

While encouragement of cooperation in the peaceful uses of space may need to be a long-term goal, in the meanwhile India and Pakistan should continue to be asked to abide by MTCR guidelines regarding space launch vehicles. Accepting the guidelines may be an easier path to pursue than accepting the notion that the MTCR is "non discriminatory," if what Indian commentators have said is representative of the view of the Government as a whole. For example, A.P. Venkateswaran has argued that it is the payload, not the delivery system that is destabilizing. "If a global ban on the development, testing, manufacture and deployment of nuclear weapons applicable to all nations is achieved, a separate treaty on carriers. . . would be unnecessary. Then the fangs have been removed, no cobra is deadly."⁴⁵

A key factor during a period in which regional relations are at a low ebb is the development of both official and unofficial exchanges and visits to and from interested countries. Indian and Pakistani experts and policy-makers should be invited to official conferences and workshops on a variety of topics by international organizations. Discussion with representatives of countries which have achieved nuclear and missile capability rollback, for example, Argentina, Brazil, and South Africa, could offer opportunities to learn many lessons.⁴⁶

Experts from India and Pakistan should also be encouraged to meet with each other, with no international involvement. Efforts to force practical results from these meetings should be avoided; at this point in their troubled relationship, India and Pakistan need to exchange views and ideas as much as official pieces of paper. Ultimately, however, the best exchange would be a summit between the leaders of the two countries.

Implementation of CBMs/CSBMs

South Asia's problems must be addressed and resolved, first of all, by the South Asians. India and Pakistan need to be encouraged to take more initiative in proposing, negotiating, and implementing, step-by-step CBMs/CSBMs--however modest to the outside world--which provide meaningful solutions to their regional issues, ultimately they must accept and act upon the measures. The two countries should also be encouraged to take

⁴⁵ "Remarks on Ballistic Missile 'Proliferation.' A. P. Venkateswaran, Indian Centre for Policy Research. Undated white paper.

⁴⁶ It was recently reported that Brazil and India signed a treaty involving the use of radioactive thorium as a nuclear fuel. Brazil has the largest reserves of thorium in the world, but the mineral is not used in the country. The two nations also signed other pacts covering commercial cooperation, a common agenda on environment, and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and science and technology.