

Treaty; (5) to work towards the objective of prohibiting the development, testing and deployment of all weapons for use in outer space; and (6) to participate actively in negotiations to limit and reduce conventional forces.

On the urgent nuclear issues, our objective is twofold: the inhibition of the development of new weapons systems and the reduction of nuclear arsenals designed to achieve a stable balance at lower levels. We are also considering making proposals for other international agreements which could help to restrict destabilizing qualitative developments in strategic technology.

We prefer to see concrete agreements rather than declaratory resolutions which promise restraint but, in effect, do not provide for the means to ensure that promises are kept. Verification is a commonly-agreed necessity if we are to make real progress in disarmament and arms control negotiations. Agreement for the establishment of international verification mechanisms is one of the clearest indications of real intentions. We have, therefore, assigned a high priority to research in this area.

On October 20, the Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Allan MacEachen, announced the establishment of an arms control and disarmament verification research programme based in the Department of External Affairs. Additional personnel resources will be focussed in this area. An initial amount of \$500,000 has been allocated for this programme. This amount will increase to \$1 million by next April.

This initiative has been undertaken in order to help in the creation of an atmosphere conducive to progress in disarmament. The verification programme will focus primarily on technical aspects and will build upon the greatly increased attention we have been devoting to verification recently. The Compendium of Arms Control Verification Proposals, which we submitted to the Committee on Disarmament in 1980 and which was updated in 1982, and the resultant quantification and conceptual studies are examples of our approach to the issues on a very practical and basic level. Canada has as well technical expertise - both in the private and public sectors - which can be applied in a number of areas including seismology, remote sensing, toxicology, communication satellites and chemical weapons detection, destruction and defence. We intend to marshal this