I would like to explain the position of my delegation regarding the draft resolution L.25 entitled “Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices”.

The principled position of my country in regard to banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices is clear. In the view of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the most serious threat to the international peace and security and to the very survival of civilization is the continued existence of nuclear weapons, their vertical and horizontal proliferation, and the risk of their possible use.

There is no legal, political or security reason to justify the continued possession of nuclear weapons and therefore, their total elimination is the only absolute guarantee against the intentional or accidental use of such weapons.

In our view, the first and the best practical measure to achieve this noble goal is the urgent commencement of negotiation on and the early conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons to prohibit their possession, development, production, acquisition, testing, stockpiling, transfer and use or threat of use, and to provide for their total elimination at the earliest time, in an irreversible and transparent manner and under strict international verification.

Iran strongly supports the call made by this Committee through the adoption of draft resolution L 14 on the report of the Conference on Disarmament, for the need for adopting a balanced and comprehensive program of work for the Conference on Disarmament. Taking into account the fact that nuclear disarmament is the highest priority on the international disarmament agenda, we believe that negotiations on such a convention must be at the top of the agenda of the Conference on Disarmament.

The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly believes that any instrument which is to ban the production, and provide for the total elimination, of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, should be comprehensive and non-discriminatory.

It must be of a nuclear disarmament nature and accordingly, its scope must cover the past, present and future production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and provide for the verifiable declaration and total elimination of all stocks of such materials at a fixed date.
Moreover, such an instrument should oblige all nuclear-weapon possessors and all nuclear-weapon States, without exception, to completely end the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and to declare and destroy all their stockpiles of such materials. All such obligations should be fulfilled within a specified framework of time, in an irreversible and transparent manner, and under strict international verification.

With regard to the content of L.25, I would like to add the following points:

Firstly, the content of OP 2 is not factual because GGE does not "adopt" its report. GGE is only mandated to prepare its report.

Secondly, thorough review of the report of the GGE reveals that the report is replete with differences of opinions among governmental experts and contains only a few consensual recommendations.

Lastly, on OP 4, decision as to whether and how the CD would consider any report or proposal is exclusively a prerogative of the CD. No other authority or body is competent to decide what the CD should do or should not do.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.