

Stressing the continuing importance of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925, 3/

Determined, for the sake of all mankind, to exclude completely the possibility of the use of chemical weapons, through the earliest conclusion and implementation of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all types of chemical weapons and on their destruction, thereby complementing the obligations assumed under the Geneva Protocol of 17 June 1925,

Appreciating the work of the Conference on Disarmament during its 1986 session regarding the prohibition of chemical weapons and the progress achieved in negotiations,

Deeming it desirable for States to refrain from taking any action that could delay or further complicate negotiations and to display a constructive approach to such negotiations and the political will to reach an early agreement on the chemical weapons convention,

Emphasizing the need to stop a further increase of arsenals of chemical weapons and to refrain from the deployment of such weapons on the territories of other countries, as well as the necessity to withdraw chemical weapons deployed abroad to within the national boundaries of States to which they belong,

Expressing profound concern at decisions on the production of new types of chemical weapons, as well as at their intended deployment,

Welcoming the agreement between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to accelerate the efforts to conclude an effective and verifiable international convention on the general and complete prohibition of chemical weapons and the destruction of existing stockpiles of such weapons,

Taking note of proposals and initiatives on the creation of chemical-weapon-free zones in various regions aimed at facilitating the complete prohibition of chemical weapons and at contributing to the achievement of stable regional and international security,

Welcoming the Final Declaration of the Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, 1/ which stresses the urgency of a chemical weapons ban,

1. Reaffirms the necessity for the speediest elaboration and conclusion of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and on their destruction;

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3/ League of Nations, Treaty Series, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2138, p. 65.