

(Mr. Kamal, Pakistan)

we, therefore, see no necessity for such an observer, we see no objection either to his presence, provided this is with the permission of the inspected State, and on agreed terms relating to access.

A formula for the composition of the executive council has evaded our collective endeavours. We would like to record here our appreciation for the efforts that Ambassador Tóth has expended in elaborating various elements and in identifying possible solutions. As the convention is a security treaty, the executive council has to be constituted in such a manner as to safeguard the interests of all States parties through an equitable and proportional system of representation. In overall size, the temptation to expand the number of its members to unwieldy proportions would impact adversely on its efficiency, and therefore has to be firmly resisted. We feel that the membership should be based essentially on the standard United Nations geographical criterion, with some weighting for States which have special economic or political and security interests in the implementation of the convention. This formulation is more than adequate to ensure the representation of those countries with highly developed chemical industries, as well as those with a pronounced regional interest in the implementation of the convention. In deciding about the composition of this executive council, we would prefer the existing United Nations groupings, but at the same time we are prepared to consider any new ideas which faithfully reflect existing realities.

Given the comprehensive nature of the intrusive aspects of the verification regime which we are trying to create for the convention, the developing countries should obviously not be subjected to the double jeopardy of additional measures outside the convention, such as the existing export controls practised by the "Australia Group". The latter can easily be dismantled when the convention comes into force, and this linkage can be clearly specified in an adequate formulation in article XI, along the lines of the proposal tabled by nineteen Group of 21 delegations and China in the Ad Hoc Committee last year. We also repeat our suggestion of August 1991 urging those countries which presently apply export controls and restrictions on transfers of certain chemicals to publicly declare their intention to dismantle such measures for the States who become parties to the convention. Such a measure would contribute much to the universality which we all seek for the convention.

Last year we were successful in including an article on assistance and protection against chemical weapons in the "rolling text". This was achieved at the end of lengthy and at times frustrating negotiations, but with a happy outcome. However, there is still room for further improvement in so far as the article does not clearly address situations where adequate resources may not be available to the technical secretariat to provide the necessary assistance. A provision to plug this loophole is necessary, and my delegation would be prepared to present its ideas in the Ad Hoc Committee at the appropriate time.