

Mr. ELARABY (Egypt):

... On behalf of the Group of 21, I should like to make the following statement.

The Group of 21 is committed to the early conclusion of the negotiation by the Conference on Disarmament of a non-discriminatory convention on the complete and effective prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of all chemical weapons and on their destruction. This convention should be of universal adherence.

(Mr. Elaraby, Egypt)

The Group of 21 reaffirms its position that the future convention on chemical weapons should prohibit the use of such weapons under any circumstance from the date the convention enters into force. In the view of the Group of 21, this undertaking has already been agreed to in article I, paragraph 3 of the draft convention.

To this end all chemical weapons and chemical weapons production facilities shall be destroyed during the destruction period of 10 years as stipulated in article IV, paragraph 5 and article V, paragraph 8, and as reflected in the agreed proposal by the two major chemical weapons possessors on the order of destruction. This undertaking shall be without any reservation. The stocks and facilities shall be monitored by the future organization for the prohibition of chemical weapons until their total destruction not later than the end of the destruction period.