



**Explanation of Vote after the vote by Mr. Ajai Malhotra,  
Ambassador/Deputy Permanent Representative, on question of  
Western Sahara on December 14,2006]**

Mr President,

India supports efforts aimed at a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution to the question of Western Sahara. We believe that such a solution can be reached through dialogue and a spirit of cooperation.

We share the sense of disappointment that it has not been possible to work out a consensus this year on the UN General Assembly resolution on the "Question of Western Sahara". India's abstention in the vote should not be interpreted as its being in favour of either side.

Thank you, Mr President.

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