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Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Working Paper

Chemical Weapons Convention

Protection of Confidential Information

I

When a Convention on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons enters into force, the conditions required for the protection of confidential information of States Parties should have been created. This applies to information obtained in the implementation of the verification measures in chemical industry (Art. VI) as well as in the field of chemical weapons (Art. IV) and chemical weapons production facilities (Art. V). Information obtained by challenge-verification measures (Art. IX) shall be protected, too.

In its working paper CD/CW/WP.194 of 18 March 1988, the delegation of the German Democratic Republic has proposed to ensure the conditions for confidential information protection by the implementation of three main principles. With a view to making a contribution to the work in Group A, the following additional considerations regarding these three principles are submitted.

II

1. Precise definition of what information is required

This principle has to be taken into account in the further elaboration and refinement of provisions on declarations, on-site verification and models for agreements relating to facilities under routine inspection (facility attachments). Art. VI, para. 9 places the Technical Secretariat in the fulfilment of its verification activities under the obligation to obtain only the necessary information and data and to protect confidential information. Since this obligation should apply in general to all verification activities, similar provisions need to be included in Articles IV, V and IX.