EXPLANATION OF THE VOTE AFTER THE VOTE BY ZIMBABWE: GENERAL ASSEMBLY FIRST COMMITTEE: DRAFT RESOLUTION L.56 ON "*POSSIBLE RISKS OF INTEGRATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN COMMAND, CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS*"

NEW YORK, 03 NOVEMBER 2025

Zimbabwe supported the draft resolution L.56 on "*Possible risks of integration of artificial intelligence in command, control and communication systems of nuclear weapons*", not as a license for any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, but as a clear and unequivocal demand that, pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, these weapons of mass destruction must remain under total and uncompromised human control.

The total elimination of nuclear weapons should not be a mere prospect in the distant horizon; it remains the highest disarmament priority and should be transformed into an urgent action-oriented imperative with real accountability. Such accountability should be rendered to the entire international community through the Review Conference processes under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). In that context, Nuclear Weapon States should fulfil their disarmament obligations in line with Article VI of the NPT and other relevant instruments and agreements.

Computer systems and AI should never be in a position to make decisions related to the launch of nuclear weapons; and nuclear weapons should be totally, impeccably and impenetrably safeguarded from mistaken, accidental or malicious AI-related command, control or communications.

To us, the risks are not merely possible, they are real. The quantitative and qualitative enhancement of nuclear arsenals is an

unacceptable backsliding towards a nuclear arms race that appears to be underway.

Zimbabwe congratulates Mexico for this initiative and its tireless efforts to facilitate the negotiations. We call for continued focus on this important agenda item at various disarmament fora. We conclude by reiterating that nuclear risk reduction measures are not a substitute for nuclear disarmament.

I thank you.