

BASIC POSITIONS OF DIFFERENT GROUPS

1. What are the major disarmament interests of:
 - the United States?
 - the Soviet Union?
 - the non-aligned nations?
 - the developing nations?
 - the states with nuclear weapons?
 - the states generally regarded as on the threshold of nuclear weapons?
 - the non-nuclear weapon states?

2. Do states in the same geographic region (e.g. the Caribbean, South-East Asia) have common disarmament interests?
 - Do they have more in common because of geographic proximity than for other reasons?
 - Is regional disarmament a practical policy?
 - Is disarmament more likely to succeed in some regions than in others?

3. Does Europe have a special place in disarmament negotiations?
 - Why have negotiations for Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions (MBFR) dragged on with so little evidence of success?

4. What common disarmament interests can be found between the different groups of nations?
 - How can these be translated into practical steps and international agreements?
 - Are there insuperable obstacles (such as ideological beliefs, economic development) to disarmament agreements between these groups?

5. Should greater attention be paid to confidence building measures?

6. Is it a good thing for United Nations meetings to operate on the basis of negotiations between groups of nations?
 - Is there an alternative?