

Mr. van SCHAIK (Netherlands):

... Today I shall only introduce some working documents. Later in this session I hope to give a somewhat more elaborate presentation on a number of issues. Let me start by introducing a document on behalf of those countries of the CD that are members of the North Atlantic Alliance, which I believe will be available at the end of this morning. It is CD/926, to which are attached two documents in the original French and English, a "Declaration of the heads of State and Government participating in the meeting of the North Atlantic Council in Brussels (29-30 May 1989)", and a report entitled "A comprehensive concept of arms control and disarmament" as adopted on the same occasion by the North Atlantic Council in Brussels. These important documents together reflect the views of the North Atlantic Alliance on progress in the field of arms control and disarmament. They point the way to achieving increased security at substantially lower levels of armaments. As such they are highly relevant for our work in the CD. The "comprehensive concept of arms control and disarmament" reiterates the Western commitment to a total ban on chemical weapons. The documents also make clear the Western position on nuclear weapons and conventional armaments. On this basis heads of State and Government have demonstrated both what can be achieved and the limits of what is feasible. I recommend these documents to your close scrutiny.

On behalf of the Netherlands delegation I would like to introduce working papers CD/924 and CD/925 on two trial inspections recently held in the Netherlands both in the same plant. I wish to recall that in 1986 the Netherlands organized one of the first trial inspections, which was followed by a workshop for all participants in the chemical weapons negotiations. The value of testing out inspection procedures has now been widely accepted, and a surprisingly large number of national trial inspections has been held since last year's summer session. Ambassador Ekéus and later Ambassador Hyltenius of Sweden have played a pivotal role in preparing these trial inspections and guiding their follow-up, and I wish to thank them for it. It has, up to now, been a very successful exercise.

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