

Canadian EoV on L.2

Mr. Chairman, delegations will recall that Canada took the floor after the vote on last year's version of this resolution to register our concern at the lack of balance evidenced by the absence in the resolution of any reference to other nuclear proliferation risks in the Middle East region. To the degree to which this resolution is intended to recognize that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the Middle East would pose a serious threat to international peace and security, we regretted that Iran had failed to bring itself into compliance with the binding requirements set out in UN Security Council Resolution 1696.

Since that time, the issue of Iran's nuclear activities remains unresolved. Iran remains in non-compliance with its international obligations under Security Council resolutions 1747, 1737 and 1696. Iran has chosen to ignore these Security Council obligations and the efforts of the international community to arrive at an equitable and lasting solution which would meet the concerns of the international community with regard to Iran's intentions.

If the goal of this resolution is the prevention of proliferation of nuclear weapons in the Middle East, as its title would seem to indicate, then the content of the resolution should in our view address the obligations of all states in the region to clear and unequivocal adherence to the NPT and full compliance with its obligations. In the absence of more balanced language in this regard, Canada has chosen once again to abstain on the resolution.