

(Mr. Taylhardat, Venezuela)

keeping in mind what the distinguished representative of Yugoslavia, Ambassador Vidas, said in his statement last week when he expressed the view that the Ad Hoc Committee dealing with item 5 could continue working under the current mandate. My delegation is among those which consider that the work of the Conference on Disarmament does not depend on the mandate allocated to a subsidiary body but rather on the programme of work adopted. The Ad Hoc Committee on item 5 has very fruitful substantive work to carry out given an appropriate work programme. In our view, the activities of the Ad Hoc Committee next year should be directed at identifying the aspects where there is a need to complete the existing legal order so as to give the international community an appropriate set of rules designed to prevent an arms race in outer space and to establish a general prohibition of the development, testing, production and stationing of space weapons.

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(Mr. Tellalov, Bulgaria)

The Ad Hoc Committee on item 5 has completed its substantive work on the examination and identification of issues relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space. All delegations have confirmed their adherence to this goal and expressed readiness to contribute to its accomplishment. Many delegations, including those of the Socialist countries, have pointed out that such a willingness should be substantiated with a view to an early solution of this problem. They have also pointed to recent developments which threaten to extend the arms race to outer space.