



STATEMENT IN EXPLANATION OF VOTE ON DECLARATION ON HUMAN CLONING By Dr.M.Gandhi, Counsellor & Legal Adviser, on Agenda item150: International Convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings on 8 March 2005

Mr. President,

My delegation deeply regrets that the Sixth Committee has been unable to recommend to the plenary a text that is acceptable to all member States on a matter of paramount importance such as "the International Convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings". We have voted against the political declaration as some of the provisions of the Declaration could be interpreted as a call for a total ban on all forms of human cloning.

My delegation remains totally opposed to reproductive cloning owing to the doubtful nature of its safety, success, utility and ethical acceptability. However, we consider the merits of therapeutic cloning on a case by case basis within the bioethical guidelines laid down with the approval of the National Bioethical Committee.

The Declaration voted upon today is non-binding and does not reflect agreement among the wider membership of the General Assembly. Our approach to therapeutic cloning, thus, remains unchanged.

Thank you Mr. President.

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)