

In short, an agreement to end nuclear weapons tests would be a first clear proof that the many declarations by the great powers that they want to end the arms race are not mere words, but will result in real and effective action.

I have reviewed so far the weighty reasons in favour of putting a stop to nuclear tests. In my opinion these factors, taken together, should convince every rational man that the need for a solution is urgent. It remains, however, to devise practical means for achieving this goal. In recent months several suggestions have been made which, my Delegation believes, should be endorsed by this Assembly.

In the first place, we strongly support the proposal put forward in the 18 Nation Committee for an early cut-off date by which all testing would be ended: January 1, 1963, or, we would hope, earlier. The acceptance by this Assembly of a target date should provide added incentive to speedily resolve the remaining differences.

Second, Canada endorses the proposal for an immediate ban on all testing in the atmosphere, outer space, and underwater. Such a proposal is common to the draft treaties advanced by both sides, and an agreement would be a substantial step in the direction of a comprehensive ban. It would greatly reduce or even remove the health hazard resulting from nuclear testing. Moreover, differences over inspection do not constitute a barrier to agreement in this field.

Third, my Delegation wishes to underline the importance we attach to the contribution of the eight unaligned nations represented at the Geneva negotiations in putting forward compromise proposals on a verification system. The Canadian Delegation has taken the stand at the 18 Nation Conference -- and we reaffirm it now -- that the eight nation proposals provide a sound basis for an agreement satisfactory to all concerned. A system based on existing national networks of