

PAKISTAN

**EXPLANATION OF VOTE ON
DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.1/57/L.4/Rev.1
"COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY"**

Mr. Chairman,

Pakistan delegation has supported voted in favour of the resolution entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty", contained in document L.4/Rev.1.

It may be recalled that in 1996, Pakistan had voted in favour of the CTBT in the General Assembly. However, we were obliged by the imperative of self-defence and in order to restore the strategic balance in South Asia, to demonstrate our nuclear capability. Had the application of restraint and responsibility prevented the nuclearization of our region, the CTBT might have enjoyed a different status today. We are now constrained to await the development of a broad national consensus on the issue to enable us to fulfill our desire to sign the CTBT, in due course.

In regard to OP-3, Pakistan was not the first to test a nuclear device. It will not be the first to resume tests. Immediately after the events of May 1998, Pakistan had declared unilateral moratorium on further testing. We will maintain this moratorium until the coming into force of this Treaty. Of course, the moratorium will have to be reviewed in case there is an extraordinary development in our region. Also, Pakistan will not be the country which will stand in the way of the entry into force of the CTBT.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.