

- Technical support for the Organization
- Maintenance and storage of verification equipment and protective means

Verification analysis

39. Inspectors may encounter situations when the available instrumentation is not sufficient to give unambiguous results, and in some situations the inspectors may decide that further chemical analysis in off-site laboratories may be required. This is especially obvious in situations when the on-site analyses would indicate a possibility of non-compliance with the Convention.

40. The draft Convention (CD/1046) requires in cases of off-site analyses independent results from at least two laboratories. If their results are contradictory a third laboratory should be used for confirmatory analysis.

41. The analytical tasks that the off-site laboratories would be required to do are:

- Unambiguous identification of scheduled compounds
- Structure elucidation of possible novel agents
- Quantification

42. Identification of a scheduled chemical is considered unambiguous when two independent spectrometric (MS, IR, NMR) techniques produce corroborative results. Thus at least two of these techniques must be available at laboratories accredited for verification analysis.

43. While recognizing the fact that the MS technique may be the only technique sensitive enough for identification, the Group considered important that an accredited laboratory is able to use another technique, and if possible, all three spectrometric techniques. This may be especially important for structure elucidation.

44. The Group discussed the role of other laboratories in verification analysis, and concluded that while they may analyse the duplicates of samples collected during inspections which the National Authority has the right to receive, these laboratories do not form part of the international laboratory network of the CWC Organization.

Analytical methods development

45. In order to ensure that the Organization has at all times at its disposal the best available means for verification, it is an absolute necessity to continue to develop these analytical methods. It is evident that the verification laboratories should improve the existing methods and develop new ones.

46. Although the methods development is in essence a voluntary activity for the laboratories, there may be cases when the