

(Mr. Yamada, Japan)

On agenda item 5, Prevention of an arms race in outer space, my delegation urges the United States and the Soviet Union to make early progress in their negotiations on defence and space. At the same time, we believe that efforts should continue in this Conference to examine fully what kind of multilateral agreements would be useful to prevent an arms race in outer space, a domain which is open to all and can affect the security of each of us. This examination should be based not on an abstract, generalized approach but on an accurate understanding of how outer space is being used in many areas.

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(Mr. Dolgu, Romania)

But, as disarmament and the building of international security concern all peoples, no one could deny the right and the duty of all States, regardless of their political and military status and military might, to participate actively in the entire negotiating process in the field of disarmament. As was emphasized in this very room by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, His Excellency Dr. Mokhtar Kusuma-Atmadja, it is inadmissible that the vast majority of the States of the world should remain on the sidelines of effective negotiations on problems of universal interest such as nuclear disarmament or the prevention of an arms race in space.

This situation must be rectified through joint efforts, leading to a broadening of the agenda of international negotiating forums, and in particular the Conference on Disarmament as the sole United Nations negotiating forum. The United Nations must take on a focal role in the process of disarmament, in the negotiation of agreements on nuclear

disarmament, the use of space for purely peaceful purposes, the other aspects of disarmament and verification of the implementation of and compliance with the agreements that have been reached. Although the Conference on Disarmament has, in our view, played a useful role, we are still far from attaining this objective, and because of the position of certain States there are subjects of vital importance that are still taboo.