

objects provided by their users and calculate trajectories in order to warn users in case of potential incidents. This could serve as elements in evidence of good faith if incidents occurred. To illustrate both the prospects offered by such a project and the constraints which it would face, that delegation analysed the techniques for determining and extrapolating satellite orbits; it described the natural and other disturbances which need to be taken into account. It concluded that each type of space mission had specific needs in orbitography, and that international co-operation in this field would strengthen the security of space activities.

57. Many delegations welcomed the presence of an increased number of legal, scientific and technical experts introduced by delegations from all Groups and noted with satisfaction the contribution they made in increasing the understanding of a number of problems and of respective positions. Several delegations considered that such presentations contained ideas and proposals for methods that could be of some use for the various confidence-building measures or measures to prevent an arms race in outer space put forward in the Committee. In this context, many delegations continued to support the establishment of a group of governmental experts to provide technical expertise and guidance in the consideration of issues before the Ad Hoc Committee.

58. One delegation stated that each member of the Conference on Disarmament has the right to use experts to make presentations to appropriate bodies of the CD. Despite the educational value of the presentations made this year the delegation cannot envisage that CD members would be able to agree upon a group of experts that would be thoroughly objective as political elements would invariably skew expert deliberations. This State concludes that the Conference is not the proper parent for such offspring.

59. One delegation stressed the importance of co-operative measures in the use of outer space. In the view of this delegation substantial possibilities of co-operation also exist in the military field. It recalled the idea of international monitoring agencies or independent satellite observation systems advanced by a number of Governments. It considered that the competence of such a system or agency could cover the monitoring of arms control arrangements, collecting information and data on sensitive areas as well as supporting United Nations peace-keeping efforts. In the view of that delegation it would be of the utmost importance if the two most-advanced outer space Powers, in co-operative with others who expressed their interest, could