

conceptual basis of verification, bearing in mind that much will depend on the type of arms control and disarmament to be verified.¹⁰

Turning to work in progress on the UN's role in verification, Mr. Bild welcomed the fact that the Group of Experts had accepted the sixteen verification principles agreed to by consensus at the UN Disarmament Commission in May 1988, as the foundation of its work. He went on to state:

As one might well expect, the exact nature of our recommendations cannot be determined at this early stage. But progress so far has been good, and I remain optimistic that we shall produce a report that is technically competent, politically realistic and one which will strengthen the multilateral arms control process and the United Nations itself.¹¹

PARLIAMENTARY COMMENT

The subject of verification was not raised in the Commons this year.

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¹⁰ Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations at Geneva, "Statement by Mr. Fred Bild, Assistant Deputy Minister for Political and Military Affairs Department of External Affairs, Canada before the Conference on Disarmament," 20 June 1989, pp. 3-4.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 4.