

CANADA

UNGA 59 First Committee: Nuclear Disarmament Cluster

I would like to introduce to the First Committee draft resolution A/C.1/59/L.34 entitled:

“The Conference on Disarmament decision (CD/1547) of 11 August 1998 to establish, under item 1 of its agenda entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament", an ad hoc committee to negotiate, on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator (CD/1299) and the mandate contained therein, a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices”.

This draft resolution is identical to resolution 58/57, of 08 December 2003, adopted without a vote by this Committee and the General Assembly. It is anchored firmly in the expectations of the international community, and reflects the widespread support for beginning FMCT negotiations in the CD on a treaty which would be fundamental to furthering both disarmament and non-proliferation objectives.

It remains our view that the existing mandate permits any CD member to raise any issue or concern about the envisaged treaty during the course of negotiations. This text provides a vehicle for the First Committee to urge the CD to immediately commence the FMCT negotiations.

Canada, as custodian of this resolution, and our co-sponsors, hope that this resolution will again be adopted without a vote.

Thank you.