

(Mr. Butler, Australia)

The objective of preventing an arms race in outer space appears to be shared universally, although there is some disagreement about how this can best be achieved and who should bear the primary responsibility for achieving it.

My delegation acknowledges the significant responsibility of the two super-Powers in this field. As the distinguished Ambassador of Japan has pointed out, progress in their bilateral negotiations has a critical impact on our discussions in this Conference. But we are also firmly convinced that the international community, through the multilateral disarmament machinery, must play a role in assisting in the fulfillment of this urgent task, not least because outer space is not and will not be used exclusively by the two super-Powers.

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