

The mandate of the ad hoc committee both complements and accurately reflects the realities concerning the bilateral arms control negotiations already underway between the United States and the Soviet Union in Geneva. It neither undermines nor undercuts nor prejudices or in any way interferes with those negotiations and this fact is considered by Canada to be absolutely central to the successful process of both sets of deliberations.

In the past, Canada has taken an active role in general discussions within the CD on the outer space issue including the submission of working papers. Now, with the establishment of an ad hoc committee, which will permit a more selective focussing on the issue, Canada will reinforce its efforts and will participate actively and effectively. Our objective will be to foster consensus and an understanding of actions required with a view to preventing an arms race in outer space.