

Since it is impossible to distinguish between the technology required for nuclear explosions for military and for peaceful purposes, we consider that the countries not possessing nuclear weapons should give up the right to conduct nuclear explosions for any purpose whatsoever. Such action on their part would of course have to be subject to an undertaking to establish a service under international supervision which would make available at a fair cost nuclear explosive services for legitimate civil projects whenever such explosions become technically and economically feasible, and provided they are consistent with test ban treaty obligations. This would ensure that the benefits of controlled nuclear explosions would be generally available at minimum cost without incurring the drastic political and military consequences of the further national development of nuclear bombs.

We feel that it may be necessary to give security assurances to non-aligned countries, over and above the general terms of the UN Charter. In this way, perhaps, any disadvantages of their accession to a non-proliferation treaty could be offset. Whether these assurances are to be provided within the context of a non-proliferation treaty or in some other way will mostly depend on the views of the countries concerned. We should therefore be most interested to hear the views of non-aligned members on the merits of the various alternatives which have been proposed, as well as any other ideas which they themselves may advance.

We believe that as now revised draft resolution A/C.1/L.368 on the renunciation of actions hampering the conclusion of the agreement on non-proliferation should contribute to establishing a favourable atmosphere for the negotiations which will be taking place here, in Geneva and elsewhere and help expedite them. It was for this reason we decided to associate ourselves with the resolution as a co-sponsor.