

The First Committee will doubtless consider the Italian draft declaration, as a possible way to move towards non-dissemination agreements should it prove that the production of an effective treaty is likely to be long delayed.

We have noted with interest recent efforts of African and Latin American countries to contribute to a solution of the problem of nuclear proliferation by examining the feasibility of establishing nuclear-free zones in their respective regions. We welcome these efforts. Canada holds the view that arrangements for nuclear-free zones can be useful in limiting the spread of nuclear weapons provided they take account of the following principles: (a) any proposal for a nuclear-free zone should be acceptable to all the countries of the geographical area in which the zone would be located; (b) it should provide for arrangements for verifying that the commitment undertaken are carried out; and (c) it should be consistent with the generally accepted principle that no disarmament measure should create a unilateral advantage for any state or group of states. It is our sincere hope that we shall, before long, see effective nuclear-free zones established, in areas where these principles apply.

The non-nuclear and non-aligned nations, through their representatives on the ENDC, have called for an agreement on non-proliferation to be accompanied by steps to halt the arms race and reduce nuclear armaments. The Canadian delegation believes that this appeal is just and reasonable, and that some clear connection should be established between agreement by the non-nuclear powers not to acquire nuclear weapons, and action by the nuclear powers to embark on a specific series of measures leading towards disarmament. What steps could the nuclear powers take? It is encouraging to note that the United Kingdom has already taken a first step. As Lord Chalfont recalled in the ENDC, HMG announced two years ago the end of their production of U 235 for military purposes, and that they were beginning to stop production of military plutonium. The United Nations and the ENDC have had before them for a long time the United States' proposal to halt the production of fissionable material for weapons purposes, and to start making a reduction in the stocks held by the two major nuclear powers. There is also the proposal, placed before the ENDC in January 1964, and since renewed, to call a halt to the production of long-range nuclear weapon vehicles--rockets and aircraft--and the development of new types. This could lead the way to balanced reductions of these fear-inspiring types of armaments. The Soviet Union has called for the destruction of bombing aircraft in its