

my delegation would seriously question just what expenditures would be frozen, because certain countries divulge very little about their military budgets. However, in the spirit of the Romanian proposal, my delegation firmly supports that part of the proposal from the neutral and non-aligned states that calls for greater openness in military expenditures. If we can achieve such openness and go on to identify common criteria, then I would hope and trust that the next step could be to freeze budgets as proposed by Romania and then to keep moving towards actual reductions. But first openness, then criteria, then freeze, then reduce. I fully respect the Romanian delegation's sense of urgency in wishing to move two steps at a time. What would be difficult to understand, Mr. Chairman, would be if any delegation were at one and the same time to support a freeze or reduction of expenditure and oppose the idea of greater openness.