

(Mr. Benhima, Morocco)

Treaty, particularly the Executive Council. The process of sketching out a number of criteria for the appointment of the future members of this Council should be pursued in the same spirit as last year in order to bring the different positions closer together. The main bodies of the future Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons should have the necessary power to do their job properly. These bodies, the product of the will of the international community, should take account of the aspirations of all the parties in a balanced and non-discriminatory way. This is a necessary condition to guarantee technological co-operation among the States parties and free access for all to the purely civilian applications of the chemical industry.

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Ms. SINEGIORGIS (Ethiopia):

... The decade of the 1980s which has just ended was a decade during which the international community showed particular concern over the spiralling arms race and exerted considerable efforts to achieve concrete disarmament measures. It is to be recalled that two United Nations special sessions devoted to disarmament, and a Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, were held between 1982 and 1988. At the close of the decade two other important conferences that dealt with chemical weapons were convened - the Paris Conference of States Parties to the 1925 Geneva Protocol and Other Interested States and the Canberra Government-Industry Conference against Chemical Weapons.

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(Ms. Sinigiorgis, Ethiopia)

... It is indeed encouraging that during the last few years steps have been taken by countries both at the bilateral and at the multilateral level in such areas as the reduction of conventional armed forces, the restructuring of military forces and other related confidence-building and security-building measures. More particularly, it is gratifying to note that the two super-Powers, having concluded the INF Treaty in 1987, are currently making progress in their negotiations on 50 per cent reductions in their strategic nuclear arms, and towards the banning of chemical weapons.