

(Mr. Morel, France)

Mr. MOREL (France) (translated from French): Thank you, Mr. President. I should like to inform the Conference that my delegation intends to take the floor at the next meeting of the Ad hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, on Tuesday 30 June, on item 2 of its agenda, namely legal issues. With the assistance of experts in space questions who have come from Paris on this occasion, we should like to deal more specifically with questions of definition and terminology which, as the Conference knows, have occupied the attention of our Committee for several years.

In specifically tackling terminological and lexicological problems in the area of space matters and considering the technical constraints related thereto, we wish to derive some pointers regarding useful methods for all matters related to the definition of activities in space. In our view, one may conclude that, rather than proceeding from categories defined a priori, in a theoretical, abstract manner, we should follow a pragmatic approach on the basis of actual data which we know are continuously changing. I might add that on this occasion we shall be pleased to provide each delegation with a copy of a dictionary of space studies which has recently been published by the French National Centre for Space Studies.