

Mr. PRZYGODZKI (Poland):

I wish to express the deep satisfaction of my Government with the signing last week by President George Bush and President Mikhail Gorbachev of the strategic arms reduction Treaty. I should like to convey to you, Mr. President, as the representative of the United States, as well as to the representative of the USSR, our warmest congratulations on this historic event. We highly appreciate the efforts which have been made both by your country, Mr. President, and by the Soviet Union in overcoming all the difficulties and obstacles on the road to concluding the START Treaty. This is indeed good news for the whole of mankind, and also for this body, which has the question of the cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament high on its agenda. The START Treaty, being the first commitment of both States to cut significantly the arsenals of long-range nuclear weapons, including, in particular, the most destabilizing systems of such weapons, will undoubtedly stand as a milestone on the way towards a more secure world. I do hope that in a near future we negotiators in Geneva will be able to make our own contribution to disarmament efforts by successfully completing negotiations on the chemical weapons convention.

In our last statement at the Conference on Disarmament my delegation promised to present a report on a trial inspection on request conducted at some Soviet military facilities on Polish territory. Poland initiated preparations for such an inspection at the beginning of this year. However, at that time our initiative did not materialize. Today I would like to introduce a joint report on behalf of the Republic of Poland and the USSR on the trial inspection on request conducted by Poland at two Soviet military facilities located on the territory of my country on 17 and 18 April 1991. The detailed report on the conduct of this inspection and its results is tabled as document CD/1093 (working paper CD/CW/WP.354).

The principal aims of this inspection were, first, to confirm, in so far as Poland's territory is concerned, the USSR declaration on non-possession of chemical weapons outside its territory; and second, to test relevant procedures of the "rolling text" in practice and to train inspectors in carrying out such inspections. In view of the twofold character of this inspection certain procedural elements were properly adjusted without

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