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Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons
to the Conference on Disarmament on its work during
the period 12-30 January 1987

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with the decision taken by the Conference on Disarmament at its 384th plenary meeting held on 29 August 1986, the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons resumed its work on 12 January 1987 under the Chairmanship of Ambassador Ian Cromartie (United Kingdom). Mr. Abdelkader Bensmail, Deputy Chief of the Geneva Branch, Department for Disarmament Affairs, continued to serve as Secretary of the Committee, assisted by Mr. Michael Cassandra, Political Affairs Officer, Department for Disarmament Affairs.

2. The Ad Hoc Committee held four meetings from 12-30 January 1987. In accordance with the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee, as contained in its Report to the Conference on Disarmament (CD/727), open-ended consultations of the Ad Hoc Committee were held between 24 November and 17 December 1986 in preparation for the resumed session.

3. The representatives of the following States not members of the Conference participated in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee: Austria, Finland, Greece, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, and Spain.

II. SUBSTANTIVE WORK DURING THE RESUMED SESSION

4. In accordance with its mandate, the Ad Hoc Committee continued the consideration of Articles III, IV, V, VI and IX, and parts of Article II relevant to Articles V and VI of the Draft Convention, utilizing the Appendix to the Report on its work in 1986 (CD/727) as well as proposals made by delegations.

5. Working Group A, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Richard Rowe (Australia), continued to deal with Article VI and its corresponding Annexes. There was also discussion on the subject of supertoxic lethal chemicals other than those listed in Schedule [1] and on proposals for guidelines for considering whether a chemical should be included in Schedule [1]. The state of the discussion is reflected in the two papers of the Chairman of Working Group A, contained in Appendix II.

6. Working Group B, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Petar Poptchev (Bulgaria), continued to deal with Articles III, IV and V and their corresponding Annexes.