Explanation of Vote on the draft resolution on
"Follow-up to nuclear disarmament obligations agreed at the 1995, 2000,
and 2010 Review Conferences of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty" (L.3),
delivered by Dr. Cezary Lusiński,

Head of Delegation of the Republic of Poland to the Conference
on Disarmament in Geneva,

at the UN General Assembly First Committee

on behalf of the Member States of the European Union

United Nations

New York

26 October 2011

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY
Mr. Chairman,

I am speaking on behalf of the Member States of the European Union on draft resolution L.3 entitled "Follow-up to nuclear disarmament obligations agreed at the 1995, 2000, and 2010 Review Conferences of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty".

Mr. Chairman,

The Member States of the EU voted against this resolution because of the non-compliance of its sponsor with non-proliferation obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, including those agreed at its Review Conferences. We have further elaborated on this in our EoV delivered on resolution L.2 "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

The Member States of the EU abstained this year on the preambular paragraph 6 of this resolution. Circumstances have changed since 2009, when this resolution was last adopted. The EU wants to emphasize the greatest importance it attaches to the steps taken towards the implementation of the 1995 NPT resolution, including through the Final Document agreed at the 2010 Review Conference. The EU welcomes in particular the convening of the 2012 Conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction, to be attended by all States of the Middle East. Through the change in our voting pattern, we want to send a signal to Iran, the sponsor of this resolution, and, certainly also to all other countries in the region, to fully and constructively engage in the process leading to the 2012 Conference, and at the Conference itself.

The 2010 NPT Review Conference emphasized the requirement of maintaining parallel progress, in substance and timing, in the process leading to achieving total and complete elimination of all weapons of mass destruction in the region, nuclear, chemical and biological. We consider that the 2012 Conference should contribute to the resolution of all WMD-related challenges in the Middle East region.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.