

(Mr. Karhilo, Finland)

chemists can be trained annually. Originally we had hoped to be able to offer training for a larger number of chemists at a time. However, doing that would necessarily have meant a considerable loss of quality in the instruction. The real instructor/trainee ratio of our programme of about one to one during the entire four-month period also reveals the dimensions of the training efforts that are required internationally well before the entry into force of the CW Convention. During our course the participants will be trained in sample collection, preparation of the samples, chromatographic methods, laboratory automation and the use of the computerized data base. Also, the basics of mass spectrometry and its use as the detector of a chromatograph will be taught. All the instruction is designed especially for the purposes of the CW verification. The cost of the training, travel from home country and back, accommodation as well as a daily allowance will be provided by Finland. The only financial implication for the sending Government would thus be the basic salary during the time of the course. We hope that this offer will meet the interests of several of the members of the Group of 21.

The computerized data base was first introduced to the CD a year ago, during the summer session of 1988. It will enable any analyst anywhere in the world to compare the results of his analysis with the characteristics of the scheduled chemicals stored in the data base. In an instant he will be able to tell for sure whether the compound he has been analysing is one of the scheduled compounds or not. This is an indispensable tool for the inspectors. To achieve the desired result, only one condition has to be met: the sampling, the handling of the samples, their analysis, and the instrumentation should follow the same detailed procedures that were followed when the data base was prepared. Again the need for the standard operating procedures is evident. Another prerequisite for the functioning of the data base is that the chemicals that are to be monitored must be individually defined. Broader definitions like families of compounds will not suffice. Furthermore, every one of these compounds must be synthesized and analysed for data storage. As of today the data base of the Finnish project includes 40 compounds. Here we should like to thank both the United Kingdom and Switzerland for having supplied us with the necessary material to get us where we are now in this work. In order to make it easier for everybody to visualize the functioning of the data base, a live demonstration of it will be arranged here in Geneva during the second week of August, to which all the members and observers of the CD will be invited.