

tries anything against Iraq." He also stated: "Those who threaten us with atomic weapons shall be exterminated by us with chemical weapons."<sup>6</sup>

Recent progress at the CD has been evident in the near doubling of non-member participants involved in the chemical weapons negotiations, and in the submissions of reports by more than thirty states to date concerning inspections of their chemical industries (i.e., National Test Inspections). Nevertheless, several issues require further attention. These include: verification (and particularly the procedural details for instituting challenge inspection and *ad hoc* inspections), sanctions, assistance and the role of the Executive Council.

On 1 June 1990, the United States and the Soviet Union took an important step to facilitate the conclusion and implementation of a multilateral agreement banning chemical weapons. During their Washington Summit meeting, Presidents Bush and Gorbachev signed a bilateral agreement on the destruction and non-production of chemical weapons and on measures to facilitate the adoption of a multilateral convention banning such weapons.<sup>7</sup> In their statements of intentions, both parties expressed their determination to do their utmost to conclude and implement a multilateral convention on chemical weapons. Under the terms of the bilateral agreement, the United States and the Soviet Union undertake (once the agreement comes into effect) to stop all production of chemical weapons and to begin the destruction of their stockpiles prior to the end of 1992. The parties also undertake to destroy at least half of the stockpiles before the end of 1999, so that the maximum they will have as of 31 December 2002 will be 5,000 tons.

Among the measures taken to facilitate the conclusion of a multilateral convention, the United States and the Soviet Union agreed to reduce and limit their chemical weapons so that at the latest, eight years after a multilateral convention has come into effect, the combined quantities of stocks possessed by both countries will not exceed 500 tons. Washington and Moscow also agreed to consult with other participants in the multilateral negotiations with a view to proposing that a special conference of parties to the convention be held eight years after it comes into effect. The purpose of such a conference would be to determine whether there was sufficient support for the multilateral convention to ensure the complete elimination in subsequent years of all stocks of remaining chemical weapons.

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<sup>6</sup> "Israel s'inquiète des menaces de l'Irak." *Le Monde*, 4 April 1990, pp. 1 and 7. See also "Le président Hussein menace de mettre a feu la moitié d'Israël." *Le Monde*, 4 April 1990, p. 7.

<sup>7</sup> "Agreement Between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on Destruction and Non-Production of Chemical Weapons and on Measures to Facilitate the Multilateral Convention on Banning Chemical Weapons," reproduced in *Chemical Weapons Convention Bulletin* no. 8, (June 1989), pp. 19-22. See also "Agreed Statement in Connection with the Agreement Between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on Destruction and Non-Production of Chemical Weapons and on Measures to Facilitate the Multilateral Convention on Banning Chemical Weapons," reproduced in *Chemical Weapons Convention Bulletin* no. 8 (June 1989), p. 22.