

The PRESIDENT (translated from French): I thank the representative of Poland for his statement, and for his kind words addressed to the Chair. I am sure that I will be speaking on behalf of the Conference when I express our regret at the announced departure of our esteemed colleague Ambassador Turbański, who has represented his country with much talent and diplomatic experience. His personal qualities earned him the esteem of his colleagues in the Conference. I should like to emphasize the important role played by Ambassador Turbański, while assigned to the Conference, as the first President of the Conference on Disarmament, a responsibility which he shouldered in an objective and effective manner. He was also Chairman of the Ad hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons, and in that capacity made a significant

(The President)

contribution to progress in our work towards a total ban on chemical weapons. On behalf of the Conference and on my own behalf, I wish him all success in his career.