

It follows from this that, even if we establish a respectable consensus on how the problems just mentioned are to be solved or approached, we should make it clear that the disarmament dialogue should continue, pending the holding of the hoped-for world conference. I have mentioned some of the measures intended to slow down, if not halt, the arms race, and reduce international tension. These measures are before this Committee and the ENDC, a negotiating body which, even though it does not include some important nations, is representative of the membership of the United Nations. Given certain changes in the policies of the great powers in regard to the measures I have mentioned, changes which are by no means impossible, agreement could be reached on these measures. It would be highly encouraging for a World Disarmament Conference if it could open with some further "collateral" agreements having been attained. Therefore, the Canadian Delegation holds the view very strongly indeed that, whatever the decision on a world conference, the disarmament negotiations in this forum and in the ENDC must continue, at least until the world conference is held.

We have touched on a rather wide range of subjects, as we consider it necessary to do, in opening the discussion on disarmament in this Committee. We reserve the right to speak again, as appropriate, when the Committee comes to consider more closely the several disarmament items on our agenda.



... Canada hopes that the People's Republic of China will be invited to take part in the discussions." (A/PV.1335, Pages 48-50).

To repeat, what we have to do in considering this proposal for a World Disarmament Conference is to think through clearly what we hope it will accomplish -- not setting our sights too high -- and make it clear what we think its agenda should be. It would be in the highest degree irresponsible if we should allow ourselves to be deluded by the idea that, as the United Nations and the ENDC have failed to make any progress since the Moscow Treaty and other partial measures of 1963, there is nothing to do now but pass a resolution calling for a World Disarmament Conference, and think nothing more need be done about disarmament until that Conference is held.