

a) sampling, preservation of samples, packaging, labeling, guaranteeing of sample integrity, transportation, and storing in laboratories before sample preparation for analysis;

b) preparation of samples for analysis: adsorbents in sampling kits, environmental matrices (e.g. soil, water, air, vegetation), materials (e.g. concrete, rubber, paint, activated carbon in respirator canisters, protective clothing), munitions fragments, industry samples, biological samples, or other types of samples;

c) analytical methods for each technique including use and calibration of instruments, collection of data, quality control;

31. Other technical support information, e.g. records of agreed instruments and their specifications, should also be included in the knowledge base.

32. The Technical Secretariat shall establish and maintain, for the use of any requesting State Party, a data bank containing freely available information concerning various means of protection against chemical weapons, as well as such information as may be provided by States Parties.

33. The analytical data base would be part of the information processing system established and operated by the Technical Secretariat; it would be a subset of a much larger data base which needs to be specified. The contents of the larger data base should be selected to help the Technical Secretariat perform its verification functions which are dynamic. In this context, data bases would be evolving with time; consequently, it would be difficult, if not counterproductive, to try specifying their contents, a priori.

34. A more productive approach would be to identify the information processing requirements for an optimal implementation of the verification functions of the CWC. From this point of view, the data submitted to the Technical Secretariat by each State Party would be one of the inputs to the information processing system; these data, which would form the reported data set, would consist of the initial declarations and the recurring annual declarations. The reported data set may consist of a number of subsets such as site and product data. Another input would be the data collected by the Technical Secretariat using inspectors and instruments. Yet another set would be the analytical reference data.

35. These data would form the collected data set, which may contain similar or different types of data from those of the reported data set. The collected data could be viewed as measurements performed at times different from those of the reported data. The function of the information processing system would be to process these two data sets, in order to generate output data which would contain the necessary and sufficient information to allow evaluation of compliance with the CWC.

36. Posing the problem in the context of information processing would allow technical experts to identify a system architecture