

(Mr. Turbanski, Poland)

In my opinion, the results of the 1985 session of the Ad Hoc Committee visibly reach further than expected by some of us who, during the Conference's debate, expressed on some occasions pessimism as to the proceedings of the Committee. These results are, on the other hand, less than we all would hope and wish them to be. The evaluation of the relation between the expected and the achieved is always subjective and depends on several external factors, and first of all on the general international climate, and is mutually interconnected with them. The CW Convention is not being worked out as a separate, self-contained measure, but is itself an element of a wider political setting. Taken in this light, I would assess the results of the 1985 session as a step forward towards the future CW Convention. The process of negotiations on the prohibition of chemical weapons is slow and arduous, but it progresses systematically and distinguishably.

Even these modest results the Ad Hoc Committee reports today to the Conference would not be possible without a large measure of hard work, good will, and co-operation on the part of the delegations participating in the negotiations. I want to express my appreciation of their attitude and of their constant moral and working support. I wish also to thank all those delegations which enriched the deliberations of the Committee by presenting various working documents and forwarding relevant proposals. All of them represent a valuable input and manifest a desire to look for the effective solutions which may permit an early conclusion of the CW Convention.

Closing now, Mr. President, permit me to thank all the individual delegates and experts for their active participation in the work of subsidiary organs of the Committee and especially the Chairmen of the Working Groups and the Chairmen of the Open-ended Consultations: Mr. Poptchev, Mrs. Bonnier, Mr. Elbe, and Mr. Wisnoemoerti. Without their devotion and stamina, without their initiative, the Ad Hoc Committee could not have achieved what it did.

Last but not least, Mr. President, the Ad Hoc Committee and I personally are indebted to the secretariat of the Committee, that is, to Mr. Bensmail and his collaborators. They were tireless, devoted and always able to come up with advice. On behalf of the Ad Hoc Committee, I also want to express our appreciation of the competent, highly professional work of the interpreters.

This concludes the introduction of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons on its 1985 session.