EOV on Women, Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Arms Control:

I am taking the floor to explain Egypt’s vote on L. 39 entitled “Women, Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Arms Control. L.39 was presented to the First Committee as an attempt by its sponsors to promote gender dimensions relating to United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325. While Egypt fully supports Resolution 1325, it is also fully aware that it is purely a human rights resolution rather than a disarmament one.

Egypt actively participates in all matters relating to its implementation in the context of the Security Council as well as the Third Committee of the General Assembly, which is the competent committee to deal with the implementation of resolution 1325. We thus have serious procedural concerns relating to the relevance of the issues represented in L.39 to the competence of the First Committee.

While remaining of the firm view that L.39 covers issues which neither relate to the mandate of the First Committee nor to its agenda, Egypt decided not to request a recorded vote on L.39. However, we still believe that dealing with this issue could be most appropriate in the Third Committee or the General Assembly as the competent bodies to deal with human rights and empowerment of women.