EOV

L.21 Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations

India has voted in favour of resolution L.21. In 2012, we abstained on the resolution principally due to our concerns on the impact of this body on the established disarmament machinery. India participated in the OEWG meetings in 2013 due to the highest priority we attach to nuclear disarmament.

While India has decided to vote in favour of this resolution in recognition of the importance of sustaining efforts on multilateral nuclear disarmament, we would like to highlight our continuing concerns on parallel initiatives that could impact on the established disarmament machinery. India views the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, which has the mandate, the membership, the credibility and the rules of procedure to discharge that responsibility. Our vote on this resolution is without prejudice to our principled position on the role of the CD as the forum for taking forward nuclear disarmament negotiations.

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