

II. Treaty Content

A. Preamble

The provisions of the preamble are important to provide information as to the general mind frame and objectives of the parties at the time of treaty negotiation. The preamble is often used to interpret the spirit and intent of the drafters. The preamble could:

- recognize the common interest of mankind in the exploration, use and exploitation of space;
- recall and recognize that outer space is to be used for peaceful purposes;
- reaffirm the desire to avert an arms race in outer space and to explore and utilize outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, for peaceful purposes;
- underline the States Parties desire to prevent an arms race in outer space and to lessen the danger to mankind of the threat of nuclear war;
- recall previous Resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly calling for the prevention of an arms race in outer space;
- recall and recognize the stabilizing role played by space activities in the pursuit of international peace and security;
- recall the Limited Test Ban Treaty of 1963, the Outer Space Treaty of 1967, the Registration Convention of 1975, the Moon Treaty of 1979;
- recognize the desire to contribute to the general realization of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;
- recognize the desire to promote international cooperation and exchange scientific and technical information in the field of space activities for purposes not prohibited under this treaty. Such a statement would address the intrinsic dual-nature of space technology;
- recognize the significant changes in the structure and content of world space activity as reflected in the increasing number of participants in space activities at all levels.

B. Purpose

To prevent the weaponization of outer space; to prevent a new round in the arms race; to maintain space for peaceful uses for the benefit of all mankind.

C. Basic obligation

Prohibit the testing, deployment or use of any space-based weapon for the destruction of objects on the earth, in the atmosphere or in outer space.

D. Definitions

Weapon: 'any device or component of a system designed to inflict physical harm through deposition of mass and/or energy on any other object'.

This article shall not be interpreted to mean that the testing, deployment or use of other damage causing devices are approved but simply as a statement that no provision is contained in this article regarding those other damage causing devices.