

5. The Government of Pakistan has already rejected and continues to reject any imputation that the Afghan nationalist resistance is being provided with any kind of weapon by or through our country. Pakistan has consistently followed a policy of scrupulous non-interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, despite repeated provocations, malicious propaganda and the influx into our country of nearly one million Afghan refugees.

6. Pakistan has taken note of the "readiness" expressed by the Kabul regime "to investigate and examine, along with competent international authorities", the use and functioning of the chemical grenades allegedly in the possession of the Mujahadeen in Afghanistan. Although this appears to be a diversionary manoeuvre by the Kabul regime to gain international acceptance and respectability, nevertheless, Pakistan believes that an impartial investigation is necessary of all reports of the use of chemical weapons in Afghanistan - and elsewhere, if necessary - in order to establish the facts and to determine whether the provisions of the 1925 Geneva Protocol have indeed been violated.

7. For the conduct of an impartial and effective investigation into all these reports, an appropriate body should be constituted by the CD or some other international forum. Such an investigation body should be provided access to all areas in Afghanistan where the use of chemical substances, and other inhumane weapons and methods of warfare, has been reported. The investigating body should also be able to interview refugees and others from Afghanistan who claim to have knowledge of the use of such weapons in that country. Pakistan is prepared to co-operate fully for the purposes of such an investigation without prejudice to its position regarding the legality of the present imposed regime in Kabul.

8. Finally, Pakistan reiterates the hope, which is shared by the vast majority of the world community, that foreign troops will be speedily withdrawn from Afghanistan. This will assist in creating suitable conditions for the Afghan refugees in Pakistan to return to their homeland and enable the people of Afghanistan to freely determine their own destiny.