

Report of the Chairman of the Open-ended Consultations
of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons

1. In accordance with the terms of reference outlined by the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons in document CD/CW/WP.98 dated 27 February 1985, the Open-ended Consultations considered the question of the prohibition of the use of chemical weapons and the question of herbicides.
2. It was agreed at the first Open-ended Consultations in spring that within the terms of reference, the Open-ended Consultations would deal with the following four elements:
 - (a) the prohibition of the use of chemical weapons;
 - (b) the link of the prohibition of the use of chemical weapons to the 1925 Geneva Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare;
 - (c) the prohibition of the use of herbicides as a method of warfare;
 - (d) the verification of the prohibition of the use of chemical weapons and of the prohibition of the use of herbicides as a method of warfare.
3. As reported in document CD/CW/WP.107 dated 22 April 1985, in the spring session of the Conference on Disarmament the Open-ended Consultations dealt with the first two elements, i.e. the prohibition of the use of chemical weapons and the link of the prohibition of the use of chemical weapons to the 1925 Geneva Protocol. A convergence of views has emerged from the consultations on a set of provisions dealing with the two elements as contained in the Annex of document CD/CW/WP.107, which in the view of the Chairman constitutes a basis for consensus to be reached after further consultations.
4. In the second part of the session, the Open-ended Consultations considered the two remaining elements, i.e. the question of the prohibition of the use of herbicides as a method of warfare and the question of verification of the use of chemical weapons and of the prohibition of the use of herbicides.
5. Seven meetings of the Open-ended Consultations were held from 18 June to 5 August 1985.