

(Mr. Wegener, Federal Republic of Germany)

Experience of agreements lacking a proper verification mechanism, such as the Geneva Protocol and the Biological Weapons Convention, stresses the need for a comprehensive solution to this question.

My delegation has on many occasions set out its views on the essentials of an effective international verification system. Let me just recapitulate:

Verification must follow a regular, pre-established procedure so as to be non-discriminatory and take place in a businesslike and co-operative atmosphere;

It must provide for impartial investigations into events which require clarification; and

It must protect legitimate economic interests.

In order to advance work in this direction, my delegation will, during this session, introduce a working paper which will set out in greater detail the mechanisms and procedures which are, in our view, necessary for an effective verification of a chemical weapons convention. This working paper will, inter alia, specifically deal with the problems of binary weapons. In particular, we intend to propose a way whereby -- contrary to certain allegations that the non-production of binary weapons is not verifiable -- verification can also be extended to and include binary weapons.

The vital contribution of the comprehensive programme of disarmament to the success of the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament need not be underscored. From the documents it appears evident that the Committee on Disarmament must come to terms with the CPD issue, and that at least a negotiable text, with or without a limited number of alternative options on specific problems, must be ready for the larger New York audience by the time this Committee winds up its spring session. The matter is urgent, and the credibility of this Committee is at stake.

The CPD Working Group which met through most of January has done good work and, while no firm results are in sight on most issues, it has deepened the insight and understanding of all delegations concerned. My delegation is grateful to the participants and to the Working Group's Chairman, Ambassador García Robles of Mexico. The work accomplished in January allows us to identify the areas where consensus is well within reach, and, conversely, those areas where major controversies loom which we must jointly settle in the next few weeks.

From the viewpoint of one of the sponsors of document CD/205, the only complete draft programme before the Committee at this time, my delegation is under the impression that the following three issues of principle have arisen and need creative negotiating in a spirit of compromise:

1. Nature of the CPD

It is obvious that the CPD will need a mode of adoption and promulgation commensurate with its overriding significance for the success of the second special session on disarmament. It must, at the same time, correspond to