

(Mr. Ekéus, Sweden)

The reports of the Chairmen of the Working Groups can be found in Annex II to the report. They give, in a comparison with Annex I, a picture of the amount of material which has been treated in different ways — be it drafting, consultation or otherwise — in the framework of the activities of the Committee.

Annex III represents a political solution to the problem of how to present extensive material emanating from delegations within the framework of the report.

If delegations consider it useful, and if they present actual proposals to this effect, the Chairman has the intention of up-dating document CD/CW/WP.67 as regards the presentation of the position of delegations. Such a revision would then be done before the January session.

The report contains a recommendation that the Committee continue its work during three weeks immediately before the beginning of the 1985 session, and "that the work cover the two specific issues of permitted activities and verification on challenge including related issues with regard to the Consultative Committee, as well as further negotiations on the material in Annex I which has been subject to preliminary drafting". As Chairman, I will prepare this resumed session by undertaking consultations in the meantime.

The report further contains a recommendation that a decision be taken in the first part of the 1985 session concerning intersessional work also between September 1985 and January 1986 so that this period "is more fully utilized for negotiations". The words "more fully" reflects the wish expressed by some delegations that this period should amount to something like six weeks.

Another important recommendation of the Committee is that Ambassador Turbanski of Poland should be appointed Chairman for the 1985 session. I sincerely wish him success in this important task.

Mr. President, I would not conclude my introduction of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons to the Conference without expressing my gratitude to all the delegates of the Committee for their excellent co-operation with me and my delegation. May I note the serious and constructive approach by the delegates in the extremely complicated and sometimes arduous consultations, drafting sessions and other meetings within the Committee work structure. I am deeply impressed by the energy and the co-operative spirit demonstrated by delegates from all sides of the political spectrum. I also wish to especially mention the three Chairmen of the Working Groups, Mr. Duarte of Brazil, Mr. Akkerman of the Netherlands and Mr. Thielicke of the German Democratic Republic for their exemplary skill and energy displayed in the difficult tasks entrusted on them, as well as for their support and advice to me, not least in the context of the work of the Bureau of the Committee.

I would like to direct special gratitude to the other member of the Bureau and Secretary of the Committee, Mr. Abdelkader Bensmail, for his commendable work for the Committee during the whole session, characterized by a combination of the highest professional skill and sound judgement in all situations. The willing support of Mr. Bensmail and of his staff, in particular Ms. Sue Johnston, as well as of the interpreters, contributed in an indispensable way to the endeavours of the Committee.