

(Mr. Wagenmakers, Netherlands)

announced an interesting additional training programme, aimed especially at clarifying the practical aspects of on-site inspections of CW stockpiles and chemical industrial plants. The German programme is intended for participants in the Finnish training sessions, and is subsequent to these. Apparently, some other States are also considering organizing training courses for future inspectors from developing countries.

The Netherlands has decided to add its own contribution to this commendable endeavour. In the second half of June 1992, we will organize a training programme for about 10 graduates in chemical sciences from developing countries. Since the programme is somewhat comparable to the German one, it seems more efficient to invite other graduates than those already involved in the next Finnish course.

A detailed letter inviting applications for the course will soon be sent to all delegations concerned, be they CD members or CD observers.

The intensive programme will include practical training in the use of protective gear, decontamination measures, sampling and transport of highly toxic chemicals, recognition of chemical munitions and, possibly, a kind of trial inspection in an industrial plant. All costs, including travel costs, will be borne by our Ministry of Development Cooperation. The course will be given by the Netherlands Chemical Defence Organization, the Prince Maurits Laboratory of the Netherlands Organization for Applied Scientific Research.

Finally, Mr. President, I would like to support what Ambassador von Wagner just said about the long lead-times involved in the effective training of candidate inspectors. I would join his urgent appeal to all those countries which consider establishing training programmes not to wait any longer but to take action now.

The PRESIDENT: I thank the representative of the Netherlands for his statement and for the kind words he addressed to the Chair.

That concludes my list of speakers for today. Does any other representative wish to take the floor at this stage? I see none.

Before we adjourn this plenary meeting, I wish to inform you of some pending questions with which we will be dealing at our next plenary meeting tomorrow. As is the practice of the Conference, we shall take up tomorrow, for adoption, the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons, which was introduced by the representative of the Russian Federation at our 610th plenary meeting and was circulated as document CD/1116. As I announced last week, we shall then formalize agreement on the organizational arrangements to be followed for agenda items 2 and 3, on which consensus was achieved during presidential consultations. I wish to inform you also that we should consider, tomorrow, another request from a non-member for participation in the work of the Conference. The relevant communication from Malta was circulated in the delegation's boxes late last week. Since, so far, that