

that the need to remind States of that obligation, or even the need to question any State's compliance, will never arise. Our hope is that any problem that does arise should be settled amicably at a bilateral level and we consider that the compliance procedure should allow for this.

16. If, however, a problem cannot be solved at the bilateral level, any State party should be able to call a meeting of the Consultative Committee to consider the problem, and to ascertain the facts. The complainant should support his complaint with evidence concerning the alleged breach or misunderstanding. As already stated the challenged State should be obliged to provide evidence in its defence. However, we believe that the complaints procedure should protect States party against unfounded allegations. Therefore, although States with nothing to hide should have no worries about on-site inspections, we believe that, if the Consultative Committee overwhelmingly decide that the complaint is completely unfounded, the challenged State should not be obliged to allow an on-site inspection. On the other hand, if the Consultative Committee is dissatisfied with the explanations proffered by the challenged State, and the latter is not prepared to allow on-site inspections, even after a further request, it would be appropriate for the complainants or the Consultative Committee to present their case to the United Nations Security Council for its consideration.

Conclusions

17. To summarize, the United Kingdom believes that any CW convention must be adequately verifiable. This will require the establishment of a Consultative Committee whose role will be to ensure the full and proper implementation of the Convention, and thereafter to monitor continued compliance. The Committee would also be responsible for establishing an effective complaints procedure. The elaboration of such a system will require more detailed examination once agreement in principle has been reached.

18. In order to aid the Ad Hoc Working Group on Chemical Weapons in their consideration of these proposals, we set out below United Kingdom views on verification and monitoring compliance in the form of a set of draft elements for a convention.