

(Mr. Roth, Sweden)

In the view of the Swedish Government, the Conference on Disarmament is the proper forum to pursue this effort as it should be aiming at a universal and internationally verifiable treaty. Therefore the negotiations should have a multilateral character. The Conference on Disarmament is the sole multilateral negotiating forum on disarmament matters and also has the expertise to pursue such negotiations.

My delegation has endeavoured to contribute to negotiations on a CTB by submitting draft treaty texts; the latest text was submitted at the beginning of June this year and my delegation has no unfavourable comments on that draft proposal. My delegation intends to supplement our proposal with annexes, especially on the verification system. However, my delegation intends to consult further before finalizing the new draft annexes. In this way, we aim at taking into account, inter alia, the discussions and hearings held lately in the Ad Hoc Committee on a Nuclear Test Ban on non-seismic methods to be used in a verification system.

Mr. ERRERA (France) (translated from French): I asked for the floor on a specific point. In his statement just now, the representative of Mexico awarded France a number of tests, 210, I think, nuclear tests, if memory serves me aright. Everybody knows the legendary generosity of the Ambassador of Mexico and, indeed, our own too, but in this instance I think we have as usual to try and be modest, and I don't know if I should say I'm pleased or sorry to tell the most distinguished Ambassador of Mexico that the number of tests carried out by France is 192 and not 210.