

ANNEX ON THE PROTECTION OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION 1/2/

A. GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE HANDLING OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

1. The obligation to protect confidential information shall pertain to the verification of both civil and military activities and facilities. As specified in Article VIII, the Organization shall:

(a) require only the minimum amount of information and data necessary for the timely and efficient carrying out of its responsibilities under the Convention;

(b) take measures necessary to ensure that inspectors and other staff members of the Technical Secretariat meet the highest standards of efficiency, competence, and integrity;

(c) develop agreements and regulations to implement the provisions of the Convention and shall specify as precisely as possible the information to which the Organization shall be given access by a State Party.

2. The Director-General of the Organization shall have the primary responsibility for ensuring the protection of confidential information. He shall establish a stringent régime governing the handling of confidential information by the Technical Secretariat. [The Director-General shall be assisted by an Assistant Director-General for Information Security.] In doing so he shall observe the following guidelines:

(a) Information shall be considered confidential if

(i) it is so designated by the State Party from whom the information was obtained and to which the information refers;
or

(ii) in the judgement of the Director-General, its unauthorized disclosure could reasonably be expected to cause damage to the State Party to which it refers or to the mechanisms for implementation of the Convention.

(b) All data and documents obtained by the Technical Secretariat shall be evaluated by the appropriate unit of the Technical Secretariat in order to establish whether they contain confidential information. Data required by

1/ A view was expressed that further discussion on this subject is necessary.

2/ The view was expressed that the references to confidentiality in Article VII and Article VIII are adequate. The detailed guidelines on confidentiality should be part of rules and regulations to be developed by the International Organization.