

(Mr. Schori, Sweden)

The Conference on Disarmament has taken important steps to ban chemical weapons. These efforts must be sustained and accelerated. A successful outcome of the chemical-weapons negotiations would provide us with a complete and verifiable disarmament treaty. It would be the first of its kind. A Chemical Weapons Convention would thus transcend into a demonstration that it is possible to eradicate a whole category of existing weapons and to ban all future such weapons. It will also demonstrate that the even more important task of banning all nuclear weapons through verifiable agreement could be legally and technically possible.

(Mr. Lowitz, United States)

Regarding the negotiations on chemical weapons, Ambassador Turbanski of Poland, the distinguished Chairman of the Chemical Weapons Committee, is to be congratulated for the Committee's report. My delegation notes with pleasure that this report contains a comprehensive text that will serve as the basis for future work on the Chemical Weapons Convention. We believe it is a document that, to a higher degree than in the past, reflects the current state of the negotiations. Where there is agreement, the text to a great extent reflects it; where agreement is lacking, that, too, is made clear.

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