

(Mr. Ekéus, Sweden)

Finally, as the 1987 session of the Conference is coming to its close, I would like to express to you our gratitude for your leadership during the month of August. Your presidency has been characterized by a high professional standard. The effective, rational and devoted way in which you have approached your task has, to no small degree, helped us all to conclude our work this year with success.

The PRESIDENT (translated from French): I thank the Chairman of the Ad hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons for introducing its report, which will be presented to the Conference for adoption at our plenary meeting tomorrow, and I thank him for his kind words.

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(Mr. Ekéus, Sweden)

We believe that at this advanced stage of negotiations on Chemical Weapons we should do our best to maintain the momentum by means of full and intensive use of the time available. I can assure you that the delegations of our group will be present in Geneva on 23 November 1987 and ready to start further work on the convention under the chairmanship of Ambassador Ekéus.

In concluding I would like once again to thank the Chairman of the Ad hoc Committee, Ambassador Ekéus, for his strenuous efforts and able chairmanship during the whole session, and for his efforts at the stage of discussion and adoption of the report which brought us finally to the adoption of the report.

Our thanks go likewise to the cluster co-ordinators, Mr. Krutson, Mr. Macho and Mr. Muevunyuva, for their patient, hard work and the skilled manner in which they have performed their duties. Let me also thank the secretariat and the interpreters for their valuable assistance and contribution to the work of the Committee. And with your kind permission and through you, Mr. President, let me thank wholeheartedly the distinguished Ambassador García Robles, the distinguished Ambassador Rolf Ekéus who spoke today, and you, Mr. President, and other colleagues for the very kind, generous words and good wishes addressed to me on the occasion of my leaving the Conference. On my part I wish them and all of you all success in your