

(Mr. Alessi, Italy)

In these circumstances, insistence on the insertion of one word rather than another in a mandate becomes incomprehensible. If it is desired to reach agreements, there is only one way of going about it: engaging in a dialogue. My delegation takes the liberty of appealing once more to the reason and moderation of all so that such a dialogue may commence in this crucial field.

(Mr. Rose, German Democratic Republic)

In view of the unrestrained territorial extension of the arms race by the United States Administration, the worries concerning the fate of outer space have been growing. My delegation dealt with that matter in the plenary during the spring session. Today we would just like to refer to the fact that the last session of the United Nations General Assembly, with only one vote against, adopted resolution 38/70 on the prevention of an arms race in outer space and demanded negotiations on a corresponding treaty with high priority. Time is pressing, much is at stake. The militarization of space would not only mean a quantitative increase of highly sophisticated weapon systems, but it would also undermine existing treaties and generally impede the verification of any future agreements on disarmament. In this way, the arms race would get completely out of control.

Our Conference should immediately set about the elaboration of an agreement. The draft treaty of the Soviet Union, to which the aforementioned resolution 38/70 refers, constitutes a solid basis. This draft does not only identify the relevant matters, but it also offers suggestions for their solution.