

unsuitable for multilateral treatment. It then recalled its proposal for an agency for the processing and interpretation of space images, as a first phase of the international satellite monitoring agency (ISMA) proposed at SSOD-I, underlining that such an agency for the processing and interpretation of space images was not intended to be an embryo of a verification system of universal competence. It finally described the principle of non-interference with non-aggressive space activities as the basis for securing the legal immunity of satellites. The implementation of such a principle would, in the view of that delegation, require a strengthening of the 1975 Registration Convention as well as the elaboration of a space code of conduct. In order to manage the information on the characteristics of space objects, a computerized trajectography centre could be established to reconcile the constraints of confidentiality with the gathering of all the necessary information on satellites' trajectories. This centre would be the instrument of a confidence-building régime.

51. Another delegation pointed out that placing at the disposal of the international community the results of national satellite monitoring would be a major confidence-building and transparency measure in relations among States, a measure of international verification. In the view of that delegation the possible use of space monitoring would provide the international community with necessary information in the field of verification of the majority of multilateral agreements on confidence-building measures, limitation of armaments and disarmament, which were already in force or being elaborated, as well as for verification of compliance with the agreements on the settlement of regional conflicts and ending local wars. This delegation noted that at the first stage, in the course of the implementation of the tasks before space monitoring means, States possessing such means could provide the international community with the information within a 5-metre resolution limit or less. It was also declared that this State could agree to lift totally the limitations on the level of resolution of the information provided for the international community. This delegation further suggested to set up a group of experts, as proposed by another delegation (CD/OS/WP.30) and assign it the task of preparing a report on the perspectives of satellite monitoring to be submitted to the Conference on Disarmament.

52. Various other possible measures relating to the security of satellites were mentioned, such as multilateralizing the immunity provided for in certain