

**Statement by Ambassador Elisabet Borsiin Bonnier, Sweden
on behalf of the New Agenda Coalition
28 October, 2004**

Explanation of vote on Draft resolution A/C.1/59/L.23 entitled "A path to the total elimination of nuclear weapons".

I am taking the floor for an explanation of vote on the draft resolution L.23. I do so on behalf of the New Agenda Coalition (NAC), i.e. Brazil, Egypt, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand, South Africa and Sweden. We have abstained on the draft resolution L.23.

The NAC believes that it is essential that the commitments made at the 1995 and 2000 NPT Review Conferences are upheld in their entirety and as they were originally agreed. Some differences of interpretation in this regard lie behind our abstentions on L.23.

At the same time, we know and appreciate that Japan and its co-sponsors share our goals and objectives as regards nuclear disarmament. The 2005 NPT Review Conference is now approaching and we believe that the time has come for us to look ahead and to work together to advance our common goals. The New Agenda Coalition stands ready, and looks forward to work together with Japan and its co-sponsors towards this end.