

IV. DEADLINE SCHEDULES

The table below summarizes the proposals contained in this document. The starting point designated "Ao" is the date of entry into force of the convention and Ao + 10 (years) is the end of the destruction of the chemical warfare potential.

In order to ensure balanced destruction of stocks, it is essential to provide for:

1. A process whereby the main holders of military stocks are brought to a position of parity half way through the destruction process (i.e., by the end of the fifth year);
2. The preservation until the eighth year of an interim militarily significant stock for the countries participating in the munitions-destruction process so as to ensure under verifiable conditions a good balance of security.

The precise definition of what constitutes a "militarily significant stock" is, of course, a difficult matter. For the purposes of this document, the term has been assumed to mean the quantity appropriate to the deployment for a period of three days by an army in a theatre of military operations of a sustained chemical retaliatory capability (in the case of the USSR and the United States of America, this quantity has been allowed for three armies which may be present in as many as three different theatres). This gives a munitions equivalent of 4,000 metric tons of toxic substances for the United States and the Soviet Union and 1,000 tons for the others. These quantities would have to be destroyed during the last two years of the destruction process.