

Mr. HANNAH (New Zealand):

... My statement this morning is devoted entirely to the subject of chemical weapons. Specifically, I wish to place before the CD the report of New Zealand's national trial inspection, contained in document CD/1057. Before doing so, however, I would like to make a few general comments on the negotiations on a chemical weapons convention - at this moment the prime focus of the work of this Conference.

New Zealand does not have, and has never had chemical weapons. We do not allow chemical weapons to be stationed on our territory. We are party to the 1925 Geneva Protocol, and in 1989 we withdrew our reservation to that Protocol which permitted the use of chemical weapons under certain circumstances. We took that step because the New Zealand Government does not now see any circumstances where the use of chemical weapons would be tolerable.

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