

It is all too reminiscent of the 1991 Review Conference of the Biological and Toxins Weapons Convention (BTWC) — where, again, I had the privilege of leading the Canadian delegation. There, we managed in the end to take some of the necessary decisions, particularly regarding the establishment of a verification experts working group. Canada characterized the results as "solid", if unspectacular, progress. But in a time of "unprecedented challenge and opportunity" — words we hear over and over again — dare we not hope for more than a few incremental steps forward? In the ENMOD context, we shall see.

There is no doubt in my mind that this Workshop is going to be extraordinarily helpful to me as we make our final preparations for the Review Conference.

In terms of our deliberations here, one basic issue is to determine how to collect evidence and what form that evidence might take in terms of verification of non-compliance. An ancillary question is whether or not the ENMOD Convention has been breached by the type of activities which were initiated by Iraq in Kuwait and in the Gulf. I know that Paul Fauteux, in his paper for Ecodecision, will focus on this issue, among others. Finally, we might focus on the synergistic effects of a variety of expertise and inspection techniques to improve the effectiveness, including the cost-effectiveness, of the verification process.

Finally, I want to express my appreciation to you all for agreeing to participate in this Workshop on a matter which is likely, in one form or another, to be with us for some time. Our discussion will, I trust, be informal and frank. I hope, as a result, our collective expertise will permit us, as Canadians, to portray, promote and defend the interests of Canada and the common values of Canadians in the world in ways that promote concrete progress towards, if not new, at least more world order in the waning years of the 20th Century.

#### References

1. S. Graybeal, et al., Verification to the Year 2000, Arms Control Verification Studies, No. 4, (Ottawa: External Affairs and International Trade Canada, 1991).