

III. REPORTS OF THE CO-ORDINATORS OF THE CONTACT GROUPS

A. Report of the Co-ordinator of the Contact Group on the scope of the future convention

The Contact Group on the scope of the future convention met once and informal consultations did also take place. The main conclusion which appeared during these activities was that the basic positions on the inclusion or not of a prohibition to use chemical weapons, as contained in the Annex to document CD/334 could not meet with consensus and that other solutions should be explored. The view was expressed that the "working hypothesis" proposed by the co-ordinator of the Contact Group should be further elaborated in order to give all participants the possibility of considering it as a possible solution for the scope of the future convention. In this context, it was recommended that the concept of a new article in the future convention recognizing that any use of chemical weapons will ipso jure constitute an evidence of a violation of the convention (paragraph 3 of the "working hypothesis") should be further elaborated and detailed.

An acceptable proposal for the text of this new article could not be worked out by the co-ordinator during this period, and this effort should be pursued.

B. Report of the Co-ordinator of the Contact Group on Definitions

The aim of the discussion was to find out if any new developments had occurred with respect to some of the items treated in the previous report, CD/334, Annex I, pp. 3-10: paragraph 6 on a Working Hypothesis for a definition of chemical weapons and paragraph 7 on a Working Hypothesis on definition of permitted purposes. Due to the fact that the definitions of precursors and key precursors were under discussion in the Chairman's consultations on technical matters these matters were not brought up. Also, as the remaining matters in the report had not been brought up during the period they were left aside.

The following main results were noticed:

- Some delegations pointed to that in their opinion the areas of agreement which occurred in the report of the Co-ordinator had been adequately reflected and precisely worded in the CD/333.
- Some delegations put forward new ideas to include also very toxic and incapacitating, but not lethal, compounds into the same class of supertoxic lethal chemicals by recognizing also the possibility to set the same toxicity limit for these types of compounds as for the supertoxic substance by relating also to the effective dose. This "effective" toxicity could be measured by any scientifically sound method, but would only need to be done so following