

Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations (L.41)

Explanation of Vote by Finland

Mr. Chairperson,

The discourse on the humanitarian aspects of nuclear weapons addresses concerns of citizens all over the world. We recognize that as long as nuclear weapons exist there is a risk of a catastrophe with immeasurable human and humanitarian costs.

Finland is a strong advocate for the NPT as the central instrument in nuclear disarmament. We also consider the NPT as a key pillar of the international security architecture, and continue to support effective implementation of this Treaty as a whole.

We must aim for a world free of nuclear weapons. To do this, we need to develop unity of purpose and a broader common understanding of the steps that will lead us there. Finland is supportive to activities which are based on a progressive approach. Finland is in favor of nuclear disarmament that leads to a concrete outcome. For Finland the participation of the nuclear weapon states remains a key in achieving effective and concrete nuclear disarmament. That is the only way to decrease the number of all types of nuclear weapons in the world. This resolution will not lead us there.

Mr. Chairperson, Finland's position on nuclear disarmament is coherent and practical based on arguments just mentioned. We therefore decided to abstain on a vote concerning this resolution.

I thank you Mr. Chairperson.