

(Mr. Ekeus, Sweden)

organizational framework to make it flexible and effective enough to cope with the shifting problems to be solved, without sacrificing the valuable features of the present organization, especially the politically balanced approach.

I listened with special attention to the recent interesting remarks on this problem made by Ambassador Turbanski of Poland, drawing upon his experience as the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee in 1985, and by Ambassador Imai of Japan.

Mr. MORELLI PANDO (Peru) (translated from Spanish):

One of the first goals that the Conference can attain in 1987 should be the elaboration of a comprehensive convention on all chemical weapons, and there is no need to recall in detail the advances already made by the Conference on technical aspects and in political negotiation.

(Mr. Meizster, Hungary)

The socialist States cannot conceive of a safe world without the elimination of one of the most barbaric types of weapon of mass destruction, namely chemical weapons. In general, the 1986 session of the Disarmament Conference was marked by businesslike negotiations on chemical-weapon-related disarmament issues. The content and form of these negotiations has been oriented increasingly towards the final result -- preparation of the complete text of a convention on banning the development, manufacture and stockpiling of chemical weapons and on their destruction. These developments were facilitated by the Soviet initiatives contained in the statement made by M.S. Gorbachev on 15 January of this year and spelled out in greater detail in the statement of the 22 April.

Our delegations are of the view that work must be continued on agreeing very important provisions of the Convention, first and foremost those related to ensuring the non-production of chemical weapons at commercial chemical facilities, procedures for eliminating the production base for the manufacture of chemical weapons, and the activities of various bodies to be set up under the Convention. The issue of challenge inspection is an important one. The socialist countries consider that the proposals made by the German Democratic Republic and Poland on this subject constitute a weighty contribution to achieving agreement on this problem.

The delegations on whose behalf I am speaking are of the view that the decisions taken by the United States and NATO regarding rearmament with binary chemical weapons, which in essence map out for the coming years not only the continuation but the intensification of the chemical threat hanging over all mankind, cannot but seriously impair the ongoing negotiations on banning such weapons. Those decisions run counter to efforts to eliminate chemical weapons, and are in conflict with the United States/Soviet agreements reached at the Geneva summit.