

studying the issues involved in such a ban, the Committee should also study existing treaties and international law relating to outer space along with any proposals concerning the issue. During 1986 the CD re-established the Ad Hoc Committee to continue its examination of issues related to the prevention of an arms race in outer space. The 1986 mandate has been continually re-established ever since.

In April 1988 the Ad Hoc Committee presented a special report to the CD, concluding that "the legal régime applicable to outer space by itself does not guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space." The report also recognized the need to consolidate and reinforce the legal régime in order to enhance its effectiveness. Finally, it called for strict compliance with existing multilateral and bilateral agreements.¹

In 1982, at the Second UN Special Session on Disarmament (UNSSOD II), Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau outlined Canada's official stand on the increasing militarization of outer space. He pointed out the "highly destabilizing" loopholes in the Outer Space Treaty, particularly those regarding "anti-satellite weapons or anti-missile laser systems":

I believe that we cannot wait much longer if we are to be successful in foreclosing the prospect of space wars. I propose, therefore, that an early start be made on a treaty to prohibit the development, testing and deployment of all weapons for use in space.²

In 1982, as a contribution to the necessary preparation for substantive negotiations, Canada tabled a working paper in the CD outlining the factors of stable and unstable deterrence, desirable objectives for arms control, the increasing importance of space for military purposes and the present state of arms control in space. The paper also illustrated the relationship of anti-satellite systems to ballistic missile defence.³ The following year, Canada initiated a national research programme on the problems for verification which were likely to arise from the possible dual nature of many space systems.

In 1985 the Canadian delegation at the CD tabled a working paper entitled "Survey of International Law Relevant to Arms Control and Outer Space at the CD."⁴ This review of existing relevant agreements was considered essential to ensure that the CD worked in conformity with existing treaties and international law.

Since the beginning of the 1980s, Canada has been conducting a research project on verification called "PAXSAT A," studying the feasibility of developing a system of satellites capable of verifying arms control agreements in outer space. "PAXSAT A" involves space-to-space remote sensing, with satellites used to identify the purpose and

¹ Special Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, CD/833, 25 April 1988.

² Rt. Hon. P. E. Trudeau, "Technological Momentum the Fuel That Feeds the Nuclear Arms Race: An Address...to the Second United Nations Special Session on Disarmament, New York, June 18, 1982," *DEA Statements and Speeches* No. 82/10, p. 5.

³ CD/320, 26 August 1982.

⁴ CD/618, CD/OS/WP.6, 23 July 1985.