
Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons

BRAZIL

Convention on Chemical Weapons

Aspects related to Economic and Technological Development

1. The banning of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons by means of an internationally binding instrument would represent a major achievement in the process of disarmament and, by the same token, a significant contribution to the strengthening of international peace and security. In the light of the important and manifold links between disarmament and security, on the one side, and economic development, on the other, a Convention on chemical weapons should necessarily include provisions related to the unfettered development of chemical industry for peaceful purposes, with due attention to the needs of the developing areas of the world.

2. The Convention should do so basically in two different ways.
(I) Firstly, in a negative way, by assuring that none of its provisions will be interpreted or implemented so as to hamper the development of chemical industry for peaceful purposes in any country whatsoever. (II) Secondly, in a positive way, by including specific provisions intended to promote development goals.

(I)

3. As regards the need for precluding interference with areas of activity unrelated to the purpose of banning chemical weapons -- a point which has already been dealt with by some delegations -- the Convention should expressly state that all of its provisions are to be interpreted and implemented so as to avoid hampering the economic and technological development of States Parties, and this on a universal and non-discriminatory basis. To this effect, and without prejudice to the inclusion of paragraph 8 in Article VI as registered in document CD/CW/WP.167, it is desirable that Article XI (Economic and Technological Development) include a separate paragraph which would read as follows:

"Nothing in this Convention shall be interpreted as establishing any discrimination between States Parties as regards their duties, obligations and responsibilities under the Convention, as well as their right to the development of chemical technology and industry for peaceful purposes".