

(Mr. von Stülpnagel, Federal Republic of Germany)

The Federal Republic of Germany carried out a trial inspection on 9 February 1989 in a multi-purpose facility producing a substance listed in schedule [2] of article VI. The outcome and report of this inspection is before you in document CD/912. The inspection of the installation, which is located within a large integrated complex, was preceded by an initial visit which took place on 24 January 1989 and was meant to familiarize the inspection team with the facility. A facility attachment was worked out on the basis of the framework provided in the model agreement proposed in appendix II of the "rolling text". Due to the careful preparations made it was possible to carry out the inspection within one day.

Our trial inspection showed that, as a rule, routine inspections are an appropriate means of verifying whether production in a chemical facility is for purposes not prohibited by the convention. In addition to the very useful insight gained into the detailed procedures for on-site inspections in the chemical industry, the following three problem areas were of particular interest.

First, the inspection of a multi-purpose facility poses certain problems because the area to be inspected must be clearly delimited. The inspectors need to have a precise notion as to which parts of the plant they are inspecting are actually involved in the production of the substance in question. It also became clear that in large plants consisting of several multi-purpose installations it may well be possible that substances listed in schedule [2] can also be produced in facilities other than that which is actually declared as producing a schedule [2] substance. This again gave rise to the question of how to cover these facilities which might be considered as capable of producing chemical weapons.

Second, another area of particular interest was the question of how to take account of the legitimate concern of the company in question to protect confidential information. During our trial inspection it became clear that the schedule [2] type of inspections have to be rather intrusive in order to be effective and to meet the requirements stated in the aims set out for the verification of schedule [2] facilities in the "rolling text". Success will largely depend on exact and complete documentation concerning the declared quantities of the schedule [2] substance. A materials balance established with the help of original documents of the enterprise proved to be of crucial importance. Despite the intrusive character of the inspection, the trial inspection also demonstrated that it is possible at the same time to protect commercial interests like technological know-how and customer lists.

Third, the trial inspection clearly showed the need for a well-trained and experienced inspection team. Five inspectors were necessary for the careful, rapid and proper implementation of the inspection. The training and recruiting of inspectors is a subject which will require particular attention in preparing for the entry into force of the convention.

We are grateful for the very useful work undertaken by Ambassador Hyltenius of Sweden in evaluating the results of the national trial inspections which have taken place so far. The informal consultations he has held in the last two weeks have already given some detailed insights into the experience gained through the national trial inspections. The process of