

(Mr. Hyltenius, Sweden)

Ambassador García Moritán of Argentina, Ambassador Morel of France and Ambassador Reese of Australia for accepting to undertake this work. Due to their skill and dedication it has been possible to advance the work on these issues. Some of the results are reflected in the report which I am submitting today.

The Chair conducted open-ended consultations on the question of undiminished security, which soon came to focus on the question of universal adherence to the forthcoming convention. Open-ended consultations were also conducted on various aspects of the Executive Council and on article IX. Much work was done, especially on article IX, and it is the hope of the Chair that this work will not prove to have been in vain. Also, outside the Conference many countries worked on this issue through trial inspections and shared their experiences with other delegations by submitting reports on them in the form of working papers.

The Committee had three Working Groups. Working Group A, on verification issues, was chaired by Mr. Shahbaz of Pakistan and earlier by Mr. Lamazière of Brazil and then temporarily by Mr. Molander of Sweden. Working Group B, on technical matters, was chaired by Mr. Meerburg of the Netherlands, while Working Group C, on legal and institutional questions, was chaired by Mr. Krutzsch of the German Democratic Republic. Substantive and important progress has been made in all the three Working Groups. I should like to express my sincere appreciation and warm thanks to the Working Group chairmen for their untiring efforts and commitment, which have brought the convention closer to its completion within their respective issue areas.

The substantive parts of the report reflect the diligent work carried out this year and the many changes made in the "rolling text". They are well known to delegations, and I will therefore only deal with them briefly.

Among the achievements, I should like to mention especially the texts included in appendix I on verification of alleged use of chemical weapons, on the order of destruction, on amendments and on the settlement of disputes. There are also many other additions and improvements in the text in other parts of the draft convention.

Among the new material in appendix II, I should like to draw your attention to the texts on jurisdiction and control, on old chemical weapons and on measures to redress a situation.

My warm thanks also go to the Secretary of the Ad hoc Committee, Mr. Bensmail, to the Deputy Secretary, Ms. Marcaillou, and to their assistants, Ms. Darby and Ms. Roux, for their very professional work and invaluable assistance. I wish also to express my thanks to the interpreters and all the technical staff who have contributed to making our work proceed in an effective and smooth manner.