

## EXPLANATION OF VOTE

### **Draft Resolution L. 18/Rev.1: "Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium"**

Mr. Chairman,

Our delegation will vote "no" on draft resolution L. 18/Rev.1, Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium.

This draft resolution calls for actions by the Secretary-General and UN member states based on the potential harmful effects of the use of depleted uranium munitions on human health and the environment. By doing so, it ignores a significant body of scientific evidence on this subject.

The environmental and long-term health effects of the use of depleted uranium munitions have been investigated by the U.S. Department of Defense, NATO, the United Nations Environmental Program, the World Health Organization, the European Commission, and others. None of these inquiries has been able to document environmental or health effects attributable to use of these munitions.

Mr. Chairman, this is not a new issue. The same questionable assertions have been made before in resolutions that have come before this Committee. UN Member States in the past have wisely chosen to defeat a resolution such as this, and they should do so again.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.