

(Mr. Skinner, Canada)

There is general understanding on what that capacity might be, but wording to express that understanding has yet to be formulated. A number of countries, in addition, have given no reports on the number of plans in their own countries making what are called key precursors.

Finally, the concept of making simple initial declarations of stocks followed by later detailed declarations of plants for their destruction was clarified to a considerable extent, although I must add that there remains no final agreement on timing of initial declarations.

In conclusion, on behalf of Ambassador McPhail, for whom I speak today, I would like to thank all members of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Chemical Weapons without whose co-operation and active support the recommendations contained in document CD/429 could not have been agreed and presented to the Conference on Disarmament. In this regard, a special word of appreciation goes to the four contact group co-ordinators, whose efforts were invaluable in bringing this phase of our work on chemical weapons to a successful conclusion. In addition, of course, Ambassador McPhail would like to thank all officers of this body and particularly the Secretariat, including our interpreters and translators.

I would ask, through you Mr. President that the Conference on Disarmament adopt this morning the recommendations contained in the entire document presented to you in my statement. Thank you.