

(Mr. Tóth, Hungary)

In almost every negotiating process of diplomacy a point is reached, somewhere in the finishing stage, where the potential financial implications for the contracting parties have to be addressed. We are happy to note that the chemical weapons negotiations have reached this phase, since it indicates that we are approaching the conclusion of our work. The implementation of the convention will entail two major types of costs for States parties. One is strictly national, like for example the establishing and maintaining of the national authority. Other expenses are related to the functioning of the organization to be set up under the convention. The various and extremely important functions to be performed by the organization will require substantial funds. The precise amount of these funds is as yet unknown to us, though some estimates have already been made. Whatever the sum may be, an adequate, equitable method for distributing costs has to be defined. We share the view that a single and simple formula based on the well-established United Nations scale of assessment would provide a workable solution to the problem of cost-sharing. The principles and characteristics of that formula are well known and are basically not disputed. In this way, it could provide a ready system for the sharing of costs to be borne by all future States parties.

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Mr. ROMERO (Chile) (translated from Spanish): My delegation has asked for the floor again to inform the plenary of the Conference of Disarmament of the content of an official statement made by the acting Foreign Minister of Chile on 12 February last on the subject of disarmament. This statement has been circulated as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament with the number 1134 and contains the views of my country on two important issues for this multilateral forum: nuclear non-proliferation and chemical weapons. It reads as follows: