Views of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Resolution 78/43

On Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction

Combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations on a non-discriminatory basis has been the long-standing policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Accordingly, Iran has always supported this resolution since its introduction at the First Committee. However, the resolution contains a reference to the so-called “Nuclear Security Summits”, a closed selected gathering for a selective approach towards nuclear security based on the assumption that the possession of nuclear weapons by a few countries should be continued and the only major problem is how to secure the weapons and needed materials for production of such weapons.

A thorough review of the documents of these gatherings indicates that in those documents there is even no single word about nuclear disarmament and total elimination of nuclear weapons which is the only absolute guarantee against the threat posed to the international peace and security by nuclear weapons.

Despite full sympathy with the thrust of the draft resolution, the reference to the said gatherings in the current draft obliged my delegation, while joining the consensus, to disassociate itself from the paragraph contained therein on the so-called Nuclear Security Summits.

We fully agree that international cooperation aimed at strengthening the security and physical protection of nuclear materials and facilities contributes to preventing terrorists from acquiring nuclear weapons. We believe this important issue can be best addressed within the relevant multilateral organization and in an open,
comprehensive, and transparent manner, with the participation of all Member States. In this context, the International Atomic Energy Agency provides the most proper place for addressing this issue.