

(Mr. Berasategui, Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations)

only been applied to draft treaties or conventions - in certain cases we have done so with other important documents. For example, in 1982 the Conference transmitted to the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament the draft of the comprehensive programme of disarmament also as an annex to the annual report of the Conference. And finally, the third reason why we felt in the secretariat that the appendix to the report of the Ad Hoc Committee should be moved as an appendix to the annual report is the text of resolution 46/35 C of the General Assembly, in which we can note in paragraphs 2 to 5 of the operative part the request addressed to the Conference to report - it is not a request to the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons, it is a request made to the Conference on Disarmament. This becomes clear because, in particular, the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons is noted in paragraph 2, while in the subsequent paragraphs it is the Conference which is requested to report on the draft convention, that is, on the results of the negotiations, which is exactly the sentence contained in paragraph 42 of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons. If you will allow me, Mr. President, briefly to explain a last point concerning the second sentence in paragraph 74, Ambassador Ledogar is right - we have, in fact, taken into account similar wording which was used in the case of the sea-bed Treaty as well as in the Convention prohibiting biological weapons - this is exactly the text which appears there. I think for the moment I have nothing else to add.

The PRESIDENT (translated from French): I really do hope that the explanation we have heard from the Secretary-General of the Conference will reassure delegations which had doubts. Obviously, procedural matters are not always absolutely clear, but what must be understood is that there is no ulterior motive in the wording of the paragraphs under consideration. The aim is simply to transmit a report to the General Assembly in the best possible way, and we must include it in our overall report. I give the floor to the representative of the Russian Federation again, and I hope that he finds the explanation provided by Ambassador Berasategui satisfactory.

Mr. BATSANOV (Russian Federation) (translated from Russian): I have no suspicions about ulterior motives. It is simply that if in paragraph 72 we were trying to have the same sort of ideas as in paragraph 75, then why couldn't we have the same wording? Otherwise questions will arise as to why it is put differently; maybe a reference to a particular document has been omitted? I thought it was quite a simple and elementary question, especially as in paragraph 5 of CD/1170 it says: "During the 1992 session ...". I see no ulterior motives at all here. But I thought it would have been simply more reasonable to have it in proper order. Turning to the combination of the two figures 73 and 42, I cannot for the life of me understand what this means. And I am simply very afraid that all this will severely confuse readers because Mr. Berasategui will not be able to clarify every time to everybody interested what is meant by paragraph 42 of report CD/1170. I think something has to be done here, because at the moment - maybe I am too stupid, but I simply can't see what 73.42 means.