

As part of Australia's Chemical Weapons Regional Initiative, a Workshop for Government chemists was held at the Australian Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) Materials Research Laboratory (MRL) between 26-30 August 1991. One of the activities of this workshop was a Trial Inspection of a Schedule 3 or "Other Relevant" Chemical Facility. One of the objectives of the inspection was to familiarise the participants of the workshop on the possible form of routine qualitative inspections of Schedule 3 and other "Other Relevant" facilities to be carried out under the future CWC.

The Trial Inspection was conducted by Australia. Participants from Brunei, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Indonesia, Kiribati, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Vanuatu and Vietnam observed the conduct of the inspection.

This inspection is described in the remainder of this working paper.

Objectives of the Inspection

The basic objectives for the verification regime to cover these facilities should be:

- a. to deter the covert production, in chemical industry, of Scheduled chemicals which may then be used for CW purposes; and
- b. to provide assurance to States Parties that other States Parties are not using their chemical industry in violation of the CWC.

In our view, these objectives may best be realised for Schedule 3 or Other Relevant Facilities, by using the plantsite as the unit of declaration and inspection. In order for this inspection regime to be both effective and cost-effective, the inspection of the plantsite would need to be carried out in a reasonably short time, preferably within one working day, without a prior "facility agreement".

With this in mind, the trial inspection was conducted with a view to:

- . investigate the feasibility of inspecting a chemical plantsite without a previously agreed "facility agreement";
- . determine whether the activities observed at the inspected plantsite were consistent with the information provided by the company during an initial briefing to the inspection team;
- . look for any unusual features that could be suggestive of the company violating the CWC; and