

(Mr. Karhilo, Finland)

report, the fourteenth of the series, will be introduced here in the very near future. The new Blue Book is a revised version of Report D.1, "Standard Operating Procedures for the Verification of Chemical Disarmament" which was presented to the CD last summer. Revisions have been made on the basis of experience gained in applying our procedures to 40 chemicals. A chapter on liquid chromatography has been added, and all experimental data have been presented in the Appendix.

During the last years the Finnish Project has devoted considerable efforts to some of the basic elements of the inspection activities directly connected with the verification régime of the Convention. These are: instrumentation, standard operating procedures and computerized data base for the identification of the scheduled chemicals.

The instrumentation of the verification laboratories has been described in the recent working paper submitted by Finland (CD/CW/WP.253) which was introduced in the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons during the meeting with the representatives of chemical industries two weeks ago.

So far there is no generally accepted method for CW verification analyses. The standard operating procedures designed by our Project try to fill that gap. The need for generally accepted procedures is evident. All the analyses of the samples taken by the inspection teams should be carefully handled by identical procedures and analysed by exactly the same methods. Only then can the results become comparable. Only, then can they be universally relied upon, and leave no doubts about the scientific value of the findings. The importance of this cannot be over-estimated, as any violation will immediately become a political issue of large international dimensions. There must be no uncertainty about the soundness of the results.

Moreover, such precision combined with total impartiality can only be guaranteed if there is a network of qualified laboratories especially accredited to conduct the analyses. On one hand, the scientific and operational quality of these laboratories would have to be constantly tested and verified. On the other hand, the origin and nature of the real samples would have to be concealed from the laboratories. This would guarantee the impartiality of the analyses and minimize the risk of the disclosure of confidential information.

In order to guarantee world-wide distribution of the accredited laboratories, training in the analytical methods and in the use of the instruments is crucial. Also the inspectors of the International Inspectorate will have to be trained in these skills. Finland announced at the Paris Conference last January that it would be willing to provide this type of training for chemists from developing countries. I am now in a position to give more details of this training programme. It will be made available at this first stage to the interested member States of the Conference on Disarmament belonging to the Group of 21. The training course will have a duration of four months, and three analytical chemists can be trained at each course. We envisage organizing two courses a year, and thus six qualified