

(Mr. Imai, Japan)

for an actual inspection. Further, full consideration should be given to the various procedures by which a request for on-site inspection may arise, whether they emerge from routine inspection or from some other procedure, taking into account such views as may be expressed by the experts.

At the recent meeting between the leaders of the United States and the USSR, the two sides "agreed to intensify bilateral discussions on the level of experts on all aspects of such a chemical weapons ban, including the question of verification. They agreed to initiate a dialogue on preventing the proliferation of chemical weapons". My country welcomes this agreement to intensify consultations on chemical weapons and to try to overcome their differences. However, we should like to state that the commencement of bilateral negotiations should not imply stagnation with the work of our Conference until such time as some progress has been made at these bilateral talks. We believe that these talks should be of a complementary nature to the work of this Conference.

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(Mr. Jessel, France)

Thus we are fervently hoping for a general convention, open to all, stipulating the banning and elimination of chemical weapons.

We welcome Ambassador Issraelyan's recent statement before the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons, in which he described the measures taken by the Soviet authorities to regulate exports of toxic products.

I would like to point out that France, for its part, and in association with its European Community partners, has taken national control measures.