(Mr. Dubey, India)

I am going to devote what is going to be my final statement in the Conference on Disarmament, to the subject of the prevention of an arms race in outer space. This is a reflection of our deep concern and anxiety with what is happening in this field. I spoke at some length on the subject in the spring of 1984, highlighting the serious and far-reaching implications of the introduction of space-weapon systems, not only for the super-Powers, but also for the world as a whole, and particularly for the non-aligned and developing countries. I then underlined how time was running against us and how our failure to act decisively and swiftly would amount to our forfeiting forever the opportunity of preventing outer space from being the arena of conducting nuclear warfare. Today, more than a year after that warning, we still seem to be groping in uncertainty and hesitancy. Since the announcement of the "star wars" plan in March 1983, we have had three annual sessions of the Conference. During those three years, whereas on the one hand rapid progress has been made towards the introduction in outer space of new and by far the most formidable weapons systems, on the other hand, all efforts to come to grips with the serious consequences of those weapons have come

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