

crucial issues and difficult technical details remained to be resolved. In an implicit reference to the US position, Ambassador Shannon stated that Canada feels it is crucial to ensure the elimination of chemical weapons stocks and production facilities. "To us, this implies an undertaking at the outset of the Convention to pursue these destruction processes to their completion."¹⁰

In addition, for Canada effective verification means a regime that includes

...the means and authority to investigate, inspect and pursue any activity that might be related to non-compliance.... We are convinced that if we can develop a full effective verification regime -- one that incorporates both a rigorous challenge inspection component and an ad hoc verification component -- we will have leapt over perhaps the biggest remaining hurdle to the realization of the Convention.¹¹

With respect to the threats of possible use of chemical weapons in the Middle East, Ambassador Shannon said:

We call upon all countries to refrain from such potentially inflammatory statements. ...Canada firmly believes that chemical weapons should have no place in the armouries of modern nations,...¹²

As a member of the Australia Group, Canada is also controlling the export of fifty chemical precursors on the list proposed by the US,¹³ and has introduced legislation to this end. Not all of the chemicals on the list are produced in Canada but the new legislation will mean that those chemicals may not be exported to Canada en route to a third country.

In the aftermath of the Persian Gulf war, Canada proposed that a global summit of world leaders be held, under UN auspices, to issue a statement of political will on proliferation. This would be followed up by a summit in 1995 to mark the completion of the programme of action established at the first summit. As part of its initiative, Canada has made specific proposals on both chemical and biological weapons. For biological weapons, the Government notes that progress in genetic engineering has facilitated the development of biological weapons and that the BWC lacks meaningful verification provisions. Canada therefore proposes that confidence-building measures and conflict resolution

¹⁰Ambassador Gerald Shannon. "Canada Assesses CD's Progress Towards a CW Convention," *The Disarmament Bulletin*, no. 14, Fall 1990: 25.

¹¹Ibid.: 26.

¹²Ibid.: 25.

¹³Department of External Affairs. "Canada Increases Chemical Controls," *The Disarmament Bulletin*, no. 16, Spring 1991: 8.