

loophole, the prescribed partial test ban treaty amendment procedure, to pursue an objective which they have been unable to achieve directly.

A partial test ban treaty amendment conference, instead of focusing on ongoing efforts where real prospects for real progress exists, runs the risk of wasting both time and resources. To some, it represents an irresponsible misuse of multilateral arms control and disarmament mechanisms. Its failure could undermine the confidence in the multilateral ACD process itself.¹⁵

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¹⁵ *Commons Debates*, 16 February 1990, p. 8477.