

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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ARTICLE IX - PROCEDURE FOR CHALLENGE INSPECTIONS

Chairman's Note

This Working Paper reflects the results of recent private and open-ended consultations on the section "Procedure for Challenge Inspections" of Article IX. It contains two texts for this section:

"ARTICLE IX - THE REALITY" is the text which represents the actual negotiating situation. This text contains the new elements of treaty language which, in the open-ended consultations, have been agreed upon ad referendum (de-bracketed) as well as those which have remained controversial (bracketed).

"ARTICLE IX - THE VISION" is a Chairman's text which in his view represents a possible result of negotiations.

It is suggested that, after checking the accuracy of "THE REALITY", the discussion of Article IX should not be reopened immediately. Both private and open-ended consultations on challenge inspections should now rather address the Protocol on Inspection Procedures before returning to the Article at a later stage.

Both texts of Article IX should provide useful reference material when the Protocol is discussed: "THE REALITY" as a constant reminder of the necessity of compromise; "THE VISION" as an indication of where the journey might end once agreement on the Protocol has come closer.

If, after having gone through the Protocol, it turns out that "THE VISION" is not conducive to promoting consensus on the Article, it will disappear again and negotiations on the Article will continue on the basis of "THE REALITY" only.