

(Mr. Kozyrev, Russian Federation)

... Permit me now to read out a message to the Conference from the President of the Russian Federation, Boris N. Yeltsin:

Recent talks with the leaders of many States and the results of the summit meeting of the United Nations Security Council show that qualitatively new, friendly relations are being created - in the long run, even relations of alliance - between former potential adversaries. A unique opportunity is emerging to rid ourselves through joint efforts of the over-armament we have all inherited from the cold war.

Given these circumstances, the Conference on Disarmament, too, must proceed to solve unprecedentedly bold tasks. First of all, it is essential this very year to complete the drafting of the Convention on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.

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... Moreover, thought might be given to exchanging on a reciprocal basis among all nuclear Powers data on the number and types of existing nuclear weapons, the quantity of fissionable materials and on nuclear-weapons production, storage and elimination facilities. Agreement to that effect could be reached at the Conference on Disarmament, in which all the nuclear Powers are represented and which has experience in dealing with similar issues in the context of the negotiations on chemical weapons.

(Mr. Kozyrev, Russian Federation)

... The Russian Federation intends to become a full-fledged participant in the international Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). It supports the useful work being done by the "Australian group" on the non-proliferation of chemical weapons. Russia is setting up a State export-control system for "dual-purpose" materials and technology and the relevant laws are being drafted. Our approach on this issue is consistent with the position of other States members of the CIS, in line with the Alma-Ata agreements of last December.