

(Mr. Turbanski, Poland)

bilateral Soviet-American consultations -- which we wholeheartedly welcome. It was broadly felt that their results were simultaneously incorporated into the work of the relevant Working Groups.

During this year's negotiations, new incentives were given to the Conference and many interesting, valuable ideas and proposals were put forward.

The proposal made by the General Secretary of the CPSU, Mikhail Gorbachev on 15 January 1986 to get rid, before the end of this century, of weapons of mass destruction, one of them being chemical weapons, paved the way for more fruitful and faster work in the Ad hoc Committee. The ideas stemming from this proposal were later developed and specified at the Conference. I have in mind the Soviet Union's proposals of 22 April 1986. They opened new possibilities for the solution of the crucial problem of elimination of the industrial basis for production of chemical weapons, thereby enabling faster work and progress in Group B.

My delegation considers as well that the Workshop held in the Netherlands in June this year also served its purpose. It brought out a better understanding of problems concerning verification of chemical industry with regard to the area of non-production, making it also more clear that actual possibilities of such verification are not unlimited, that they are bound to have certain limitations which need further study. At the same time it seems that this practical exercise indicated the important role which verification at the national level could and should play in this respect. Allow me, Mr. President, through you to thank the authorities and the delegation of the Netherlands for this useful initiative, hospitality, and excellent organization of the Workshop.

Many other interesting, thought-provoking working and conference room papers were put forward in the Committee, in the plenary and in the Working Groups, especially with regard to various aspects of verification of the future convention.

But the intensity of work on CW prohibition, impressive as it is, has not so far brought results which are equally impressive. I have to admit, however, there is always a certain degree of intermediary results which are still not mature enough to appear in a written, agreed form. What seems to be also important is that there is more creative thinking in seeking new, mutually acceptable approaches. Sometimes it is better to start from a general definition before getting into details, but in other cases it might be more productive to start from details before coming to more general notions.

That is why an attempt to assess or to measure progress made during this year's session would not only be a very difficult task but the result of such an assessment would most probably be rather inaccurate.

I think, however, that today, at the end of the 1986 session, everybody would probably agree that the achieved results, though not up to some expectations, are certainly not disappointing. We have moved forward in the elaboration of the CW convention. The body of the preliminary structure of the convention is getting thicker and more concrete, though I believe we should be careful not to overload it with too many details.