

Finally a word about procedure. My Delegation feels that it will be necessary to provide a forum for further work on the settlement of disputes. Since this subject is left to the Plenary Session of the Conference I would suggest that one approach would be to establish a Working Group of the Plenary to continue negotiation upon this subject once it has been properly debated in this forum. I would also suggest that this group be open-ended, but I would hope, Mr. President, that you would use your good offices to ensure that this Working Group was broadly representative of the Conference. Canada would, of course, be prepared to participate in the work of the Group.

In conclusion, Mr. President, my Delegation is prepared to work with other delegations for the resolution of difficult problems concerning the compulsory settlement of disputes now before the Conference. We do so in the belief that a realistic, comprehensive and viable system of compulsory disputes settlement is vital not only for the long-term utility of the text which we are negotiating but also for the promotion of the rule of law in the international affairs and hence the shaping of a peaceful world.