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### PREVENTION OF AN ARMS RACE IN OUTER SPACE

#### Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Dimitris PLATIS (Greece)

#### I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space" was included in the provisional agenda of the forty-fourth session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 43/70 of 7 December 1988.
2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1989, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.
3. At its 2nd meeting, on 13 October, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on the disarmament items allocated to it, namely, items 49 to 69 and 151. The deliberations on those items took place between the 3rd and 25th meetings, from 16 October to 1 November (see A/C.1/44/PV.3-25). Consideration of and action on draft resolutions on those items took place between its 26th and 41st meetings, from 2 to 17 November (see A/C.1/44/PV.26-41).
4. In connection with item 58, the First Committee had before it the following documents:
  - (a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament; 1/

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/44/27).

(b) Letter dated 17 February 1989 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/44/134);

(c) Letter dated 13 April 1989 from the Permanent Representative of the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the texts of the communiqué, the declaration and the appeal issued by the Committee of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty at its session held at Berlin on 11 and 12 April 1989 (A/44/228);

(d) Letter dated 22 May 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the Final Statement of the Palme Commission on Disarmament and Security Issues, issued at Stockholm on 14 April 1989 (A/44/293-S/20653);

(e) Letter dated 24 May 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the Appeal of the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty to the Member States of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (A/44/295);

(f) Letter dated 9 June 1989 from the Permanent Representatives of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the Declaration issued on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the launching of the Six-Nation Initiative (A/44/318-S/20689);

(g) Letter dated 23 June 1989 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/44/347-S/20702);

(h) Letter dated 11 July 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the communiqué of the Meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty, held at Bucharest on 7 and 8 July 1989 (A/44/386);

(i) Letter dated 19 July 1989 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Zimbabwe to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the final documents of the Ministerial Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Harare from 17 to 19 May 1989 (A/44/409-S/20743 and Corr.1 and 2);

(j) Letter dated 22 September 1989 from the Permanent Representative of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the texts of the final documents of the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989 (A/44/551-S/20870).

## II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

### A. Draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.10

5. On 30 October 1989, Bangladesh, Brazil, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Venezuela and Yugoslavia submitted a draft resolution entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space" (A/C.1/44/L.10), which was later also sponsored by Argentina, Cameroon, the German Democratic Republic, Ireland, Myanmar, Romania and Viet Nam. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Egypt at the 40th meeting, on 17 November.

6. At the same meeting, on 17 November, the Committee voted on draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.10, as follows:

(a) The eleventh preambular paragraph was adopted by a recorded vote of 119 to 1, with 13 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

(b) The eighteenth preambular paragraph was adopted by a recorded vote of 117 to 1, with 13 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

(c) Operative paragraph 1 was adopted by a recorded vote of 119 to 1, with 13 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama,

Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

(d) Operative paragraph 3 was adopted by a recorded vote of 119 to 1, with 13 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

(e) Operative paragraph 8 was adopted by a recorded vote of 118 to 1, with 13 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

(f) Draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.10, as a whole, was adopted by a recorded vote of 132 to 1 (see para. 13). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique,

Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: None.

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.16

7. On 30 October, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics submitted a draft resolution entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space" (A/C.1/44/L.16), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its relevant resolutions and the applicable provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 2/

"Taking into account the discussions that took place at the fifteenth special session of the General Assembly, the third special session devoted to disarmament,

"Recalling the provisions of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, 3/

"Reaffirming that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, and shall be the province of all mankind,

"Considering that there is a need to unite the efforts of the whole international community to draw up an 'open space' régime and to develop and intensify comprehensive co-operation for the peaceful exploitation of outer

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2/ Resolution S-10/2.

3/ Resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.

space, which would be facilitated by substantive consideration by the international community of the proposals put forward by various countries,

"Emphasizing the crucial significance of confidence-building measures, openness and transparency relating to space activities for the development of international co-operation in the peaceful exploitation of outer space and the strengthening of international security,

"Noting the significance of preventing an arms race in outer space for ensuring strategic stability and lasting international security in conditions in which the process of real nuclear disarmament has begun,

"Emphasizing the paramount importance of compliance with the relevant agreements in the field of disarmament relating to outer space, including the 1972 Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems <sup>4/</sup> and the whole existing system of international law relating to the use of outer space,

"Emphasizing also the need to ensure strict verification of compliance with obligations with respect to the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and of creating for these purposes a system of international verification to preserve peace in outer space,

"Noting the growing understanding of the need to draw up an international code of conduct for States in outer space,

"Noting further the progress made towards the deepening of mutual understanding in the bilateral negotiations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America on a complex of questions relating to nuclear and space weapons,

"Desiring that the negotiations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America should lead as soon as possible to tangible results and should stimulate multilateral consideration of questions relating to the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

"1. Recalls the obligation of all States, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, to refrain from the threat or use of force in general and in relation to outer space;

"2. Calls upon all States, especially those with major space capabilities, to comply strictly with existing legal agreements, both multilateral and bilateral, including the 1972 Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems, aimed at preventing an arms race in outer space;

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<sup>4/</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 944, No. 13446.



"3. Emphasizes that concrete measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space should be taken by the international community;

"4. Calls upon all States conducting space activities to be guided by the principles of openness and transparency and to promote the establishment and strengthening of an atmosphere of mutual trust;

"5. Reiterates that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the primary role in the consideration of questions concerning the conclusion of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

"6. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to re-establish an ad hoc committee on the prevention of an arms race in outer space at the beginning of its 1990 session with a view to giving substantive consideration to the whole set of questions concerning the prevention of an arms race in outer space, paying particular attention to the discussion of proposals submitted by States on the establishment of international verification mechanisms to preserve peace in outer space and on the utilization of space-based means of observation to ensure compliance with international obligations with respect to disarmament and the maintenance of international security;

"7. Calls upon all States to make a constructive contribution to the work of the ad hoc committee;

"8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled 'Prevention of an arms race in outer space'."

8. At the request of the sponsors, no action was taken on draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.16.

C. Draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.19

9. On 30 October, Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland submitted a draft resolution entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space" (A/C.1/44/L.19), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its relevant resolutions and the applicable provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 5/

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5/ Resolution S-10/2.

"Recognizing the common interest of all mankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

"Reaffirming that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, and that outer space shall be the province of all mankind,

"Recalling that the States Parties to the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, 6/ have undertaken, in article III, to carry on activities in the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations, in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international co-operation and understanding,

"Reaffirming, in particular, article IV of the above-mentioned Treaty, which stipulates that States parties to the Treaty undertake not to place in orbit around the Earth any objects carrying nuclear weapons or any other kinds of weapons of mass destruction, install such weapons on celestial bodies, or station such weapons in outer space in any other manner,

"Recognizing the significant role that the legal régime applicable to outer space plays in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, and further recognizing however that the legal régime by itself does not guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that there is need to consolidate and reinforce that régime and to enhance its effectiveness and that it is important to comply strictly with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral,

"Noting the significant increase in international confidence and trust that would result from greater openness and transparency in activities carried out in outer space,

"Convinced that further efforts should be made in the search for effective and verifiable agreements on the interrelated questions of preventing an arms race in outer space and terminating it on Earth,

"Noting with satisfaction that bilateral negotiations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America have continued since 1985 on a complex of questions concerning space and nuclear arms, both strategic and intermediate-range, with the declared objective, endorsed in the joint statement of their leaders on 21 November 1985, of working out effective agreements aimed, inter alia, at preventing an arms race in outer space,

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6/ Resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.

"Recognizing that significant progress in the multilateral domain is dependent upon basic understandings achieved by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America in their bilateral negotiations,

"Recalling the obligation of all States, in accordance with Article 2, paragraph 4, of the Charter, to refrain from the threat or use of force, including in the area of outer space, as well as the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter,

"1. Welcomes the re-establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space during the 1989 session of the Conference on Disarmament, the single multilateral negotiating forum;

"2. Considers that it is necessary to continue and to further the examination and identification of the subjects covered by the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee and specified in its programme of work;

"3. Urges all States to take into account the importance of greater openness and transparency in their space activities;

"4. Emphasizes that multilateral efforts related to outer space and aimed at advancing the cause of disarmament, peace, stability and international trust should be supportive of the efforts in the bilateral negotiations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to prevent an arms race in outer space and to eliminate it on Earth;

"5. Recognizes the further significant contribution that the ongoing negotiations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America could make to maintaining international peace and security;

"6. Strongly urges the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to continue to pursue intensively their bilateral negotiations in search of effective and verifiable agreements aimed at preventing an arms race in outer space and terminating it on Earth, at drastically reducing nuclear arms and at strengthening international stability;

"7. Calls upon all States to make every effort to encourage an early and successful outcome to these negotiations;

"8. Emphasizes the necessity of preventing the erosion of relevant existing treaties and in this context reaffirms the vital importance of a rigorous observation of the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems; 7/

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7/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 944, No. 13446.

"9. Urges the Conference on Disarmament to continue its work in the area of the prevention of an arms race in outer space."

10. At the request of the sponsors, no action was taken on draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.19.

D. Draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.28

11. On 30 October, China submitted a draft resolution entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space" (A/C.1/44/L.28), which read as follows:

"The 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 common 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, 8/ and in particular articles III and IV thereof,

"Recalling also paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly 9/ and its relevant resolutions since 1981,

"Especially bearing in mind its resolution 43/70 of 7 December 1988,

"Convinced that the development of space weapons entails a qualitative escalation of the already serious arms race and poses a new threat to international peace and stability, and that to prevent an 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 an 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,

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8/ Resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.

9/ Resolution S-10/2.

"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,

"Recognizing that, with a view to achieving the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space, measures may be considered in the following areas, simultaneously or separately:

"(a) The complete prohibition of all types of space weapons including anti-missile weapons and anti-satellite weapons, so as to realize the 'non-weaponization' of outer space;

"(b) The prohibition of 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,

"Noting the bilateral negotiations on questions concerning space and nuclear arms between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America that have continued since 1985, and hoping that positive results will emerge from these negotiations as soon as possible,

"Emphasizing the mutually complementary nature of bilateral and multilateral efforts in the field of preventing an arms race in outer space,

"Taking note of the consideration of the question by the Conference on Disarmament, 10/

"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 1989 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 refrain, in their activities relating to outer space, from actions contrary to the observance of the relevant existing treaties or to the objective of preventing an arms race in outer space, and calls upon them to contribute actively to the realization of the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and to adopt prompt and effective measures to prevent an arms race in outer space;

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10/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/44/27), sect. III.E.

"2. Urges the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, the two major 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 weapons, 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;

"3. Requests the Conference on Disarmament, the single multilateral disarmament negotiating body, to accelerate 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;

"4. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to re-establish immediately the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space with an adequate mandate at the outset of its 1990 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;

"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-fourth session;

"6. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to submit a report in its consideration of this subject to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session;

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

12. At the request of the sponsor, no action was taken on draft resolution A/C.1/44/L.28.

### III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

13. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

#### Prevention of an arms race in outer space

The General Assembly,

Inspired by the great prospects opening up before mankind as a result of man's entry into outer space,

Recognizing the common interest of all mankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Reaffirming that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development, and shall be the province of all mankind,

Reaffirming also the will of all States that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes,

Recalling the obligation of all States, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, to refrain from the threat or use of force, including in their space activities,

Recalling that the States parties to the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies 11/ have undertaken, in article III, to carry on activities in the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations, in the interests of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international co-operation and understanding,

Reaffirming, in particular, article IV of the above-mentioned Treaty, which stipulates that States parties to the Treaty undertake not to place in orbit around the Earth any objects carrying nuclear weapons or any other kinds of weapons of mass destruction, install such weapons on celestial bodies or station such weapons in outer space in any other manner,

Reaffirming also paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 12/ in which it is stated that in order to prevent an arms race in outer space further measures should be taken and appropriate international negotiations held in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty,

Noting its resolutions 36/97 C and 36/99 of 9 December 1981, as well as resolutions 37/83 of 9 December 1982, 37/99 D of 13 December 1982, 38/70 of 15 December 1983, 39/59 of 12 December 1984, 40/87 of 12 December 1985, 41/53 of 3 December 1986, 42/33 of 30 November 1987 and 43/70 of 7 December 1988 and the relevant paragraphs of the Declaration adopted by the Ninth Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989, 13/

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11/ Resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.

12/ Resolution S-10/2.

13/ See A/44/551-S/20870, annex.

Recognizing the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and the readiness of all States to contribute to that common objective,

Gravely concerned at the danger posed to all mankind by an arms race in outer space and, in particular, by developments that could further undermine international peace and security and retard the pursuit of general and complete disarmament,

Encouraged by the widespread interest expressed by Member States in the course of negotiations on and following the adoption of the above-mentioned Treaty in ensuring that the exploration and use of outer space should be for peaceful purposes, and taking note of proposals submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session and at its regular sessions and to the Conference on Disarmament,

Noting the grave concern expressed by the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at the extension of an arms race into outer space and the recommendations 14/ made to the competent organs of the United Nations, in particular the General Assembly, and also to the Committee on Disarmament, 15/

Noting also that in 1989 the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, taking into account its previous efforts since its establishment, undertook the examination and identification of various issues, existing agreements and existing proposals, as well as future initiatives relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space, 16/ and that this contributed to a better understanding of a number of problems and to a clearer perception of the various positions,

Convinced that additional measures should be examined in the search for effective and verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to prevent an arms race in outer space,

Emphasizing the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space, and with the existing legal régime concerning the use of outer space,

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14/ See Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Vienna, 9-21 August 1982 (A/CONF.101/10 and Corr.1 and 2), para. 426.

15/ The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

16/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/44/27), para. 90.



Emphasizing also the necessity of maintaining the effectiveness of relevant existing treaties, and in this context reaffirming the vital importance of a strict compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems, 17/

Recognizing that bilateral negotiations between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics could facilitate the multilateral negotiations for the prevention of an arms race in outer space in accordance with paragraph 27 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,

Noting the importance in this context of bilateral negotiations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America that have continued since 1985, including at their summit meetings in Washington, D.C. and Moscow on a complex of questions concerning space and nuclear arms,

Hopeful that concrete results would emerge from these negotiations as soon as possible,

Emphasizing the mutually complementary nature of bilateral and multilateral efforts in the field of preventing an arms race in outer space,

Taking note of that part of the report of the Conference on Disarmament relating to this question, 18/

Welcoming the re-establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space during the 1989 session of the Conference on Disarmament, in the exercise of the negotiating responsibilities of this sole multilateral negotiating body on disarmament, to continue to examine and to identify, through substantive and general consideration, issues relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

1. Reaffirms that general and complete disarmament under effective international control warrants that outer space shall be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and that it shall not become an arena for an arms race;

2. Recognizes, as stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Conference on Disarmament, that the legal régime applicable to outer space by itself does not guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that this legal régime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, the need to consolidate and reinforce that régime and

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17/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 944, No. 13466.

18/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/44/27), sect. III.E.

enhance its effectiveness, and the importance of strict compliance with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral; <sup>19/</sup>

3. Emphasizes that further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space should be adopted by the international community;

4. Calls upon all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and to take immediate measures to prevent an arms race in outer space in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international co-operation and understanding;

5. Reiterates that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

6. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to consider as a matter of priority the question of preventing an arms race in outer space;

7. Also requests the Conference on Disarmament to intensify its consideration of the question of the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects, taking into account relevant proposals and initiatives, including those presented in the Ad Hoc Committee at the 1989 session of the Conference and at the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly;

8. Further requests the Conference on Disarmament to re-establish an ad hoc committee with an adequate mandate at the beginning of its 1990 session, with a view to undertaking negotiations for the conclusion of an agreement or agreements, as appropriate, to prevent an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

9. Urges the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to pursue intensively their bilateral negotiations in a constructive spirit aimed at reaching early agreement for preventing an arms race in outer space, and to advise the Conference on Disarmament periodically of the progress of their bilateral sessions so as to facilitate its work;

10. Calls upon all States, especially those with major space capabilities, to refrain, in their activities relating to outer space, from actions contrary to the observance of the relevant existing treaties or to the objective of preventing an arms race in outer space;

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<sup>19/</sup> Ibid., para. 90 (para. 77 of the quoted text).

11. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the question of the prevention of an arms race in outer space, 20/ submitted in accordance with resolution 42/33 of 30 November 1987;

12. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to report on its consideration of this subject to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session;

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

14. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space".

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