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Agenda item 59

PREVENTION OF AN ARMS RACE IN OUTER SPACE

China: draft resolutionPrevention of an arms race in outer spaceThe General Assembly,

Reaffirming that outer space is the common heritage of mankind, and that the peaceful exploration and **use** of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, as a **comon** aspiration of all countries in the world, shall be carried **out** **for** the benefit and **in** the interests **of** all countries, and shall be the province of all mankind,

Recalling the principles and objectives of the 1967 Treaty **on** Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration **and** Use of **Outer** Space, including the *Moon* and Other Celestial Bodies, **1/** and in particular articles **III** and IV thereof,

Further recalling paragraph 80 of the Final Document **of** the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly **2/** and its relevant resolutions since 1981,

Especially bearing in mind its resolution 42/33 of 30 November 1987,

Convinced that the development of space weapons **en**tails a qualitative escalation of the already **serious arms race** and poses a new threat to international

1/ Resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.

2/ Resolution S-1012.

peace and stability, and that to prevent the **arms race** in outer space has consequently become a new priority in the field of disarmament,

Believing that the prohibition of space weapons constitutes an effective **means** to prevent the **arms race** in outer space,

Fully taking note of the urgent demand of the international community that immediate and effective measures be taken to prevent an arms race in outer space,

Affirming the need to consolidate and reinforce the legal **régime** applicable to outer space and **recognizing** that this legal **régime**, as such, is not sufficient to guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Also recognizes that with a view to achieving the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space, measures **may** be considered in the following aspects, **simultaneously or separately**:

(a) Completely prohibit all types of space weapons, including anti-missile weapons and anti-satellite weapons, so as to **realize** the "**non-weaponization**" of outer space,

(b) Prohibit the use or threat of force and any other hostile actions or threat of such actions within outer space, against outer space from **the** Earth or from outer space against the Earth,

Believing that the two States with the largest space capabilities bear a special responsibility for the prevention of an **arms race** in outer space,

Taking note of the consideration of the question by the Conference on Disarmament, 3/

Welcoming the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an **Arms Race** in Outer Space by the Conference on **Disarmament** during its 1988 session,

Noting with regret that the Ad Hoc Committee so far has not been able to start negotiations on an international agreement for the prevention of an arms race in **outer space**,

1. Calls upon all States, especially those with space capabilities, to contribute actively to the realisation of the objective of peaceful use of **outer space** and to adopt prompt and effective measures to prevent an arms race in **outer space**:

2. Requests the Conference on Disarmament, the single multilateral disarmament negotiating body, to speed up the consideration of the **question of** preventing an **arms race** in outer space in all its aspects **as a matter of priority** and urgency, taking into account all the relevant draft resolutions and proposals;;

3/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/43/27), sect. III.E.

3. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to re-establish immediately an ad hoc committee on the prevention of an arms race in outer space with an adequate mandate at the outset of its 1989 session, with a view to initiating negotiations for concluding an international agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prohibition and destruction of all space weapons and on the prohibition of the use of force or hostile actions in, to or from outer space;

4. Uraes the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, the two ma'or space Powers currently engaged in the development of space weapons, to refrain from developing, testing, producing and deploying space weapons, to destroy all their existing space wearons, to conduct serious bilateral negotiations on the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to keep the Conference on Disarmament properly informed of the progress of these negotiations:

5. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Conference on Disarmament all the documents relating to the consideration of this item by the General Assembly at its forty-third session;

6. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to submit areport on its consideration of this subject to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session:

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in ouler space".