

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Report on the national trial inspection carried out in the USSR

Introduction

One of the most important problems being discussed at the present time during negotiations on the elaboration of a convention on the general and complete prohibition and destruction of stockpiles of chemical weapons and production facilities is that of ensuring effective international verification of the non-production of chemical weapons in industry.

In order to expedite work on the convention and to determine whether the proposed verification provisions it contains provide the necessary assurance that civil facilities are used only for purposes that are not prohibited, the Soviet Union took the initiative of conducting a trial inspection to test procedures for the systematic verification of the non-production of chemical weapons in industry. This initiative was supported in the Conference on Disarmament and document CD/CW/WP.213 was prepared as a result of consultations which were held in September 1988. The proposals it contains were used in the elaboration of a scenario with a view to conducting a national trial inspection in the USSR.

This document presents the results of this national trial inspection that was carried out in September-December 1988 at a selected facility in accordance with the provisions of the annex to article VI [2]. The presentation used corresponds in general to that of document CD/CW/WP.213.

A. General approach

1. Objectives of the national trial inspection

The objectives of the national trial inspection were the same as those described in document CD/CW/WP.213. However, as the enterprise in question does not process or use the chemicals it produces, the question of monitoring such processes did not arise.

2. Provisions of the draft convention under which the trial inspection took place: Annex to article VI [2]

A facility producing certain N,N-dialkylaminoethan-2-ols was selected for inspection purposes. The chemicals in question are included in the section of schedule [2] listing compounds that are to be discussed further.

3. Types of on-site inspection carried out

(a) Initial visit for familiarization purposes to verify initial declarations and collect information for the preparation of the "Agreement concerning a facility ...";

(b) Routine on-site inspection.