



An important point to mention is the provision within the CWC for the protection of sensitive or confidential business information both nationally and internationally.

WHAT ARE YOUR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE CWC?

Under Bill C-87, legislation has been passed to give the government the authority to ensure that it is able to meet its obligations under the CWC regarding collection of data by the government and the inspection of relevant Canadian facilities by international inspectors. The legislation contains provisions concerning the obligations of companies in Canada to provide the required information and to facilitate inspections. Consultations with industries and their associations concerning the CWC's implications are currently underway.

Once the Convention enters into force for Canada, the government will be obliged to provide Initial Declarations of aggregate national data to the OPCW within the first 30 days. To be able to meet this deadline, the government will require input from companies well in advance of the date when this information will be due.

WHAT IS THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION NATIONAL AUTHORITY?

The legislation establishes a Chemical Weapons Convention National Authority within the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada. The National Authority will be responsible for collecting data on activities in Canada that are relevant to the Convention and reporting this information to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. The National Authority will also be responsible for facilitating and, as necessary, escorting any international inspection of Canadian facilities. It will be the primary source in Canada for information on the Convention and the principal contact for Canadian companies for advice on their rights and obligations under the Convention.

