

(Mr. Sujka, Poland)

and/or convergences of views in some areas and sectors of the future convention. I hope that the reports of the co-ordinators of the contact groups which are attached to the Working Group's report adequately reflect all the willingness to negotiate and to try to find agreed solutions. At the same time, they constitute a very good background for further negotiations. I wish to emphasize especially the willingness for further negotiations because -- being far from complacent -- I know how much time and effort must still be put in before the draft convention is ready.

Having this in mind and taking into account the progress which has been made by the contact groups in clarifying many issues as well as in seeking possible spheres of understanding through alternative and optional formulations and whenever possible through working hypotheses, I tried to sum them up in the form of possible compromise wordings of the elements which I presented recently to the Ad Hoc Working Group. I fully realize that it is far from being a perfect paper. I have not had such ambitions. I do hope, however, that it will help delegations in the drafting process and provide their respective Governments with a better knowledge of the present state of the negotiations. In this connection, I hope that the document entitled "Views of the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Chemical Weapons on possible compromise wordings of the elements of a future convention", has already been circulated as a document under the number CD/333. Such was indeed the general wish of the Ad Hoc Working Group.

As is stated in paragraph 17 of its report the Group agreed, inter alia, "to recommend to the Committee on Disarmament that it should continue its work under the present Chairman between 17 and 28 January 1983 ...". In thanking the members of the Group for the confidence thus expressed, I endorse the said recommendations and hope that they, as well as the whole report, will meet with the Committee's approval. May I take this opportunity to appeal to all the delegations to take advantage of the recess to study the background material of this session so that we could make further tangible progress in January 1983 both in the work of the Group and in the consultations on technical issues.

With your permission, Mr. Chairman, I would like to conclude my introduction to the Committee of the draft report of the Working Group on Chemical Weapons by wholeheartedly thanking all the delegations for their valuable contribution to the Group's work. My special thanks are directed to the co-ordinators of the contact groups, Ms. Nascimbene of the Argentinian delegation, Mr. Melescanu (Romania), Mr. Lundin (Sweden), Mr. Skinner (Canada), Mr. Steele (Australia), Mr. Altaf (Pakistan), Mr. Duarte (Brazil), and Mr. Thielicke (German Democratic Republic). I am deeply convinced that no word of appreciation can be regarded as overestimating their contribution. We have had again this year sometimes a hard time. Our endurance has again been tested. But I am happy to emphasize that the Group has been trying to overcome the difficulties in a spirit of compromise. For myself, as its Chairman, this is the best reward for my own effort and the not easy job in the Chair.

My sincere thanks go to Mrs. Waldheim-Natural for her assistance as Secretary of the Working Group during the spring session and to Mr. Bensmail for his help and valuable advice during the summer session. I thank very much the secretariat staff and the interpreters for their excellent collaboration during the whole 1982 session.