

The Canadian Delegation also considers it significant that the nuclear powers - including the two most powerful nations in the world - have agreed not only on the terms of a draft treaty but also to render immediate assistance, in accordance with the Charter, in the event of a threat to the security of those countries which renounce the possession of nuclear armaments. Surely this in itself is one of the most encouraging international developments in many years. It represents a great step forward in the pursuit of durable world peace.

As its second main purpose, the proposed Treaty will serve as an initial but essential step toward the control and reduction of existing stocks of nuclear weapons. It has been suggested by some that the undertakings on the part of the nuclear powers to proceed with nuclear disarmament are insufficiently precise. Yet it is to be noted that the nuclear powers who sign this treaty make a firm declaration of intent to work for nuclear disarmament. Moreover, the review and withdrawal procedures in the draft text provide means for the non-nuclear parties to exert influence on the nuclear parties to live up to that declaration.

The race to produce nuclear armaments must be stopped; eventually these weapons must be eliminated. On this the nations here assembled are agreed.

It has been argued that we should be more likely to halt the arms race if the states not having nuclear weapons were to refuse to become party to a Non-Proliferation Treaty unless it included a clause under which the nuclear powers would commit themselves to cut off further production of fissile material,