

were capable of accomplishing such a complex task as the prevention of an arms race in outer space. It was convinced that the in-depth examination of problem issues, collective experience and exchange of views would help to find common solutions leading to the elaboration of multilateral agreements. The delegations of other Socialist States expressed the view that these presentations created a good basis for practical and concrete work of the Committee.

18. One other delegation noted, however, that basic misunderstandings about the subjects in items 1 and 2 of the Ad Hoc Committee's work programme continue to exist. This delegation noted with concern that questionable definitions presented in the past during the work of the Committee have been inaccurate and non-representative. This delegation stated, furthermore, that much of the discussion on item 3 of the Committee's work programme seemed poorly prepared and reflected only rudimentary efforts to press into that area without having accumulated sufficient background and understanding.

19. Some delegations noted the 1987 UNIDIR study entitled "Disarmament: Problems Related To Outer Space", which had been prepared with the assistance of a group of qualified experts, representing various schools of thought, and submitted to the General Assembly, which noted that study in resolution 42/33. These delegations favoured extensive use of the findings of that study in the deliberations of the Ad Hoc Committee.

20. Many delegations recognized that the outer space legal régime played and continues to play a significant role for the prevention of an arms race in outer space. It is for this reason that many delegations stressed the need to consolidate and reinforce that régime and enhance its effectiveness and the importance of strict compliance with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral.

21. Many delegations noted the USSR/US statement at the December 1987 summit that their bilateral delegations in Geneva be instructed "to work out an agreement that would commit the sides to observe the ABM Treaty, as signed in 1972, while conducting their research, development and testing as required, which are permitted by the ABM Treaty, and not to withdraw from the ABM Treaty for a specified period of time". Delegations of Socialist States also noted that this statement was reaffirmed in the June 1988 summit.

22. One delegation pointed out that for several years one major space power has had serious concerns about non-compliance of one of the parties to the ABM Treaty. It noted that in particular, the construction of a large phased-array radar (LPAR) near Krasnoyarsk, because of its location and orientation, constitutes a significant violation of a central element of the ABM Treaty. It continued that although the latter party to the ABM Treaty has sought to convey the impression that it is addressing these concerns, it has not taken the necessary actions to resolve them. This delegation further stated that the existence of the Krasnoyarsk radar calls into question the continued viability of the ABM Treaty. It noted that unless this violation is resolved, one major space power will be forced to consider the exercise of its rights under international law to take appropriate and proportionate responses. It also noted that the radars at Thule and Fylingdales Moor are not violations of the ABM Treaty. It further stated that these two radar installations already existed when the ABM Treaty was signed in 1972 and that modernization of these installations is allowed by the Treaty.