

(Mr. Asif Ezdi, Pakistan)

of its organs should be entrusted with responsibility for initiating measures to be taken against the offending State should now be taken up. While this organizational question falls essentially under article VIII, we also recognize that it has a bearing on other parts of the convention. It might therefore be worth while to deal with this issue in a separate article and to take it up during the inter-sessional period along with other subjects mentioned by the Chairman of the Ad hoc Committee a short while ago.

The importance of the universality of the chemical weapons convention has been emphasized by several delegations. We agree with this view. Universality can best be achieved if the provisions of the convention are such that each State finds that its security interests are better served by being a party to it than by staying out. In this context, we would like to underline that effective provisions on assistance and on action to be taken in cases of violation can serve as significant incentives for acceding to the Convention.

CD/PV.482

21

Mr. BUTLER (Australia): Before making my statement today, I would like to invite the attention of the Conference to document CD/872 which I have asked to be circulated today. This provides the text of a statement made on 9 September by the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Senator Gareth Evans, on the reported use of chemical weapons against Kurdish tribes in northern Iraq.