

(13) If agreement on alternative arrangements is reached within ... hours 1/ between the requesting and requested States Parties the inspection team should carry out its task in accordance with those arrangements.

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If no agreement on alternative arrangements can be reached between the requesting and requested States Parties within the stipulated time period, a number of questions arise. These have been extensively but inconclusively addressed during the consultations. Some main lines of thoughts appear to have emerged:

- One line of thought has been that if no agreement on alternative arrangements could be reached the inspection should be carried out in accordance with points 9 and 10 above.
- Another line of thought has been that failing such an agreement the inspection team should return to the Headquarters and report to the Executive Council on the matter. 2/
- A third line of thought has been that the inspection team should report on the matter to the Executive Council and that the Executive Council within ... hours should express itself on whether the inspection team should carry out its task in accordance with the request or alternative arrangements proposed. 3/

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1/ Comment: Some delegations would like this period to be as short as possible. (24 hours has been mentioned. Another suggestion has been a period of 48 hours from the request.) Others have been more inclined to allow as much time as possible for the two parties to reach agreement.

2/ Comment: In this context it has also been suggested that it might be valuable if the team could explore the alternatives suggested, before returning to the Headquarters.

3/ Comment: The exact role of the Executive Council at this stage of the process would need to be carefully considered. A number of questions must be addressed.

- In which form would the Executive Council express itself: a decision? an opinion? a proposal? a recommendation?
- How should the Executive Council arrive at its position? Qualified majority? On which side should such a majority be mustered?
- The composition of the Executive Council.