

only provokes revulsion. Chemical weapons must be banned. We owe our citizens no less. Let us get on with the task.²⁴

On 9 January 1989, Defence Minister Perrin Beatty announced the appointment of a full-time Defence Science Counsellor for chemical arms control negotiations as part of Canada's Permanent Mission to the CD, in order to "enhance Canada's contribution to concluding an effectively verifiable ban on chemical weapons."²⁵

Later that month, Mr. Beatty announced the Government's response to the Barton Report. On 25 January 1989, he stated that he had accepted all sixteen of the recommendations made in the report and had directed that they be implemented without delay.²⁶ In addition, the Minister announced that "in the interest of an open disarmament dialogue," he would be inviting officials of the Soviet Union to visit the Defence Research Establishment, Suffield. The purpose of the visit, Mr. Beatty explained, was to allow the Soviets to view the facilities, observe the process Canada used to destroy chemical agents, and share information on related technical issues.²⁷

On 7 March 1989, Ambassador to the CD de Montigny Marchand announced that Canada was preparing a working paper examining the cost implications of establishing an international inspectorate for a Chemical Weapons Convention.²⁸ The Ambassador also announced the distribution to the CD of the latest in Canada's series of compendia on chemical weapons (covering the 1988 CD session), as well as the study prepared by the Department of External Affairs' Verification Research Programme dealing with lessons provided by the IAEA for verification of a Chemical Weapons Convention.²⁹ Finally, he stated that Canada would soon be joining those member states that had conducted, or planned to conduct, test inspections of their national chemical industries. Results of these tests, he promised, would be provided as soon as they became available.³⁰

On 14 July 1989, Minister of National Defence Bill McKnight announced that a delegation from the Soviet Union had accepted the invitation to visit DRES.³¹ The

24 *Ibid.*, p. 4.

25 Department of National Defence, *News Release*, 9 January 1989.

26 Department of National Defence, *News Release*, 25 January 1989, p. 1.

27 *Ibid.*

28 Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations at Geneva, "Statement by Ambassador de Montigny Marchand before the Conference on Disarmament." 7 March 1989, p. 8.

29 *Ibid.*, p. 9.

30 *Ibid.*, p. 11.

31 Department of National Defence, *News Release*, 14 July 1989.