

L.28: Conventional arms control at the regional and sub-regional levels

***Explanation of Vote by Mr. T. P. Seetharam, Minister, Permanent Mission of India
in Geneva on October 31, 2001***

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation has requested the floor to explain its position on this Resolution. In 1993, the UNDC had adopted consensus Guidelines on the regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security. Therefore, we are not convinced that this resolution, in particular OP2 that calls on CD, a forum for negotiation of disarmament instruments of global application, to consider formulation of principles that can serve as a framework for regional arrangements on conventional arms control, has any productive value.

A reference has been made in the resolution, in PP6, to conventional arms control in South Asia. India has security concerns that cannot be confined to what is referred to as South Asia. The narrow definition of the Resolution does not fully reflect the security concerns in South Asia and adopts an approach that is far too restrictive. These reasons have also been spelt out in the past and accordingly Mr. Chairman my delegation will be casting a negative vote on the Resolution as a whole.