

(Mr. Sujka, Poland)

sincere appreciation and thanks for their competence, dedication and hard work. I also wish to thank all delegations for the co-operation they have never failed to extend to me, especially at difficult times, and for their contributions to our work.

I would like to express my special gratitude to the Secretary of the Committee, Mr. Abdelkader Bensmail. His competence and highest professional skill, which I already had the opportunity to appreciate during my first chairmanship of the Committee in 1982, greatly contributed to our negotiations. My thanks go also to Ms. Darby and other members of the secretariat for their indispensable and effective support. I also wish to express my thanks to the interpreters, translators and all technical staff who have helped to make our work smooth and effective.

My last words will be addressed to my successor. We are all familiar with Ambassador Pierre Morel's qualities. I am sure that besides his competence, dedication and charm, he will bring to this Committee all the enthusiasm that is needed to take us a long stride along the road to success. In handing over the task of carrying the work further, I wish to pledge to him my full support and that of my delegation.

The PRESIDENT: I thank the Chairman of the Ad hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons for introducing the report of the Ad hoc Committee, and also for the kind words he addressed to the Chair. I should like to convey to Ambassador Sujka the appreciation of the Conference for the effective manner in which he conducted the work of the Ad hoc Committee. I also wish to congratulate him on the successful conclusion of the work of the Ad hoc Committee. In this connection, I should like to inform members that I intend to put before the Conference for adoption the report of the Ad hoc Committee at our next plenary meeting on Tuesday 14 February. I do hope that, on that occasion, we shall be able to re-establish the Ad hoc Committee and appoint its Chairman, so that we may resume work immediately on this important agenda item. If so, we shall also take up for decision all requests by non-members to participate in the work of the Conference on Chemical Weapons.