Manu Mahawar First Secretary

Interactive dialogue with SR on Human Rights in Belarus (September 27, 2006)

Statement by India

We have gone through the report of the Special Rapporteur on Belarus and also listened to his introductory remarks. His conclusions and recommendations appear to us as inexact and prescriptive in nature and do not fully take into account the actual situation on the ground. The steps suggested, we believe, will only further alienate the Government of Belarus without in any way contributing to the promotion and protection of human rights the people of Belarus, the primary responsibility for which lies with the Government of Belarus.

Mr. Chairman,

Consideration of the report on Belarus once again brings us to the issue of utility of country-specific resolutions adopted against the wishes of the country concerned. We have seen, time and again, that such Resolutions only contribute to acrimony, deepen mistrust, and are therefore counterproductive. They run contrary to the spirit of dialogue and cooperation which, we believe, should inform the work of the Human Rights Council. We hope that, while developing its architecture, the Council will be guided by this new spirit and appropriately address the lacunae associated with country-specific resolutions.

Thank You.