

Mr. FIELDS (United States of America): I would like to propose formally that the draft decision be amended to include a reference to the International Atomic Energy Agency along the following lines: following the words "United Nations Environment Programme", my proposed amendment would insert the words "Director-General of IAEA" and then, further down, in the matter "of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Chemical Weapons as well as consultations convened by its Chairman on toxicity determinations", I would substitute the words "on technical matters" for the words "on toxicity determinations" and then make appropriate adjustments to the end of that sentence by striking out the word "to" before the word "organizations" and ending the sentence with a full stop after the word "organizations". My rationale for this proposed amendment is as follows: the Committee will recall that, during the informal consultations with chemical weapons experts held by Ambassador Lidgard last summer (document CD/CW/WP.22/Rev.1), a presentation was made to the Group by the United States delegation concerning a system for remote continual verification, known by the acronym RECOVER. A number of delegations expressed interest in learning more about this concept. It is being developed by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in conjunction with its nuclear safeguards programme and a demonstration project is currently underway. My delegation and others have been very interested in the possibilities of remote continual verification and its possible application to CW verification problems. On behalf of interested delegations, I intend to request that time be allocated during the expert session next week for further informal discussions on this possibility. It would therefore seem appropriate to request that IAEA be invited to send a technical expert to participate in the appropriate session of the informal consultations for the purpose of providing technical information with respect to the work of IAEA in the field of remote continual verification and its possible application to a CW prohibition. In this regard, I think the same criteria would apply that have just been alluded to by the distinguished Ambassador of Argentina: this participation is only for the purpose of aiding the Working Group and the Committee in a derivative sense, concerning particular technical matters. It should be related solely to technical information without recognition of anything more than this contribution by technical experts from that body who have unique qualifications and expertise in this matter.

The CHAIRMAN (translated from French): I thank the representative of the United States for his statement. Before I give the floor to the representative of India, who has asked for it, I would like to request Ambassador Fields kindly to repeat his proposed amendments to the draft decision contained in Working Paper No. 57.

Mr. FIELDS (United States of America): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I was apparently working from an earlier draft and therefore would merely add to this the phrase concerning the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The other amendment which I proposed would not be necessary as Working Paper No. 57 seems to have cured any problems that may have arisen in that regard.

The CHAIRMAN (translated from French): I thank the representative of the United States, who has proposed that, in the text of the draft decision contained in Working Paper No. 57, the words "and the Director-General of IAEA" should be added immediately after the words "the regional office for Europe of the United Nations Environment Programme". The representative of India has asked for the floor in this connection.