

(Mr. Azambuja, Brazil)

What better setting and what better model for co-operation than a disarmament agreement such as the one we are in the process of negotiating? What better reason to have confidence and engage in a free flow of scientific knowledge in chemistry than the formal and verifiable obligation of other States parties not to develop, produce, stockpile or use chemical weapons? And in return, what better way to be confident that the activities of other parties are really geared to purposes not forbidden by the convention than to share with them information, knowledge and a general co-operative approach?

By the same token, we hold in great esteem the idea and the implementation of national trial inspections. I can announce today to this Conference that Brazil conducted such an inspection on 6 December 1988, at a facility in Camaçari, Bahia. My delegation will circulate the report of this inspection later in the Ad hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons and present its conclusions in the presence of one of the experts that participated in it. This trial inspection is one more proof of the readiness of my Government to successfully complete our negotiations on a chemical weapons ban. We hope more delegations will conclude trial inspections and report their findings to the Conference.

I have concentrated my attention today on the Paris Conference, on the future work of the Ad hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons, under the able and stimulating new chairmanship of Ambassador Morel, and finally on the national trial inspection conducted by Brazilian experts. I reserve for another occasion my observations on other relevant points of our agenda.