

(Mr. Benhima, Morocco)

illustration of universal mobilization to promote the banishment of these inhuman weapons forever, and it showed the consensus reached with regard to the importance and urgency of concluding the international convention on chemical weapons which is being negotiated by our Ad hoc Committee. In our view, this consensus does not reflect only a harmony of views among the 150 participating countries. It is the expression of a universal commitment to eliminate chemical weapons totally from the surface of the Earth. Just as it also bears witness to unanimous tribute and unflinching support by the international community for the work that has been going on in the Conference on Disarmament for a decade in this particular area. Finally, this consensus carries in it the political impetus so much sought by our Conference. I hope that our Conference will be able to make maximum use of it in order to progress rapidly in its negotiations so that the chemical weapons convention becomes a reality soon. My delegation will return to the work of the Ad hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons at greater length in a future statement.

I would not like to close this chapter without carrying out an agreeable duty, by expressing our immense gratitude to the French people and Government for the hospitality and perfect organization of the Conference, to the success of which Ambassador Morel contributed a readiness to co-operate, dynamism and talent.

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(Mr. Dietze, German Democratic Republic)

... The day before yesterday the distinguished French Foreign Minister quite impressively summed up the results of the Paris Conference on the prohibition of chemical weapons, and submitted proposals on future action. In fact, the Paris Conference has entrusted us with a mandate to conclude the negotiations

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