

Mr. TURBANSKI (Poland): Mr. President, before I come to the main subject of my statement today, which will be chemical weapons, I would like to welcome wholeheartedly the recent extremely important decision taken by the Soviet Union with respect to the extension until the end of this year of its unilateral moratorium on all nuclear tests, which was so fully presented by the representative of the Soviet Union, Comrade Kashirin.

As I have indicated, today I should like to make several comments and observations on some aspects of item 4 of the agenda, i.e. chemical weapons. Poland attaches great importance to negotiations on the prohibition of chemical weapons. My delegation does its best to contribute to the Conference's work in this field, including as item co-ordinator for the group of socialist countries.

The Conference on Disarmament is getting closer to its goal of elaborating a draft treaty on the prohibition of chemical weapons. Over the years a lot of work has been done, but the convention as a whole has not yet been born. Let us believe the delivery will be prompt and successful. I think there is a sound basis for this belief.

This being my fourth consecutive year of involvement in CW negotiations, I feel that we are entering a new stage, hopefully the final one.

It seems to us that the overall atmosphere of the negotiations has improved, positions of the delegations, although tough, are business-like and in general co-operative and compromise-oriented.

The negotiations are being carried on multifariously -- in the Ad hoc Committee, in the Working Groups, and at various multilateral and bilateral consultations. A valuable contribution to the Committee's work was the