

Mr. KRISTVIK (Norway):

For several years, Norway has participated in the work of this important negotiating forum and all its subsidiary bodies. Norway has also been since 1984 the candidate of the Western Group for full membership, and hopes that this question will be solved in connection with the third special session devoted to disarmament. In two areas -- chemical weapons and a comprehensive nuclear test ban -- we have initiated research programmes which are relevant to the deliberations of the Conference. Today I have the honour to introduce three documents which concern the results of recent research in Norway.

My country is committed to doing its utmost to contribute to the multilateral negotiations on the chemical weapons convention, which would ban chemical weapons world-wide. In 1987, the negotiations are being ably guided by the distinguished representative of Sweden, Ambassador Rolf Ekéus. We highly appreciate his dynamic leadership and his continuous search for solutions to the sensitive political and complicated technical issues still outstanding.

One of the main problems concerns the question of on-site challenge inspection. It is the view of the Norwegian Government that it is absolutely necessary to dispatch the inspection team to the site concerned within 48 hours after the issue of a request for an on-site inspection. The investigation at the site should be detailed and comprehensive. We have taken note of the idea which was presented by the United States at the recent

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