Draft EOV on Draft Decision

(A/C.1/68/L.35 Main sponsor Canada)

entitled

“Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices”

Egypt has always considered a Treaty on Fissile Material as an important step towards achieving nuclear disarmament. This can be clearly seen in the inclusion “step three” in the New Agenda Coalition sponsored language in the NPT 2000’s Thirteen Practical Steps for the systematic and progressive efforts towards nuclear disarmament. “Step three” called upon the Conference on Disarmament to negotiate a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices “taking into consideration both nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation objectives.”

Draft decision A/C.1/68/L.35 entitled Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices’ refers to General Assembly resolution 67/53 of 3 December 2012 on this matter. Egypt maintains that resolution 67/53 did not adequately meet the basic requisites to clearly include stockpiles of past production of fissile material for military uses in any potential treaty on fissile materials. The resolution lacked operative language clearly referring to the potential treaty having to contribute to achieving general and complete nuclear disarmament.

We welcome the creation of a Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) mandated “to make recommendations on possible aspects that could contribute to, but not negotiate, a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices”. We are keen to contribute substantively to its deliberations with a view to ensuring that that any potential Fissile Material Treaty would take into consideration both nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation objectives.

Egypt will also continue to seek an early adoption of a comprehensive and balanced program of work for the Conference on Disarmament that would deal not only with a Fissile Material Treaty, but also on all core issues on the agenda of the conference.