

(Mr. Andersson, Sweden)

As things have evolved, the first test will be the negotiations on an INF accord. Such an agreement would be highly significant, both in a European context and as a first step towards nuclear disarmament. It would also facilitate solutions to some crucial issues in disarmament negotiations generally, not least on verification. But at the same time, we are facing distinct dangers of a renewed arms race, threatening to undo what has so far been achieved in arms control.

There would be little point in eliminating one category of weapons only to transfer the arms race to other areas. The security and stability that new technologies are said to offer is accomplished far more simply, far less expensively and far less dangerously by mutual arms reductions. This, I am convinced, applies for instance to the field of space weapons. The net result in terms of security and stability is dubious, to say the least. It is

equally valid in the continuing development of naval forces. The Swedish Government is closely watching the naval military build-up and especially its consequences in northern Europe. Naval developments are a cause for concern not only in our part of the world. This is a problem of global dimensions.

(Mr. Friedersdorf, United States)

With regard to the agenda item on outer space arms control, under the effective leadership of Ambassador Pugliese of Italy the Committee continued its examination of the difficult issues entrusted to it. Our delegation

believes that the Committee has not entirely exhausted its work. And our delegation has not been persuaded that a need exists to change the terms under which the Committee could continue its work.