

concluded that the IAEA could offer significant and valuable insights for chemical weapons verification. The lessons derived would, however, be limited to issues of general approach rather than detailed application, in large part owing to significant differences between the nuclear and chemical industries.<sup>15</sup>

On 7 December 1988, at the Forty-third Session of the UN General Assembly, Canada co-sponsored three resolutions on chemical and biological weapons. Resolution 43/74A called for strict adherence to the Geneva Protocol and a continuation of efforts by the Secretary-General, with the assistance of his Group of Experts, to develop further guidelines and procedures for investigations into accusations of use.<sup>16</sup> Resolution 43/74B expressed satisfaction with the adoption of procedures for the exchange of information in accordance with the second review conference of the BWC, and the fact that the second such exchange was currently underway. It also called upon states that had not yet participated in such exchanges to do so, and requested the Secretary-General to provide assistance where required to facilitate implementation of the relevant parts of the final declaration. The Resolution concluded by calling upon all states to ratify or sign the Convention if they had not yet done so.<sup>17</sup> Finally, Resolution 43/74C urged that efforts be intensified and that increased time be devoted to the negotiation of a Chemical Weapons Convention.<sup>18</sup> All three Resolutions were adopted by consensus.

In December 1988, the Government released a report entitled *Research Development and Training in Chemical and Biological Defence Within The Department of National Defence and the Canadian Forces*. Written by Mr. William H. Barton, Chairman of the Board of the Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security, the study was undertaken in response to concerns raised last summer about nerve gas testing at Canadian Forces Base Suffield, Alberta (for more information, see Chemical and Biological Weapons, Chapter 4 in the 1987-1988 edition of *The Guide*). The report concluded that all research, development and training activities undertaken by the Department of National Defence were for purposes of self-defence, that this constituted the most prudent course for Canada, and that it was consistent with the international obligations undertaken by the Canadian Government. In addition, the study noted that all such activities were conducted in a professional manner, and posed no threat to public safety or to the environment. Nevertheless, it went on to list sixteen recommendations aimed at improving management, control and public understanding of the chemical and biological self-defence programme. These recommendations included: the tightening of safety procedures and physical security arrangements at Defence Research Establishment, Suffield (DRES) and Defence Research Establishment, Ottawa (DREO); reducing the number of outdoor tests at

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15 "University of Calgary Workshop on Verification of a Chemical Weapons Convention." *The Disarmament Bulletin* (Fall-Winter 1988), p. 5. See also James Keeley, *International Atomic Energy Agency Safeguards: Observations on Lessons for Verifying a Chemical Weapons Convention*. Ottawa: Department of External Affairs, *Arms Control and Disarmament Verification Occasional Papers* No.1, September 1988.

16 UNGA Resolution 43/74 (A), 7 December 1988.

17 UNGA Resolution 43/74 (B), 7 December 1988.

18 UNGA Resolution 43/74 (C), 7 December 1988.