

inter alia, the 1967 Outer Space Treaty. It was also noted that Article 2 (4) did not prohibit the development, testing and deployment of strike space weapons. Furthermore, in regard to the reference to Article 51 of the Charter, they reiterated that this Article could not be invoked to justify the use or threat of use of force from outer space.

25. In the consideration of existing agreements, delegations discussed a number of multilateral and bilateral instruments, inter alia, the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water (1963), the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (1967), the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (1975), the Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques (1977), the Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and other Celestial Bodies (1979) and the Treaty Between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems (1972). In this connection, reference was made to documents CD/OS/WP.6 and CD/OS/WP.7.

26. Considerable attention focused on the 1967 Outer Space Treaty and the significance of the Treaty was generally underlined. At the same time, various delegations stated that the Treaty contained terms that lent themselves to different interpretations. In addition, a number of delegations believed that, because of its limited scope, the Treaty was not sufficient to prevent an arms race in outer space. They pointed out that, while the Treaty, together with the Moon Treaty, provided for the complete demilitarization of the moon and other celestial bodies, as well as for their orbits and trajectories, as far as the orbit around the Earth was concerned, it only prohibited the placement there of any object carrying nuclear weapons or any other kind of weapons of mass destruction, or the stationing of such weapons in outer space in any other manner. In their view, therefore, there was a risk that the Treaty could be considered by some to leave open a number of options for the military use of outer space. This, however, in the judgement of these delegations, would run counter to the spirit of the Treaty, since its Preamble sets down that outer space should be used for peaceful purposes. Two delegations held that the arms control régime