

(Mr. Tellalov, Bulgaria)

My delegation would like to make very briefly some points about the work of the ad hoc committees.

In the communiqué issued by the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty Organization in Berlin recently, the States parties reiterated "their preparedness to complete the preparation of an international convention banning chemical weapons and providing for the destruction of the stockpiles of such weapons and the industrial basis for their production by the end of this year". In this regard they recalled their Moscow Declaration of 25 March 1987.

The "rolling text" entitled "Current stage of the negotiations on a Chemical Weapons Convention" registers the progress achieved so far. The Ad hoc Committee took the only logical decision: to use the "rolling text" as a basis for negotiations during the summer session of the Committee. My delegation would like neither to underestimate nor to overestimate the problems that remain to be resolved by the Ad hoc Committee. It seems to us, however, that there is a trend towards convergence of views with regard to the outstanding political problems: issues pertaining to non-production of chemical weapons, fact-finding, including challenge inspection, the organization and functions of the Consultative Committee and its organs, just to mention, perhaps, the most important ones. The task of negotiating

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solutions to those problems could be carried out provided that there is a clear political will not to artificially complicate the negotiations, not to become bogged down in never-ending discussions on technical details.