

(Mr. García Moritán, Argentina)

As to granting the Council the power to pronounce on the final results of the inspection, we believe that the caution called for in the previous case is even more necessary here. It should be borne in mind at all times that a challenge inspection might well produce ambiguous results or lend itself to different readings. It could even happen that the results of an inspection may be considered valid at a certain time but not necessarily applicable to future situations. As we see, the range of possibilities is too great to be thinking about endowing the Council with the power to pass final judgement on circumstances which may well be ambiguous or not very clear. But all of the above is without prejudice, of course, to the full exercise by the Council of the important political powers set out in the text of the convention.

Mr. President, one of the aspects on which Brazil and Argentina have laid particular emphasis is the subject of economic and technological development and international cooperation, and in that context the matter of controls or limitations on international trade in chemicals and related equipment.

Our insistence simply reflects a concern which Argentina and Brazil have expressed and will continue to express in all fora and bodies that deal with questions relating to security. It is based simply on the idea that States which have given the international community satisfactory guarantees regarding their commitments with respect to the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction should not encounter limitations on their legitimate aspirations to develop and accede to dual-use technologies for the development and welfare of their peoples.

With reference to this topic I would like to draw attention to the ideas expressed some days ago in this room by Ambassador Errera of France when he indicated his readiness and that of his Government to seek, by way of open dialogue, a solution to the complex problem of the technology-cooperation-security triad. In our convention, these questions fall within the scope of article XI.

We are hopeful that the efforts of the friend of the Chairman responsible for this important question, Counsellor José Eduardo Felicio of Brazil - whom I would like, as head of the Argentine delegation, to assure of our complete support and confidence - will be matched by the necessary search for compromise on the part of all delegations, in particular those which, in the absence of a multilateral convention, have so far chosen the path of restrictions channelled through informal groups.

Linked to that problem is the problem of cooperation and trade relations between parties to the convention and States which opt to remain outside of it. We believe that with a little imagination it would be possible to design a gradual scheme that would avoid extremes and allow for trade under clearly defined conditions and requirements similar to those in the nuclear field where the existence of models of safeguards agreements on a case-by-case basis has produced an adapted and flexible response that perhaps could be followed in the chemical convention.