

II

General definition of chemical weapons

1. Chemical weapons, as referred to in Element I, would comprise:

(a) super-toxic lethal, other lethal, and other harmful chemicals as well as precursors of such chemicals, intended for hostile or military purposes involving the utilization of the toxic properties of such chemicals as weapons, provided their types are compatible with and that their quantities are sufficient for such purposes;

(b) munitions and devices, specifically designed to cause death or other harm through toxic properties of chemicals released from them as well as equipment specifically designed for use directly in connection with the employment of such munitions or devices.

2. Definitions of super-toxic lethal chemicals, other lethal chemicals, other harmful chemicals and precursors would be given in Annex I.

Comments

- Some delegations suggested that elements I and II, for increased clarity, should be combined and formulated along the lines in element I in CD/CW/WP.19. The Prohibition would then cover the development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, and retention of: (a) super-toxic lethal, other lethal and other harmful chemicals, and precursors of such chemicals, except those intended for non-hostile purposes or military purposes not involving the use of chemical weapons, provided their types and quantities are consistent with such purposes; (b) any munitions or devices, specifically designed to cause death or other harm through the toxic properties of the chemicals released as a result of the employment of these munitions or devices; (c) any equipment specifically designed for use directly in connection with the employment of such munitions or devices. Other delegations would prefer to maintain the formulation of element I, which seemed to them to reflect in a very clear manner the main purpose of a convention, which deals with a set of prohibitions, on the one hand, and with a precise obligation to destroy existing stocks and means of production, on the other. Element II would then contain the definition of chemical weapons, both for the purpose of the prohibitions and for the purpose of destruction.

- A delegation suggested that on logical grounds the subparagraphs in paragraph 1 of the element should be presented in the reversed order.

- Some delegations suggested the insertion of the words "chemical warfare agents, made up of" after "(a)" and before "super-toxic lethal".

- Some delegations also wished to have definitions of "chemical warfare agents", "hostile purposes", "non-hostile purposes", "permitted purposes", "chemical munitions" and "means of production of chemical weapons" included.