

It was, accordingly, with considerable satisfaction that my delegation learned that China and France had adhered to Protocol II of the Treaty of Tlateloco. There remains only one nuclear state that has not done so. We are also watching with sympathetic interest the efforts of the *ad hoc* committee on the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace.

Briefly then, it cannot be denied that there have been some encouraging developments in the area of arms control and disarmament. But we are not satisfied with them: how can we be satisfied until the tide is turned and the level of armaments is in a general state of decrease? It is important that this committee not approach its work in a state of discouragement. We must attempt rather, with clear heads, to determine where the real obstacles lie, to identify those areas where progress can be achieved, and to remain prepared to seize upon promising circumstances as they arise.

Let us consider the CCD in this manner. I have made it abundantly clear that my delegation shares the disappointment of others that this body has made no progress in resolving the issues at present before it. That the CCD as constituted can be productive when the right circumstances exist is amply demonstrated by the PTB, the NPT and the Biological Weapons Treaty. Nevertheless, some delegations have concluded that the reason for the current lack of progress in the CCD is that the machinery is at fault and that a thorough overhauling would transform the CCD into a more productive body. My delegation is perfectly willing to consider, on their merits, any proposals for increasing the efficiency of the CCD's work. But we are under no illusions that minor changes related to the size or organization will add fundamentally to the Committee's effectiveness. It is not that adequate machinery is lacking; what is lacking is a readiness on the part of the major military powers to make use of existing machinery at this particular time, whether to deal with the issues that are already under consideration or to introduce new ones. My delegation would be warmly receptive, however, to suggestions that could lead to the active participation in arms-control and disarmament negotiations by France and China, since it is clear that, without the participation of all the nuclear powers, the effectiveness of any negotiating forum in bringing about arms-control measures that can be adhered to by all states is bound to be restricted severely.

The same considerations guide my delegation's views on the holding of a world disarmament conference -- or, for that matter, the convening of a United Nations disarmament conference.

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