In order to ease the burden of inspections, chemicals have been divided into those which pose low, moderate or high risk to the maintenance of a chemical weapons ban. Each of these types of chemicals will have its own verification regime.

In August 1988, verification experts discussed the problem of routine inspections. Sutherland said that they realized how difficult it would be, in practice, to obtain the information necessary and how easy it would be for the inspected party to cheat. In order to verify compliance with a high degree of confidence, it may be necessary to resort to challenge inspections. This is an issue of ongoing debate because some consider challenge inspections to be too intrusive.

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The experts' workshop broke up into small discussion groups in order to discuss in detail specific problems confronting a CWC. The goal was for each group to draft a specific recommendation to submit either to the Canadian government or to the negotiators in Geneva. These recommendations are reproduced verbatim in the following section.