international seismic data exchange. In working towards the objective of a comprehensive test ban I hope that the exchange can be implemented at an early date and that Canada will be a full participant from the beginning.

You have also heard about the contributions Canada has made on the difficult issues surrounding the verification of a ban on chemical weapons.

There is another subject on which Canadian expertise could be applied: arms control and outer space. Canada played an important role in the negotiations leading to the Outer Space Treaty of 1967. We have a continuing interest in developments on this issue because of our geographic location and our extensive involvement in communications satellites. The subject of arms control and outer space is now before the Committee on Disarmament in Geneva and I hope that Canada can assist in reaching a verifiable agreement in that body.

While problems of verification vary according to weapons system, there is an enormous need for increased understanding of the importance of arms control and disarmament agreements being verifiable and of the growing costs of verification. It is for this reason that Canadian research, intended orginally for Canadian use, has been made available in a series of papers during the past two years to the multilateral negotiating body in Geneva. It is also the reason why the government has continued to follow closely the proposal for an international satellite monitoring agency, put forward by France at the time of UNSSOD I. Its purpose would be to monitor compliance with the provisions of arms control and disarmament agreements. Although tremendously costly, it could be a significant step in the development of international verification mechanisms. Our support in principle is tempered by the recognition that the co-operation and involvement of the two superpowers, which now have such a capability, would be a prerequisite for the successful implementation of the proposal. Since it would be designed for monitoring multilateral agreements, it could be argued that the proposal should be closely related to the successful negotiation of further agreements.

Disarmament and development

I want now to turn to the question of the relationship between disarmament and development — a subject you have been covering and on which Canadian expertise exists. This relationship has been the subject of the most ambitous of the several UN disarmament studies since UNSSOD I and will figure prominently at UNSSOD II. Because disarmament and development are both priorities of Canadian foreign policy, it would be appropriate to examine ways, including technical assistance in areas of Canadian expertise, such as seismology and protective measures against chemical warfare, in which both objectives may be furthered. Perhaps research in development could be broadened in some instances to promote both disarmament and development.

Research and public information activities form a relatively new part of Canadian