

The PRESIDENT:

... I should like to welcome the presence today in the gallery of the members of the Special NGO Committee for Disarmament, which is holding its spring session at the Palais des Nations. The Special NGO Committee has also addressed a communication to me, wishing the Conference every success in meeting the challenges before it and stressing the importance and urgency for the Conference on Disarmament to conclude as soon as possible a convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and providing for their destruction.

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(Mr. García Robles, Mexico)

... The second issue, which, as I have already said, I shall briefly consider in this statement, is that of a convention for the elimination of chemical weapons or, to put it in the official terms, a convention "on the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and on their destruction", a task which the Conference on Disarmament has pursued with determination and in which my delegation has actively participated. On this matter emphasis should be placed on the importance of the Conference of States Parties to the 1925 Geneva Protocol and Other Interested States, which met in Paris from 7 to 11 January last under the chairmanship of Mr. Roland Dumas, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the French Republic. At the opening session of that conference the President of France, Mr. François Mitterrand, said, inter alia:

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