

(Mr. Kazemi Kamyab, Islamic Republic of Iran)

violators on every occasion that such a violation might occur. Otherwise the new convention will suffer the same fate as the Geneva Protocol of 1925 and other related instruments. Due to the importance and urgency of the preparation of a new instrument on the prohibition of chemical weapons every effort should be made to speed up the processes of finalization of the convention.

The Islamic Republic of Iran is of the view that prime importance should be given to the prohibition of the manufacture, the acquisition, the stockpiling and use of chemical weapons, and serious speedy measures should be taken to realize these objectives. One of the main elements in guaranteeing the non-use of chemical weapons is the elimination of existing stockpiles and facilities. The idea of on-site monitoring of the destruction and diversion of existing stockpiles is a sound one and we believe it should be given unreserved support. In this respect we all owe a great deal to the valuable contribution of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany which arranged a workshop in Munster in June 1984.

The countries which fall victim to the use of chemical weapons or are subjected to the threat of such use should be supported by other States in the elimination of the grave consequences of the use of chemical weapons by which they have been afflicted. One suggestion in that regard is that they should be assisted in every possible way to combat the effects of these horrible weapons by defensive and protective measures and that they should be equipped medically to provide care for the victims who have been so afflicted.

We propose that a fact-finding team should be automatically sent out by the Executive Council in response to a request made by a State Party which is the victim of the use of chemical weapons, for inspection to be carried out in territories under its control. In this regard the importance of the existence of a permanent fact-finding team which can act promptly on such requests is evident.

I would like to refer to paragraph 7 of the recent statement of the Group of 21, contained in document CD/513 in which the Group, confronted with the complete violations of the 1925 Geneva Protocol by Iraq as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General's Expert Team who visited Iran (Report No. S/16433) declared that "in view of recent events the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons should continue the drafting of the convention with the greatest urgency" and I hereby convey the sincere appreciation of the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Swedish delegation, particularly Ambassador Rolf Ekéus, for the excellent chairmanship of the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons and to the Chairmen of the Working Groups, Mr. Duarte of Brazil, Mr. Akkerman of the Netherlands and Mr. Thieliicke of the German Democratic Republic.