

(Mr. Andreotti, Italy)

accelerating the proceedings of the Ad hoc Committee. I do not think there should be any opposition in principle to this proposal, also considering that - it would seem to me - the groundwork exists for reaching a solution to the satisfaction of all.

The Italian Government is firmly convinced that, within the framework of global and stable arms reductions, the elimination of chemical weapons is a priority.

However, we are certainly aware that the task of the Conference on Disarmament is not to deal only with chemical weapons to the exclusion of other problems. It is called upon to thoroughly examine numerous other important issues linked to arms control. We would like to see the negotiating dynamics which we note elsewhere applied to their solution too.

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(Mr. Genscher, Federal Republic of Germany)

The early conclusion of a convention for the global prohibition of chemical weapons continues to be a matter of high priority, in our view. In reality, they are not weapons, but devices for destroying man and nature.

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