

(Mr. Ngoubeyou, Cameroon)

... Turning to chemical weapons, I should point out that the report presented by Ambassador Hyltenius, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons, shows the substantial progress that has been achieved in the elaboration of the draft convention on chemical weapons. Here we would like to congratulate Ambassador Hyltenius for his tremendous contribution. The importance of such a legal instrument in formalizing the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons, particularly in the light of events in the Gulf, needs no further demonstration. That is why we hope that under the enlightened guidance of Ambassador Batsanov, the Ad Hoc Committee will make every effort to settle the highly complex political and technical questions that have still to be resolved and reach agreement on the substance of this international convention which we have awaited with such impatience. The Cameroonian delegation, which will again be participating in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee this year, will make its modest contribution to the search for compromise solutions.

Here it is appropriate to stress the value of CW trial inspections such as those carried out jointly at the Canadian military base at Lahr in Germany by the Netherlands and Canada. Such trials make it possible to verify the applicability of the provisions of the protocol on inspection procedures, to initiate participants into techniques for implementing the future convention and to promote understanding among States. We hope that the Conference will be in a position to achieve concrete progress in finalizing the text of the convention on chemical weapons. Likewise, since there is no fundamental objection in the Conference to the idea of an international convention aimed at providing non-nuclear-weapon States with assurances against the use or threat of use of such weapons, even if the difficulties involved in developing a common approach are still great, Cameroon hopes that the members of the Conference will redouble their efforts to study further the different approaches that have been envisaged in order to overcome the difficulties, reach an agreement as soon as possible and conclude effective international arrangements relating to the security of the non-nuclear-weapon States.

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(Mr. Loeis, Indonesia)

... Referring to item 4 of our agenda, let me begin by saying that my delegation's basic position was well reflected in the statement of the distinguished delegate of Peru on behalf of the Group of 21 a few days ago. The future convention, while safeguarding civilian chemical industry and promoting international co-operation in the field of peaceful uses of chemicals, must in the first place be designed to achieve the total destruction of existing arsenals and outlaw the use of these abhorrent weapons. Given the long-standing loathing of these weapons by the world community, which is now increased by the threat of the possible use of these