

Explanation of vote by Mr. D.B.V.Varma, Director, Ministry of External Affairs, on Agenda item : 73(t) Nuclear disarmament on November 3, 2003

Mr. Chairman,

India has abstained on the resolution "Nuclear Disarmament", as contained in document A/C.1/58/L.47.

India has a long standing and unwavering commitment to nuclear disarmament and the global elimination of nuclear weapons. We had, in fact, supported the resolution till 2000. However, the resolution now includes elements on the NPT on which India's position is well known. Therefore, we abstained on this resolution. This vote, however, is not a reflection on our support for the long standing position of NAM and G-21 positions on nuclear disarmament, which we share with Myanmar and other sponsors of the resolution.

Thank you.

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