



**Explanation of Vote (after the vote) by Mr. Muktesh Pardeshi, First Secretary,
Permanent Mission of India to Conference on Disarmament, Geneva, on
Agenda item 65(v) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of
the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on
their Destruction on 1 November 2004**

Mr. Chairman,

While India has abstained on this Resolution (as contained in L-40/Rev. 1), it remains committed to a non-discriminatory, universal and global ban on anti-personnel landmines that addresses the legitimate defence requirements of States, while ameliorating the critical humanitarian crisis that has resulted from an indiscriminate transfer and use of landmines.

India believes that a phased approach commends itself as a confidence-building measures, enabling States, especially those that have long and difficult borders, to safeguard their legitimate security needs. The process of complete elimination of anti-personnel mines will be facilitated by the availability of appropriate militarily-effective and non-lethal alternative technologies that can perform, cost-effectively, the legitimate defensive role of anti-personnel landmines.

India has played an active role in the CCW process and has ratified its protocols, including Amended Protocol-II on landmines and has discontinued, since 1997, the production of non-detectable anti-personnel landmines.

India will support negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament for a ban on transfers of anti-personnel landmines on the basis of a mandate that reflects the interests of all delegations.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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