

The PRESIDENT (translated from French): We are moving painfully in the right direction. The representative of France, then the representative of the United Kingdom have asked to the floor; I now give it to Ambassador Errera.

Mr. ERRERA (France) (translated from French): We too are very keenly aware of the fact that, while recognizing the difficulties experienced by a number of delegations that are well known to us, we need here to have a minimum conveying the tone of reality - I do not even say an exact image, but at least the tone of reality. I am not certain that a wording saying, in black and white, "... noted the absence of consensus ..." is a happy wording, because it is negative. What we wish to see is a minimum position, yes, but at least a positive position. That being the case, we could not accept such a wording and we would not regard it as a good thing, either for the Conference or for the goal we are attempting to achieve. That is why we consider that the proposal made by Mr. Calderón is a good one, that is, we would begin by expressing and noting a fact and then continue by expressing this widely felt hope. For the same reasons, we could not accept Ambassador Kamal's formula whereby we would say that the members of the CD are in agreement to transmit the draft convention to the General Assembly for consideration. In short, it is with considerable reluctance, for the reasons which we have set forth at length, particularly last week - it is late and I will not repeat them - that we could, while very much regretting it, go along with a minimum wording, provided that it is positive rather than negative.

Sir Michael WESTON (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland): Earlier, as you know, I expressed a preference for Ambassador Kamal's formulation rather than Ambassador Ledogar's. Well, again, I'm afraid, in this case I would express a preference for Mr. Calderón's formulation rather than Ambassador Ledogar's, and I would ask Ambassador Kamal whether he would not consider this formulation, which seems to me to represent the facts very clearly indeed. The word "positions" is used very carefully and the formulation is the same as in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee, "Despite the positions expressed by some delegations", and then, as we have it, "hope was widely expressed". I would ask Ambassador Kamal's views on that please.

The PRESIDENT (translated from French): From the trend in the debate I conclude that the positions are moving more towards Mr. Calderón's proposal than towards the others that have been put forward. The representative of Nigeria was asking for the floor; I give it him.

Mr. AZIKIWE (Nigeria): Mr. President, you just expressed the opinion that my delegation was about to put forward. We find the proposal by Dr. Calderón of Peru acceptable to my delegation.

The PRESIDENT (translated from French): Thank you, Mr. Azikiwe. I did not intend to make a value judgement. I simply noted that a movement was emerging in favour of Mr Calderón's proposal. I give the floor to Mr. Kamal.

Mr. KAMAL (Pakistan): I would like to repeat what I said earlier. I can go along with Ambassador Ledogar's formulation, which is: "While consensus could not be achieved, hope was expressed", etc., etc. I can give an