

(Mr. Morris, Australia)

... I have the honour to make the following statement on behalf of a group of Western countries.

... The end of the cold war has brought with it greatly enhanced opportunities for organizations which are committed to the promotion of global peace and stability - both governmental and non-governmental - to move closer towards their common goals. Here in the Conference on Disarmament there are opportunities to be seized. The negotiations for a chemical weapons convention being conducted in the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons is a particular and indeed pressing case in point. An effective convention can be concluded this year, and this is a major challenge for us here in Geneva.

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11

Mr. BAGBENI (Zaire) (translated from French):

... The new world which is being built is intended to be a world of peace and security which will be marked by enhanced international cooperation while safeguarding the sovereign equality of States but without the threat of the use of nuclear, conventional or chemical weapons or ideological confrontation.

CD/PV.615

12

(Mr. Bagbeni, Zaire)

... The present Conference on Disarmament has a very rich and very varied agenda. It enables each of our delegations to assess the progress made on each of the items on it in order to envisage more dynamic prospects regarding items on which real progress has been made as far as negotiation is concerned. To that end, my delegation considers that the multilateral convention on the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and their destruction, which was, moreover, the subject of the Paris Conference, from 7 to 11 January 1989, has been unanimously welcomed by the member States and that it would therefore be appropriate for this convention to enjoy accession by all the States members of the Conference on Disarmament so that an arsenal is finally removed from the list of weapons of mass destruction constituted by chemical weapons. To