

(Mr. Cámpora, Argentina)

If the topics already mentioned, particularly the ending of nuclear weapon tests and the prevention of an arms race in outer space, benefited from a convergence of political will, the Conference on Disarmament, which is currently working effectively on the drafting of a convention to prohibit chemical weapons, would then be engaged in a series of substantive negotiations on important topics on the disarmament agenda, and would thus bring the content of its work into line with the international situation, which has quite clearly improved. Otherwise, I am very much afraid that it will be difficult for us as responsible delegates here to deny the charge of not having found concrete formulas for disarmament agreements that reflect this favourable international atmosphere, created through the efforts both of the great Powers and of many States that have decided to seek a political solution to their regional conflicts. Disarmament should be, then, an inescapable consequence of this international climate if we intend to take full advantage of it.

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(Mr. Elaraby, Egypt)

I now turn to item 4 on our agenda. My delegation once again welcomes the advanced stage reached in the negotiations on the preparation of the convention prohibiting the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons, and providing for their destruction. In this respect, my delegation cannot fail to recognize with appreciation the prominent role performed by the Chairman of the Ad hoc Committee, Ambassador Sujka of Poland.

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