

(Mr. Sujka, Poland)

meet the requirements of the chemical industry's interests. This approach, it seems, could also help us to find the proper place in the verification system as a whole for one of the outstanding verification issues, namely, the most relevant production capabilities.

Let me add a brief comment on this very issue. It becomes evident that concentrating upon the most relevant chemicals does not automatically ensure that the capabilities are covered. During one of the industrial experts' meetings an interesting sentence was uttered: "The modern chemical facility which cannot produce a tabun is just not a modern one." It is not difficult to imagine that possible breach is more likely in undeclared facilities than in declared. It is therefore important to consider possible measures to cover at least to some extent facilities that do not produce or process any of the scheduled chemicals but pose a risk to the convention. In this very context we are also prepared to discuss further the United Kingdom's proposal for ad hoc inspections.

I should like to take another example from a different part of the "rolling text" - namely, articles X and XI. We are to try here another approach, namely, to narrow different views towards reaching a compromise solution. We can use here in this context a rule of logic which draws a kind of measure from the purpose. Although these articles deal with rights and obligations of States in two different spheres, their common function should be to stimulate positive interest in the convention so as to ensure its universality. We are to look for a solution of the divergences so clearly exposed in the text such as could make possible a compromise between the need to make the convention attractive and the desire of States to keep their chemical industries competitive.

Another element which is to be taken into consideration in our negotiations is the need for a cautious approach to the "rolling text". It is troubling that there should be more and more frequent returns to consideration of tentatively agreed parts of the text, returns which are justified neither by a change of position on a given aspect nor by progress on another, related part of the text. I would not like to be interpreted as implying that my delegation is wholly against renewed discussion on provisions on which convergence of views has been achieved. Nevertheless, at this stage of negotiations it is preferable not to take a step back if it would not result in making two steps ahead, so as to have at least a step-by-step progress. Otherwise we contribute ourselves to prolongation of the negotiating process.

I have touched upon only some aspects of agenda item 4. My delegation strongly believes that conditions have been created to undertake decisive efforts on this issue. I fully agree with all preceding speakers who have expressed their concern that we might lose momentum towards achieving the complete elimination of chemical weapons. There are legitimate reasons for critical assessment of the pace of negotiations on this item. The more so as in the rather quiet waters of our Conference the negotiations on this agenda item constitute a kind of "island of hope" for the Conference not to be in the deep arrière-garde of present disarmament efforts. It is an "island of hope" because an agreement seems to be within reach and because one can expect a positive impact of this agreement on other parts of our agenda.