L42 Decreasing the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems

India has been sponsoring a resolution entitled “Reducing Nuclear Danger” which has been adopted by this Committee by a large majority for more than a decade now. When this resolution on decreasing operational readiness was introduced for the first time in 2007 and again in 2008, India extended support given the common objectives and congruence in the content of the two resolutions. Unlike some of the sponsors of this resolution, India’s approach is to assess resolutions by an objective standard and on their merits. Despite the no vote exercised by some of the sponsors on L27, India has voted for the resolution L42 in view of the importance we attach to de-alerting as an important step in the process of de-legitimization of nuclear weapons.

However, we have abstained on OP1. India’s position on the NPT is well known. India is not a party to treaty and did not participate in the 2010 NPT Review Conference. We are therefore not bound by its outcome. Further, the issue that this resolution seeks to address is not limited to the context of a specific treaty, a point that some of the co-sponsors have themselves made to us with regard to our resolution.

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