This provision would fill the lacunae left by Article IV of the Outer Space Treaty, and extend existing prohibitions on the stationing and testing in Earth orbit or beyond to all weapons.

The Memorandum also specified that space systems which contribute to arms control verification and the maintenance of international security should not be banned. Thus the use of reconnaissance, surveillance and communications satellites were not prohibited.

The memorandum also supported the development of proposals to establish a basis for the use of technical means of multilateral verification, and the creation of the International Satellite Monitoring Agency (ISMA) as proposed by France in 1978.⁴¹

Peru and Venezuela also made proposals to the CD on amending the Outer Space Treaty. 42

The Venezuelan proposal first advocated amending Article IV of the Outer Space Treaty by adding the words "or any type of space weapons". It also proposed the insertion of a new paragraph under which State Parties would undertake not to develop, produce, store or use space weapons. It was also suggested (1) that the ban on the deployment of nuclear weapons or any weapons of mass destruction in space be extended to "...any other kind of weapon that could be conceived for use in space, from space or into space", and that (2) there be an amendment calling on States "...not to place in orbit around the earth, or deploy in their territories or any other place under their jurisdiction, any kind of space weapons or systems of such weapons.⁴³

The Peruvian delegation suggested a wider ban and advocated the negotiation of an additional Protocol for the purpose of prohibiting the development, production, storage and deployment of ASAT weapon-systems which are not stationed in outer space.⁴⁴

On the issue of verification of a total ban on space weapons, the Venezuelan delegation proposed that there be a Protocol setting forth appropriate verification mechanisms to supplement Article IX and XII of the Outer Space Treaty, and on the issue of Earth-based space weapons, it proposed a mechanism that "...could benefit from the techniques and methods applicable to long-range and intermediate-range nuclear forces".

These proposals clearly differentiated themselves from previous proposals in that they attempt to cover development, production, storage and use of space weapons. They also address different application modes of space weapons: space-to-space, space-to-Earth and Earth-to-space.

While all of these proposals have found some support within the CD, they have not been further pursued.

⁴¹ "Note verbale dated 30 May 1978 from the Permanent Mission of France addressed to the Secretariat," Official Records of the General Assembly, A/S-10/AC.1/7, 1 June 1978.

⁴² For Peru, see "Proposal for Amendment of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and other Celestial Bodies," CD/939, 28 July 1989. For Venezuela, see "Statement submitted by Venezuela to the Conference on Disarmament", CD/PV 398, 19 March 1987.

⁴³ CD/PV 471, at 24.

⁴⁴ CD/939, at 2.