

(Mr. Huslid, Norway)

research report. In this context, I would like to underline the close link between this research programme and the negotiations on article IX of the chemical weapons convention. Together with Canada, Norway has, as you know, submitted a proposal for a text concerning general procedures for verification of alleged use of chemical weapons as an annex to this article (document CD/766 of 2 July 1987). In the light of the progress in the negotiations on the guidelines for the International Inspectorate, the time should now be ripe for a discussion on how the specific problems concerning verification of alleged use should be incorporated into the convention.

Before leaving the subject of our negotiations on the chemical weapons convention, I would like to inform the Conference that the Norwegian authorities intend to carry out a national trial inspection of a production facility towards the end of the year.

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(Mr. Romero, Chile)

... I have left for the end of this statement a brief analysis of the question of chemical weapons, which has taken on vital importance in this Conference and is currently the subject of discussion in the plenary. The relevant Ad Hoc Committee has achieved progress that is insufficient in the light of the mandate conferred upon it by the Final Declaration adopted by the special conference on chemical weapons held in Paris last January. Chile took part in that meeting because it is convinced that chemical weapons must be prohibited definitively and eliminated as soon as possible in view of their particularly cruel toxic and environmental effects, their indiscriminate nature, the difficulty or impossibility of controlling their spread or direction and the risk of their use by terrorists or irresponsible persons.

Moreover, the mere suspicion that a State possesses chemical weapons immediately creates in other States a perception of a threat that promotes the escalation of mistrust and the heightening of international tension.

It is not our intention to engage in a detailed technical study of the draft convention the Conference is negotiating, but we believe that the future treaty, as well as guaranteeing the establishment of effective, universal,

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