

Weapons ban. This is a vital issue, one where constructive proposals have been made, and where there should be no insurmountable obstacle to early agreement. We will continue to participate in the search for effective means of ensuring that outer space is used only for peaceful purposes. Canada actively continues to seek a comprehensive nuclear test ban as a fundamental arms control objective. The Secretary of State for External Affairs told the General Assembly September 24 that a nuclear test ban is an objective toward which concrete steps can and should be taken now. We believe that what is needed for effective results is to begin work immediately, working step by step, without preconditions toward a lasting, mutually acceptable and verifiable CTB. Progress toward the limiting and ending of all testing is essential.

High on Canada's list of priorities is the need to strengthen still further the nuclear non-proliferation regime: to guard against the spread of nuclear weapons technology -- and to limit in every way possible the chance of accidental nuclear weapons disaster. Encouraged as we were by the reaffirmation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty at the 1985 review conference, we are conscious of the need for nuclear weapon states to implement Article VI on the cessation of the arms race.

In the long and complex struggle for peace, two issues, above all others, stand out: disarmament and development. While it is true that these two great goals require a peaceful atmosphere for their achievement, progress must be made in each to establish the conditions for peace. That is why the forthcoming United Nations International Conference on the Relationship Between Disarmament and Development is so important. The participating nations in the preparatory process have already agreed that disarmament and development, which are distinct processes in themselves, should be vigorously pursued because they both strengthen peace and security and promote prosperity. An international "Panel of Eminent Personalities" have advised the conference that the current levels and trends in global military expenditures "stand in sombre contrast to the state of the world economy." Canada is heartened by the substantive progress made at the Third Preparatory Meeting last June and believes the main conference should be held in July of 1987 in New York.

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