

WEAKNESSES IN INSPECTION FRAMEWORK

4. The text of CD/881 as at present envisaged does not apply routine on-site inspection to a number of areas, some of them of major importance for the viability of the Convention. The areas are:

- (i) Schedule [3] chemicals, i.e. those produced on a large industrial scale for legitimate purposes but posing a substantial risk to the Convention as being usable either directly as chemical weapons or as precursors for manufacture of chemical weapons. These are at present to be monitored through unchecked annual declarations. Hundreds of such facilities exist.
- (ii) Undeclared industrial chemical facilities. A very considerable proportion of the world's chemical industry would not, under the text in CD/881, be covered by annual declarations by States Parties or by routine inspections. Yet modern industrial practices could make it increasingly easy for such facilities to be used for activities contrary to the Convention, should a State Party so decide. Many thousands of such facilities exist.
- (iii) Undeclared military and other facilities. Apart from the categories listed in paragraph 2 (a) above, no provision is made in CD/881 for routine inspection of military facilities. Yet such facilities could play a crucial role should any State Party wish to establish a clandestine chemical weapons capability. Thousands of such facilities exist.
- (iv) Undeclared activities in facilities subject to declaration and routine inspection. Even with the level of inspection already provided in such cases, it is open to doubt whether, given the high risk to the Convention involved, adequate assurance would be provided that the facilities concerned were not being used for clandestine chemical weapon purposes. Hundreds of such facilities exist.
- (v) Certain other facilities under article III.1 (c) of CD/881. These are at present to be declared but not subject to routine inspection. This category perhaps poses less of a risk to the Convention than the others mentioned above, but some delegations have expressed concern about their exclusion from the inspection framework. Hundreds of such facilities exist.