First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly
Sixty-six session

Introduction of the draft resolution “Prohibition of the
development and manufacture of new types of weapons of
mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report
of the Conference on Disarmament”

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Statement
by Mr. Igor Ugorich
Deputy Head,
Department of International Security and Arms Control,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus

The delegation of Belarus has the honour to introduce the draft resolution entitled “Prohibition
of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new
systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament”, contained in document

The issue of the prohibition of the new weapons of mass destruction has been discussed by
the General Assembly for almost 35 years. In its current form, the draft resolution has existed
since 1996. Since 1990 it has been adopted on triennial basis. Compared to General Assembly
resolution 63/36, the current draft contains mostly technical updates.

Comparing with the resolution 63/36, only one substantial change has been introduced in the
enclosed draft resolution. Preamble paragraph 5 noticing with appreciation the discussions
which have taken place in the Conference on Disarmament under the agenda item “New types
of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: radiological weapons”.
Such discussions are duly reflected in Section E of Part III of the Reports of the Conference of
Disarmament to the UN General Assembly for the year 2009, 2010 and 2011.

The purpose of the draft resolution is to establish an agreed international procedure that
would make possible continues monitoring of the situation regarding the development and
manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction by the Conference on Disarmament
and would provide for recommendations on undertaking specific negotiations on identified
types of such weapons, when necessary.

The draft resolution is neither hampering research and development programmes nor
overburdening existing disarmament machinery. It specifically notes that the Conference on
Disarmament should keep the issue under review without prejudice to further overview of its
agenda and requests to include the results of any consideration of the issue in the annual
reports of the CD.

Belarus believes that preventive measures are the best way of dealing with potential threats
to the international peace and security. Nature and boldness of these preventive measures,
however, largely depend on the political will of States. Lack of proved evidence of existence or
development of specific types of new WMD can not serve as an excuse for losing sight of this
important issue.

Therefore Belarus appeals to all Member States to reaffirm their political commitment to the
prevention of new WMD emergence by supporting the proposed draft resolution. Belarus
highly appreciates the support for the document from current and future sponsors. We call for
its consensus adoption.