

Remark: The NTI was carried out at a single purpose facility being part of a huge pharmaceutical and chemical complex. The facility produces a chemical called Benomyl (reg. No. 17804-35-2). For the purpose of the trial inspection one of its precursors Carbendazim (reg. No. 10605-21-7) was specially designated as a Schedule [2] chemical.

During a previous visit initial declarations were verified and information gathered for a facility attachment. During preparations as well as during the actual trial inspection, care was taken to protect the interests of the plant, in particular commercial and industrial confidentiality. However, a sufficient degree of intrusiveness was exercised to verify that no diversion was possible. The experiment was carried out during actual production of Benomyl. However, production records for the report year as well as for shorter periods were also audited.

The inspection team consisted of a representative of the Foreign Ministry, a representative of the Ministry of Trade and four chemists, one of them from the Ministry of Defence. No inspection equipment was used and no samples taken during the inspection.

Italy:

NTI: December 1988 (two inspections).

Provisions: Annex to article VI [2].

Remark: The Italian Government, through arrangements with the Italian chemical industry, has made available two plants to conduct a trial inspection on 16-18 December. The first plant, located in Aprilia produced in the past a Schedule [2] compound, diphenyl-hydroxyacetic acid. The inspection at such a plant, aiming at verifying the continuing non-production of the mentioned compound, might have some distinctive features of a challenge inspection. The second plant, located in Colleferro has stopped producing diphenyl-hydroxyacetic acid. However, for the specific needs of the trial inspection, its managers have accepted to re-establish such a production, only for a limited period. The inspection at this plant, aiming at verifying that the chemical produced there is not diverted or used for purposes not permitted under the Convention, might have some distinctive features of a routine inspection.

The presence also of foreign scientists and experts is to be expected.