Mr. President,

Since this is the first time that I take the floor in this meeting, allow me to congratulate you for the assumption of the post of presidency of the Conference. As one of the P6 we are aware and appreciative of your diligent efforts in doing consultation for creation of consensus on the issue of Program of work.

1- We attach great importance to the CD, thus we support all efforts aimed at the start of the substantive work in this august body.

2- Based on the rules of procedures, the adoption of the program of work is indeed the main task of the CD to start its formal negotiation task.

3- My delegation has always insisted on equilibrium and balance among the main core issues as the main criteria for the adoption of the program of work. In our view a comprehensive and balanced program of work to enable the CD to start negotiations on the four core issues, can best serve the purposes of the CD as well as the safety and security for the whole international community.

4- As a member of the G21 and the NAM, our top priority in the CD is nuclear disarmament. The agenda of the CD is designed in a manner that helps the start of negotiation of concerted and jointly reinforcing international instruments for nuclear disarmament. Like the majority of the members of the CD, We believe the early commencement of negotiations, within the CD, on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time, including a Nuclear Weapons Convention is the urgent need of the CD today.
5- The issue of nuclear disarmament which is a broad and wide subject should not be narrowed down to one issue, leave it alone a situation that it would be subjected to the other issue.

6- It is worth mentioning that in the action plan of the NPT we have 22 actions on nuclear disarmament. Action 6 is specifically on creation of subsidiary body in the CD to deal with nuclear disarmament. It would be very difficult to convince ourselves that all of these 22 actions on disarmament have been relegated or limited to action 15 and still we are consistent with the action plan and the principle of balance.

7- On the FMT we said many times with no ambiguity that this treaty should contribute to the cause of disarmament not vice versa. The contribution of FMCT to the disarmament will happen when the issue of stocks would be covered under a possible treaty.

8- In conclusion, as you are well aware from the beginning we have been positively engaged in your consultation on the Program of Work and we have supported all efforts that aimed at creation of consensus in this regard. Our efforts and advices were intended to help you in finding consensus on the Text.

Thank you