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Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons

TRIAL INSPECTIONS

Working Paper by the Chairman of the Open-ended Consultations

In the Draft Chemical Weapons Convention, a number of provisions relate to on-site inspections within the chemical industry. In order to expedite work on the Convention, and to assess whether the proposed text has adequate and practical provisions to provide the necessary assurance to States that civil facilities are used only for purposes not prohibited by the Convention, it has been suggested that trial inspections could be undertaken.

In a first stage, such trial inspections should be carried out on a national basis. In the second stage, the experiences of the national trial inspections should be pooled and evaluated together, in the light of the relevant provisions of the draft Convention. This process could be devoted to the discussion of what might be involved in, and elaboration of, modalities for the third stage: trial inspections with multilateral participation.

This paper is primarily intended to assist interested States in their preparations for the national trial inspections. The suggestions contained in the paper are not in any way binding or mandatory, but can be regarded as a list of issues of relevance to the trial inspections.

The paper is divided into three parts. The first part (A. General Approach) could be used for the development of scenarios for the trial inspections. The second part (B. Detailed Approach) provides a kind of "check-list" for the elaboration of procedures for the conduct of the trial inspections. The third part (C. Specific Aspects) provides a list of issues

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\*/ Reissued for technical reasons.