

technically feasible.

We also believe that non-nuclear signatories should have some parallel assurances from the nuclear powers against nuclear blackmail, and we hope this Assembly will be able to agree on appropriate measures. We hope that an equitable safeguards formula can soon be agreed upon which can be accepted by all interested parties. Such an article would do much to promote the extension of international safeguards on peaceful nuclear activities and strengthen the mechanics of nuclear arms control.

Secretary-General's Report on Nuclear Weapons

In the next two or three weeks we shall receive from the Secretary-General his report on nuclear weapons. Such a report -- the product of so much knowledge and experience -- must command our careful attention; it must command the careful attention of all people interested in the development of a rational and stable world order.

Conventional Arms Control

My Government endorses the right of all states to take whatever measures they deem necessary to ensure their self-defence, but we would urge the suppliers and the recipients of arms to exercise restraint in their sale and acquisition so that a serious imbalance of arms does not develop in any area where it might lead to the outbreak of fighting. The United States recently proposed the registration of arms shipments to the Middle East, for instance, and we think that this is a practical, constructive and forward-looking proposal to which this organization might well lend its good offices. We should hope that the principal arms suppliers to the area would give it serious consideration.

Anti-ballistic Missile System

I should now like to turn for a moment to a specific measure of arms control in which there was reason to hope that the nuclear powers might be expected to make progress in the near future. Some months ago, as we know, the United States proposed to the Soviet Union that they enter into discussions designed to limit offensive and defensive strategic nuclear weapons systems and in particular the deployment of anti-ballistic-missile systems. To date those talks, I gather, have not started, and we understand that the Soviet Union has not responded to United States efforts to get the talks under way. Meanwhile the Soviet Union has continued to develop the anti-missile defence of Moscow. The United States has recently announced its intention of going forward soon with a limited and light armament defence oriented against a potential Chinese nuclear threat foreseen for the early 1970s.

As the representative of a secondary power vitally concerned about nuclear arms control and disarmament, I must state that it seems unreasonable to expect progress in this direction if the nuclear weapon powers are not at least prepared to discuss limiting their own nuclear weapons. I therefore appeal to those powers to pursue their efforts to reach agreement on measures