

ARTICLE XI

ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

1. The provisions of this Convention shall be implemented in a manner which avoids, as far as possible, hampering the economic or technological development of Parties to the Convention and international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention including the international exchange of scientific and technical information and chemicals and equipment for the production, processing or use of chemicals for purposes not prohibited under the Convention.

2. The States Parties to this Convention, subject to its provisions, shall:

(a) have the right, individually or collectively, to conduct research with, to develop, produce, acquire, retain, transfer, and use chemicals;

(b) undertake to facilitate, and have the right to participate in, the fullest possible exchange of chemicals, equipment and scientific and technical information relating to the development and application of chemistry for purposes not prohibited by this Convention;

(c) not impose among themselves any restrictions [on a discriminatory basis] which would impede development and promotion of scientific and technological knowledge in the field of chemistry for purposes not prohibited under the Convention.

[(d) undertake to withdraw all existing discriminatory restrictions in the chemical field applied to States Parties as soon as the Convention enters into force.] ^{1/}

[(d) undertake to review the existing national regulations in the field of trade in chemicals in order to render them consistent with the object and purposes of this Convention.]

This provision shall be without prejudice to the generally recognized principles and applicable rules of international law concerning chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention including those concerning proprietary rights and environmental or health protection.

^{1/} Some delegations hold the view that exceptions should be made for existing restrictions required by States Parties to prevent the proliferation of chemical weapons, to advance other objectives of the Convention, or for other important national foreign policy objectives.