

3. Type of chemical

The chemical in question belongs neither in schedule [1] nor in schedule [2]. It was chosen on the basis of the following three criteria:

Its manufacture involves widely used techniques similar to those used to make schedule [2] chemicals;

It undergoes partial processing at the facility. As the by-product so obtained has characteristics close to those of the chemical from which it derives, the decision was taken that it too should be subjected to inspection;

Several manufacturing processes are or have been employed: the situation at the time of the initial declaration was that the chemical and the by-product were made in the two specific shops concerned by the inspection, one of which operated continuously and the other in batch mode, and that one of the two substances was made in another shop, as a by-product of another manufacturing process that was not subject to declaration. That other manufacturing process had been definitively halted by the time of the annual declaration and the inspection.

It should be added that the manufacture of these two products requires the same raw materials stored on-site as other manufacturing activities, and that it consumes only a small proportion of them.

4. Composition of the inspection team

The inspection team was composed of three chemistry specialists, one of whom had already participated in the first trial national inspection:

A university-trained inspector of facilities classified for environmental protection purposes;

A chemical engineer, doctor of science and specialist in organic synthesis, belonging to a research centre;

An engineer from the chemical industry with long experience in research, development and production.

The same team carried out the initial visit.

An ad hoc national authority, observers from various ministries or civil service departments, a representative of the Union of Chemical Industries and representatives of the company owning the facility, participated in the whole of the exercise.

5. Implementation of the inspection procedure

The routine inspection procedure was implemented in accordance with the provisions of annex 2 to article VI of the current draft convention.