

Mr. KASHIRIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (translated from Russian): The delegation of the Soviet Union highly appreciates the results of the negotiations conducted in 1985 in the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons under the leadership of its Chairman, the representative of a socialist country, Ambassador Turbanski of the Polish People's Republic. We note with satisfaction that this year the participants in the negotiations finally succeeded in breaking the "discussion barrier" and proceeding to concrete work on the elaboration of the text of the future convention. It is gratifying that for the first time in the negotiations the participants have a consolidated text of the basic provisions of the future convention which gives a clear presentation of the positions of the participating States and provides a sound basis for further work on the convention. We see in this the great merit, and the personal contribution, of the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee, Ambassador Turbanski of Poland, and of the Chairmen of the Working Groups on specific provisions of the future convention, Mr. Poptchev of Bulgaria, Mrs. Bonnier of Sweden, Mr. Elbe of the Federal Republic of Germany, and Mr. Wisnoemoerti of Indonesia.

At the same time we do not wish to paint you an excessively rosy picture. It is no secret that the results of our work could have been much more substantial if all delegations had endeavoured, not in words but in deeds, to undo the knots, and in the first place to resolve the binary problem.

The Soviet delegation approves the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons as a whole but wishes to state the following. With regard to the provision in article III, paragraph 4 on declarations of the location of chemical weapon stocks, the Soviet delegation reaffirms its position that we are ready to consider the creation, in the specialized facility for the destruction of stocks, of a depot whose location would be declared at the same time as the declaration of the location of the facility. We do not request that this verbal statement be set forth in any kind of footnote.

With regard to article VI, we wish to point out once again that we reserve our position as a whole on this article in view of the fact that its structure does not fully fit our approach to supertoxic lethal chemicals, which does not envisage dividing them into two categories, and also in this connection that its basic provisions in this regard have not been worked out. We consider that the provision concerning key components of binary or multicomponent systems requires further work. The position of the USSR is fully reflected in the relevant footnote to article VI.

These are some comments we wish to make in connection with the adoption today of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons.