

Moreover, the monitoring of compliance with the prohibition of the use in combat of chemical and bacteriological weapons can be effected only through an ad hoc instrument, in view of:

(a) The scope of the prohibition under the Geneva Protocol, which has customarily been regarded as being the broadest possible, including both bacteriological (biological) weapons and chemical weapons;

(b) The special procedures required for verification of compliance with the prohibition of the use in combat of chemical and bacteriological weapons.

The Committee on Disarmament, which is the only multilateral forum for disarmament negotiations, could be given the task of elaborating such an instrument, making whatever procedural arrangements it deemed appropriate, such as having the drafting done in its Ad Hoc Working Group on Chemical Weapons in view of the interrelatedness of the problems for purely practical reasons.

The elements of such an instrument, which might be entitled "Protocol on the monitoring of the prohibition of the use in combat of chemical and bacteriological (biological) or toxin weapons", could be structured as follows:

I. Preamble

Establishing the link between this Protocol, the Geneva Protocol of 1925, the 1972 Convention on the prohibition of biological weapons and the ongoing negotiations concerning the prohibition of chemical weapons;

Expressing the hope that States will agree among themselves, at the regional level, on measures stricter than those referred to in this Protocol.

II. Scope

Organization of the monitoring of the prohibition of the use in combat of the agents referred to in the Geneva Protocol of 1925 and of chemical and bacteriological (biological) or toxin weapons generally.

III. Activities and obligations

1. A firm commitment by States parties to consult one another and to co-operate in solving any problems which may arise in relation to compliance with the prohibition of the use of chemical and bacteriological (biological) or toxin weapons.

2. Such consultation and co-operation may also be undertaken through appropriate international procedures within the framework of the United Nations and in accordance with its Charter.