

Balanced reductions of military expenditures in a bilateral, regional or even worldwide context were also singled out as areas that could have considerable benefits. Necessary conditions for progress in these areas would be greater willingness to make information available and the need for adequate verification.

Mr. Pearson recalled that four-fifths of the \$400 billion spent on weapons each year is spent on so-called conventional weapons. The Committee on Disarmament should give more attention to this subject with the objective of achieving the same security at a lower level of armaments, introducing restraints on production as well as on transfers.

In the name of Canada Mr. Pearson referred to the unique example in the field of regional approaches to disarmament given to the rest of the international community by Latin American countries by means of the Tlatelolco Treaty and the Ayacucho Declaration. Another example he referred to was the confidence-building measures incorporated into the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Pending the production by the USA and the USSR of a joint initiative on a treaty on chemical weapons for submission to the Committee on Disarmament, Mr. Pearson repeated Canada's strong hope that when the Committee meets early in the new year, it will start work on areas where there is already a large measure of agreement, such as the scope of a future treaty.