Mr. Chairman, India has abstained on resolution L45.Rev 1.

India is fully committed to the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, including ballistic missiles. The proliferation of ballistic missiles in our region has adversely impacted India’s security.

There is no legal regime governing the possession and use of missiles. The complexity of this issue arises mainly due to the untenable claims made by some states for exclusive rights to the possession of advanced weapon systems and their continued modernization. Any initiative to address these concerns in a sustainable and comprehensive manner should be through an inclusive process.

We welcome the fact that the last GGE on Missiles in all its aspects emphasized in its report (A/63/176) the important role of the United Nations in providing a more structured and effective mechanism to build a consensus.

India has abstained on this resolution as it does not adequately recognize the need for a more inclusive approach, such as the one recommended in the GGE report. Furthermore, it is noteworthy that several of the sponsors of this resolution had their experts on the GGE on Missiles which had adopted its report by consensus.

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