

not earlier than two years after opening for signature, i.e., probably sometime in 1995.

Canada stopped production of chemical warfare agents before the end of World War II and has since destroyed its stockpiles, which it kept for retaliatory purposes only. ■

CWC Text Meets Canada's Criteria

The following are excerpts from the address by Canadian Ambassador Gerald Shannon to the Conference on Disarmament plenary on August 6, 1992, commenting on the final text of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC).

[Although this] text is far from being the ideal CWC that Canada would have preferred to see adopted...it reflects the result of years of thorough, complex negotiations during which many states have had to concede ground on issues which they considered extremely important but for which they could not attract the consensus support of others...

All of us have already had to make compromises to get as far as [this] text, Canada perhaps more than most, since we were and still are among the strongest supporters of a truly confidence-building inspection regime which would be rapid, thorough and comprehensive. Thus, the old idea of the right to call for an inspection "anywhere, anytime" and to have it take place virtually at once without any constraints on the inspectors would still be what Canada would have felt safest with. The challenge provisions now in [the text] are a far cry from that approach, given the lengthy time frames, the restrictions on the discretion left to the inspectors, and the increased degree of protection now afforded to the inspected State Party.

In the same way, Canada has problems with the provisions on routine inspection of the chemical industry and with the narrow definition of "capable facilities"...

Our bottom line, however, is that it would be very foolish of us to allow a wish for only the very best of results to obstruct the possibility of our instead obtaining what is, nonetheless, a very good CWC regime. Even as it is, [the text] does

meet Canada's three basic criteria for an acceptable CWC.

First, it is comprehensive: it calls for a complete ban on development, production, stockpiling, retention or use of chemical weapons and their precursors.

Second, it is global, or at least it has the potential to be so if others, too, show flexibility: already, like Canada, a significant number of states from all geographic regions have indicated that they can support it and would be prepared to be original signatories. We are convinced that the vast majority of the rest of the world will join us.

Third, it is effectively verifiable: though the regime is not as strong as we would have wished, it nevertheless establishes new norms of verification and inspection that far surpass those of any previous multilateral arms control and disarmament instruments. ■

Briefly Noted...

Canada Ratifies Open Skies

Canada became the first country to ratify the Open Skies Treaty, depositing its instrument of ratification on July 21 in Budapest. The Treaty, signed on March 24, 1992 by 25 countries belonging to NATO or the former Warsaw Pact, allows signatories to conduct short-notice observation flights over one another's territory.

MTCR Guidelines Tightened

At a June 29 to July 2 meeting in Oslo, Canada and the other 21 members of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) reached agreement on stricter export control guidelines for ballistic missiles and related technology. The agreement broadens MTCR restrictions to include missile systems and technology capable of delivering *all* weapons of mass destruction (chemical and biological, as well as nuclear weapons). The new guidelines respond to increasing concerns about the proliferation of smaller, lighter missile systems, such as those used by Iraq during the Gulf War.

UNSCOM Discusses Iraq's Compliance

The UN Special Commission (UNSCOM) set up to verify Iraq's compliance with Security Council Resolution 687 (1991), which mandates the disposal of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, held its fourth plenary session in New York from October 28 to 30. The Commission discussed the destruction of Iraq's chemical weapons, considered how to implement plans for ongoing monitoring and verification to ensure that Iraq does not reacquire proscribed weapons, and looked at plans for the future control of Iraqi imports. Mr. F.R. Cleminson, Head of EAITC's Verification Research Unit, is one of UNSCOM's 21 international commissioners.

Canada-South Korea Verification Workshop

Representatives from EAITC's Verification Research Unit travelled to Seoul for a verification workshop with South Korean officials on June 16 and 17. The Canadians made presentations on Canada's verification research program, the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, Open Skies, and new approaches to multilateral verification. The South Koreans, in turn, provided an assessment of problems related to verification and confidence-building on the Korean peninsula. The workshop underscored Canada's interest in confidence- and security-building in the Asia-Pacific region.

Asia-Pacific Security Conference

Scholars and officials from Russia, Japan, the US, North and South Korea, Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and other interested countries will join their Canadian counterparts in Vancouver from March 21 to 24, 1993 to discuss issues related to Asia-Pacific security and stability. The conference is part of EAITC's North Pacific Cooperative Security Dialogue (NPCSD), initiated in July 1990. The NPCSD involves a series of academic and non-governmental organization (NGO) workshops aimed at focusing attention on security issues in the North Pacific and at exploring prospects for regional security dialogue. ■