

early achievement of the cessation of nuclear arms race.

But while our general support of the treaty can be expected, my delegation would also speak of certain political realities which cannot be eliminated or overcome by treaty signing. The world has already witnessed, and with disastrous consequences, the harmful effects of a reliance upon treaties which ignore or endeavour to conceal major political issues and genuine concerns of certain countries. It is hard to believe that the fears that have been expressed by some countries so far are baseless.

In this regard my delegation is particularly concerned lest some country or countries not find in this accord the degree of security that a significant non-nuclear power must possess if it is to refrain from developing nuclear weapons itself. If the adoption of this treaty is championed by some primarily to prevent a country from assuming its rightful place in the international community then the final result might be disastrous for all.

The Government of Lesotho is also sympathetic towards the reservations expressed by some countries whose potential to develop nuclear weapons is undisputed but which have adopted a policy of self-denial. And for this reason a clear and unequivocal undertaking on the part of the main power states to guarantee such non-nuclear states against nuclear attack had been considered a necessary condition by my delegation if this treaty is to offer more than token security. However, an insurance agreement dependent upon the concurrence of the Security Council is subject to the veto power, offers little practical hope of immediate assistance in the event of hostilities. Hence the fears and doubts of all countries must not be glossed over, but fully considered.

We must point with alarm to areas fraught with the immediate danger of hostilities escalating into a nuclear confrontation of world-wide dimensions - areas in which the involved countries are

regarded . . .