

territory or under the jurisdiction or control of any other State Party for the sole purpose of clarifying and resolving any questions concerning non-compliance with the provisions of this Convention, and to have this inspection conducted anywhere without delay by an inspection team designated by the Director General and in accordance with the Verification Annex.

(b) Each State Party is under the obligation to keep the request within the scope of this Convention and to provide in the request all appropriate information on the basis of which a concern has arisen regarding non-compliance with this Convention as specified in the Verification Annex. Each State Party shall refrain from unfounded requests, care being taken to avoid abuse. The challenge inspection shall be carried out for the sole purpose of determining facts relating to the alleged non-compliance.

9. For the purpose of verifying compliance with the provisions of this Convention, each State Party shall permit the Technical Secretariat to conduct an on-site challenge inspections pursuant to paragraph 8.

10. Pursuant to a challenge of its facility or location, and in accordance with the procedures provided for in the Verification Annex, a State Party has :

(a) The right and the obligation to make every reasonable efforts to demonstrate its compliance with this Convention and, to this end, to enable the inspection team to fulfil its mandate;

(b) The obligation to provide access within the requested site for the sole purpose of establishing facts relevant to the request concern regarding non-compliance; and

(c) The right to take measures to protect sensitive installations, and to prevent disclosure of confidential information, not related to this Convention.

11. (a) The requesting State Party may, subject to the agreement of the inspected State Party, send a representative who may be a national either of the requesting State Party or of a third State Party, to observe the conduct of the inspection.

(b) The inspected State Party shall then grant access to the observer in accordance with the Verification Annex.

(c) The inspected State Party shall, as a rule, accept the proposed observer, but if the inspected State Party exercises a refusal, that fact shall be recorded in the final report.

12. (a) The requesting State Party shall present a request for an on-site challenge inspection to the Executive Council which shall immediately forward it to the Director General for processing.