

(The President)

... The Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Movement, while welcoming the conclusion of the Chemical Weapons Convention, gave priority to negotiations and other items on the agenda of the Conference on Disarmament, such as a nuclear test ban, the cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament, the prevention of nuclear wars, security assurances for non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space. They emphasized the need to reinvigorate multilateral disarmament endeavours and, in this context, they called for broader and more active participation by non-aligned countries in the Conference on Disarmament.

(The President)

... The historic developments which we have recently witnessed with respect to the nuclear test ban are highly encouraging and welcome. They are a source of hope for us. I would like in this connection to congratulate the Governments of the United States, France and the Russian Federation for their decision to extend their voluntary nuclear testing moratoria and for their support for the early commencement of negotiations on a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty. I also wish in this respect to express Egypt's full satisfaction at the adoption by the Conference on Disarmament, at the last meeting on 10 August held under the chairmanship of the Ambassador of Cuba, of a decision calling upon the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Nuclear Test Ban to conduct consultations during the inter-sessional period, that is from 3 September next to 17 January 1994, on the specific mandate for, and the organization of the negotiations for a CTBT. We hope that these consultations will yield positive results. Here I wish to pay tribute to Ambassador Tanaka of Japan, who has shown remarkable foresight in choosing to dedicate much of this year's time in the Ad Hoc Committee on a Nuclear Test Ban to expert presentations on the various aspects of verification of a CTBT. These presentations have helped us all to understand the benefits and drawbacks of each specific verification technique, be it seismic or non-seismic. We are now in a much better position to embark on an active negotiating process in the Ad Hoc Committee in accordance with operative paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 47/76.