

(Mr. Vorontsov, USSR)

Upon the conclusion of the current round of negotiations, we intend, in keeping with the United Nations recommendations, to inform the Conference on Disarmament of the results. We are convinced that openness is bound to be one of the most powerful factors of movement towards a nuclear-free world too.

The results of Reykjavik have become the common heritage of all countries and peoples to whom it is of vital interest that nuclear weapons should be eliminated and that the arms race should not spread into outer space as well. The productive interaction of States both large and small is necessary as never before for the continued existence and progress of mankind.

The solution to the question of nuclear disarmament is inseparably linked with the prevention of an arms race in outer space. It would be unforgivable if, after being wrested from the nuclear nightmare, mankind was thrust into a laser/space nightmare. The time has come for active negotiations and practical work, rather than abstract discussion, on finding effective measures to prevent an arms race in outer space. The view is about here and there that the "serious" negotiations on this problem should be conducted, not in the meeting hall of this Conference, but rather on a bilateral basis, in the Soviet and American missions. We think otherwise. We are convinced that, in the matter of the prevention of an arms race in outer space, there is not and cannot be any division of the negotiations into "serious" and "unserious". We are in favour of being guided by the most serious approach to any negotiations on this crucial problem that has now arisen before mankind.

The Conference has good potential for businesslike and concrete discussion of the problem of preventing an arms race in outer space. This problem affects all States and is a case in which the Conference could not only become the generator of useful ideas, but also engage in concrete