Mr. Chairman,

Italy has voted in favour, as previously, of Resolution L.35, entitled "Convening the fourth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to Disarmament", tabled at the present session of the First Committee by Indonesia.

Our decision is based on the conviction that the UN disarmament machinery urgently needs attention and political impulse geared to its revitalization, to allow it to resume work on its main task: that of negotiating multilateral disarmament agreements.

The decision by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to convene last September a High-Level Meeting to address this issue and the ensuing Summary document, rich in suggestions and insights and containing in paragraph 7 a reference to the proposal on an SSOD IV, represent a first strong political signal in this direction.

In my country's opinion, SSOD IV and the High-Level Meeting are, therefore, not contradictory. Rather, we consider them complementary, aimed at achieving the same goal.

We are confident that the necessary resources will be identified within the UN budget to allow their implementation.

Thank you