

(Mr. Králik, Czechoslovakia)

information. It will not be an omnipotent, stern judge distributing sanctions right and left, but rather a wise counsellor, keeping a careful eye on law and order.

Since the chemical weapons convention will put great emphasis on trust and transparency in many instances, we feel that the presence of an observer can be a proof of this. The effectiveness of inspections, however, also depends on prompt implementation. We hope that in the forthcoming future consultations of the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee, the time-frame for inspection will be appropriately adapted. We also welcome steps for balanced control of the civilian chemical industry. However, expanding the number of subjects dealt with should not lead to an enormous load on the budget of the future organization. The recent suggestions by Mr. Morris, Chairman of the Working Group, are very encouraging in this respect. During an inspection of chemical plants in Basel last January, many of us were able to see for ourselves that any system of controls on the chemical industry must be based on realistic foundations. I would like to take this opportunity to thank once again the Swiss delegation, and Ambassador von Arx especially, for the outstanding organization of this undertaking.

From this forum we have recently heard a lot of talk around the question of so-called old and abandoned chemical weapons. My delegation's standpoint is well known. Responsibility for abandoned chemicals is borne by the State which has left them on foreign territory. But at the same time the argument has its place which points to the need for ascertaining the degree of risk of such chemicals for the CWC. Resolving problems which arise out of the text of the CWC is within the capacity of the Conference in the very near future. Therefore, as a realist, I welcomed the proposal of the French President, François Mitterrand, to convene a conference in Paris before the end of the year for the signature of the convention.