
Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons

TRIAL INSPECTIONS

Working Paper by the Chairman of the Open-ended Consultations

Introduction

During an informal exchange of information held under the auspices of the Chemical Weapons Committee on 7 December 1988, 14 delegations reported that they had carried out or were engaged in preparations for national trial inspections (NTI). A summary of the information provided during the meeting is given below.

Australia:

NTI: November 1988.

Provisions: Annex to article VI [2] (specially designated chemical).

Report: Beginning of spring session.

Remark: The NTI was conducted at a multipurpose complex part of an agricultural/chemical firm mainly producing herbicides.

The inspection team consisted of five persons: a senior official from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; a defence scientist from the Material's Research Laboratories; a chemical engineer nominated by the company itself; an inspector from the Dangerous Goods Branch of the Victorian State Government Department of Labour; and an Auditor from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. In addition, there were observers from the Department of Defence Material's Research Laboratory, Defence Policy Advisers, and one generalist chemist. The co-operation from the firm was excellent. Preparations were made on the basis of the Chairman's working paper, CD/CW/WP.213, and conducted over a six-week period during October/November including an initial visit and the negotiation of a detailed facility attachment.