

(Mr. Rose, German Democratic Republic)

In Working Paper CD/WP.100/Rev.1 on the improved and effective functioning of the Conference which was elaborated by a group of seven, including the representatives of Argentina, China, France, Hungary, the Soviet Union, the United States and Yugoslavia in their personal capacities, and which the Conference took note of last year, the view is expressed that the Conference should decide the future of subsidiary bodies, including their chairmanship, in the process during which their reports are adopted. This would allow the subsidiary bodies to start substantive work from the very beginning of the Conference's sessions. Prolonged procedural discussions could, therefore, be avoided.

That is the reason why the socialist countries put forward their suggestion to include in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space for its 1985 session a recommendation concerning the chairmanship of that Committee in 1986. We consider this as a normal practice for which precedents do already exist.

With all this in mind, and in conformity with the principle of rotation, the socialist countries gave their consent to include in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons the recommendation for the candidature put forward by the Group of Western Countries in connection with the chairmanship of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons for next year.

We assume that the same principle will be applied to the chairmanship of the Ad Hoc Committee on Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space. In that regard the Group of Socialist Countries wishes to inform the Conference that Ambassador L. Bayart of Mongolia will be its candidate for the chairmanship of that Committee for the 1986 session, as reflected in document CD/641.