

## EXPLANATION OF VOTE

### **Draft Resolution L. 19: Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone**

Mr. Chairman,

The United States has voted “no” on draft resolution L. 19, “Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.”

As we understand it, one of the main objectives of this resolution is to encourage consultations between the nuclear weapon states and the States Parties to the Bangkok Treaty to resolve outstanding issues on a number of provisions of the Treaty and its Protocol.

Mr. Chairman, such consultations have already taken place, and our government remains willing to resume discussion of these issues with the states parties at any time.

This matter affects the states parties and the nuclear weapon states, and might be possible to resolve if the Parties to the Treaty chose to resume consultations. Involvement of the general membership of the UN via this resolution in order to renew these discussions is neither needed nor desirable.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman