

III. VERIFICATION AND ASSURANCE

Consultative Committee

The Convention should provide for establishment of a Consultative Committee. The Committee should hold its first meeting within one month after entry into force of the Convention. Each party should be allowed to designate a representative to the Consultative Committee.

The Consultative Committee should:

(a) Develop and revise, as necessary, detailed provisions for exchange of information, declarations, and technical matters related to implementation of the Convention;

(b) Review new scientific and technical developments which could affect the operation of the Convention;

(c) Provide a forum for timely and responsive discussion of questions regarding compliance;

(d) Conduct (as specified in annexes) systematic on-site inspection of:

(1) declared stockpiles, on an agreed basis;

(2) destruction of declared stocks, on a continuous basis until destruction is completed;

(3) closure and destruction of declared production and filling facilities, at an agreed level until the facilities are destroyed;

(4) permitted small-scale production and facilities for super-toxic lethal chemicals for protective purposes, at an agreed level for as long as a facility is maintained for this purpose;

(5) production for permitted purposes, of specified types of chemicals which are deemed to pose a particular risk, on a random basis and at an agreed level.

Such systematic international on-site inspection would be agreed to in advance in the Convention and thus would be mandatory in nature.

(e) Conduct ad hoc on-site inspections for fact-finding purposes;

(f) Participate in ad hoc on-site inspection for fact-finding purposes agreed between two or more parties, if requested to do so by one of the parties involved.

All on-site inspections, both systematic and ad hoc, should be carried out according to procedures agreed in advance. An annex to the Convention should specify the objectives for inspections, contain guidelines for inspection procedures, and specify the rights and functions of inspectors and of host-State personnel.

The Consultative Committee should not take any decisions as to whether or not a party is in compliance with the provisions of the Convention.