

Throughout such negotiations we have consistently maintained that the best and, indeed, the only practicable way of ensuring that nuclear and thermonuclear weapons will never be used lies through comprehensive but gradual and phased disarmament, subject at each step to effective international supervision and verification. Under a broad programme for general disarmament, nuclear and thermonuclear weapons could be controlled and reduced in conjunction with other forms of armaments in a way which would not result in military advantage to one state or group of states. There must of course be parallel steps in reducing international tension and resolving international disputes, with a corresponding development of international institutions to maintain peace and security. In the view of the Canadian delegation, a declaratory measure such as the one proposed by the Soviet Union would serve to enhance merely the illusion rather than the substance of genuine peace and security throughout the world. In this forum we must deal in terms of meaningful, realistic and workable proposals to reduce and eliminate the danger of nuclear war. In the treaty for the prohibition of nuclear weapons in Latin America we have already considered such a proposal, while the negotiations on a non-proliferation treaty in Geneva also hold out hope for positive progress.