Mr. Chairman,

Nuclear disarmament and total elimination of nuclear weapons are goals that Pakistan has consistently supported.

My delegation shares several elements of the draft resolution contained in document No. A/C.1/68/L.36 including, *inter alia*, the call for establishment of an ad hoc Committee in the CD on nuclear disarmament; conclusion of a legally binding instrument on negative security assurances and the need for taking into account the security interests of all states, while negotiating disarmament treaties.

However, we cannot agree to the calls for full implementation of the Action Plan of the last NPT Review Conference, in line with our well-known position on the NPT. We have therefore abstained on the resolution.

Operative paragraph 16 calls for immediate commencement of FMCT negotiations. It is indeed ironic that a resolution on nuclear disarmament chooses to only reflect the non-proliferation centric aspect of FMCT negotiations. This anomaly notwithstanding, Pakistan, in line with its clear and unambiguous position on FMCT has decided to vote against this paragraph.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.