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Destruction, diversion, dismantling and conversion

1. Each State Party to this Convention should undertake to:
 - (a) destroy or divert for permitted purposes its stocks of chemical weapons;
 - (b) destroy or dismantle its means of production of chemical weapons.
2. Means of production of chemical weapons could be converted temporarily, before final destruction or dismantling, for the purpose of destroying stocks of such weapons. The destruction, diversion and dismantling stipulated in this Element should be completed within ten years after the Convention has entered into force or a State Party, which has to fulfil these provisions, has adhered to it.
3. Matters concerning procedures, including notifications, in connection with what is stipulated in this Element would be set forth in Annex III.

Comments

- Some delegations expressed their objection in principle to the implied possibility of conversion/diversion. They could, however, accept the term "conversion" provided it was only temporary conversion of means of production of chemical weapons for the purpose of destroying stocks of such weapons.
- Some delegations felt that destruction of stocks of chemical weapons should not take as long as 10 years. They thought, however, that if destruction must take so long, the stocks of chemical weapons should in the interim period be kept under international supervision.
- Some delegations suggested that appropriate forms of international co-operation should be envisaged in order to facilitate the implementation of provisions related to the destruction of stocks of chemical weapons for all States Parties.
- Some delegations felt that stocks of chemical weapons belonging to a State Party could be transferred for destruction purposes to another State Party and destroyed there.