

EOV: Report of the CD

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation is taking the floor to provide an explanation of our vote. While Canada has joined the consensus on this resolution, I want to take this opportunity to note my government's disappointment with the continuing deadlock in achieving a consensus on a Program of Work in the CD.

In Canada's view, the draft decision L.1 that was tabled by the six CD Presidents for 2007 was the best chance yet to finally resume productive work in the UN's treaty negotiation forum. It is deeply regrettable that three CD members have taken a position against joining the overwhelming majority of states in favour of the draft decision. We are hopeful that further work on arriving at a consensus on the draft decision will end in success in 2008. Our optimism, however, is tempered by the fact that, here in New York this fall, consensus could not be found in our preliminary consultations on a strictly procedural draft decision that would have added the issue of the prohibition of the production of fissile material to next year's First Committee agenda.

My delegation reiterates its urgent call on those CD states that have opposed the adoption of draft decision L.1 to reconsider their positions and finally end the protracted deadlock in the CD.

Thank you.