

Mr. CAMPORA (Argentina) (translated from Spanish):

... We are convinced that the time has come to make the maximum effort to intensify negotiations to bring about a convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons before a new arms race begins in this area. We believe that

(Cont'd)

What could seem to be the way of this? Only attempts to outline the draft of a future treaty with one hand while negotiating constants of binary chemical weapons with the other.

And one may say how immoral this is, how incompatible with the goal before

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(Mr. Shavarskiy, USSR)

The Soviet Union will continue to cooperate actively with all the participants in the Conference on Disarmament so that the long-awaited agreement becomes a reality. We did not discuss the debates and differences that emerged in the process. One thing alone was considered absolutely imperative -- that the convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons and destruction of their stockpiles should be adopted, and as early as possible.

I am honoured to inform you that the Soviet delegation at the negotiations on this question will proceed from the need to make reality the principle of equality of weapons and inspection without the right of refusal. This position is another vivid manifestation of our commitment to genuine and effective relations, in accordance with the principles of new political thinking.

In order to build an atmosphere of trust, and in the interests of an early conclusion of an international convention, the Soviet side invites the participants in the chemical weapons negotiations to visit the Soviet military facilities as necessary to see firsthand items of our chemical weapons and observe the technology for the destruction of chemical weapons at a mobile facility. Later we will invite experts to the special chemical weapon destruction plant now being built in the vicinity of the town of Chagayevsk.

In making this announcement, I hope that the participants in the Conference will duly appreciate our desire to settle the most complicated issues that have appeared in the process of drawing up the convention.