cover the past and future production of the fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.