

(Mr. Datcu, Romania)

Notwithstanding the far-reaching scope of this goal, announced in the Soviet-United States statement of 8 January 1985 here in Geneva, we believe that it is necessary -- as an expression of the desire to reach appropriate agreements -- to halt immediately the production and deployment of new nuclear weapons and to refrain from any action aimed at the militarization of outer space. To continue to deploy nuclear weapons and stockpile new means of mass destruction under the cover of negotiations would, in fact, be tantamount to an attempt to appease public opinion in order to continue the policy of armament.

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(Mr. Datcu, Romania)

We also support the proposals for the establishment of subsidiary bodies with a view to beginning negotiations on the cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament and the prevention of an arms race in outer space. Under the present circumstances, to begin multilateral negotiations on these questions in the Geneva Conference on Disarmament, represents a true and unavoidable test of credibility.

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(Mr. Lechuga Hevia, Cuba)

Every day we are witnesses to the fact that the arms race is constantly being spurred on anew, thus absorbing vast resources. The most widely mentioned, and latest, example is the United States programme for the militarization of outer space, which has been rejected by the majority of the international community as well as by eminent sectors within the United States itself, because it opens a dark chapter in the policy of seeking military superiority and negotiating from a position of strength.

Billions of dollars spent on this and other projects will further add to the spiral of senseless expenditures in a world in which millions of human beings are dying for lack of food or proper medical care, and this must be repeated over and over again, because this poignant reality cannot be left out of the great debate of our time.