

2.0 BACKGROUND

Many working papers have been submitted to the Conference on Disarmament, but very little has been written on the Technical Secretariat as such; a few documents dealing with this topic have been submitted by some Western Nations. Still, it is often necessary to infer the responsibilities of a secretariat from those assigned to the Consultative Committee by various groups.

2.1 General Views

Examination of some generally held views on the verification of a Chemical Weapons Convention leads to a preliminary specification of the duties of the Consultative Committee and its secretariat. Five main types of verification have been suggested:

- verification of destruction of stocks;
- verification of destruction of production facilities;
- monitoring of production of "super-toxic," lethal chemicals for permitted purposes;
- verification of non-production;
- special investigations required for fact-finding missions or potential violations.

States Parties would undertake to ensure compliance with the Convention by a system of international verification which comprises:

- data reporting, i.e., the provision of data to the Consultative Committee on production and other information on a periodic basis;
- on-site inspections, i.e., on-site monitoring using automatic instruments and/or inspections by an international inspectorate, either
 - on an immediate basis
 - on a continuous basis
 - on a periodic basis
 - on a quota basis