

On-site inspection on challenge

This paper represents the views of the Chairman on the state of affairs of consultations carried out by him on the issue of On-site Inspection on Challenge. Nothing contained therein constitutes any agreement and therefore does not bind any delegation. The paper is presented with the sole aim of facilitating for delegations to analyse the situation and to arrive at common approaches and positions in the future work of the Committee.

As a point of departure for the consultations was taken the four points of convergence detected by the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee for 1986 as a result of his consultations on Article IX (CD/734).

Furthermore, in evaluating different possible components of a system for challenge inspection the following three questions have proved generally acceptable and useful as yardsticks:

- Would they deter against violations?
- Would they give reassurance of compliance?
- Would they build confidence?

In the consultations a number of elements have been identified which taken together in the view of the Chairman could indicate a possible approach for initiating challenge inspection. This approach is outlined in points 1-7 in Part I below.

As regards the actual conduct of a challenge inspection it appears to the Chairman that a convergence of views has taken place on some aspects of the issue. These are reflected in points 8-13 of Part II below. On other aspects related to the conduct of an inspection, delegations have given expression to quite different approaches. A number of questions have been raised in the search for solutions. A problem-oriented description of these questions is also contained in Part II.

As regards the process after the actual inspection has been concluded only limited discussions have taken place. These are reflected in Part III of this paper.