

Besides sophisticated mobile analytical equipment, the Technical Secretariat will also need other means to detect chemical warfare agents, protection gear, seals and markers, equipment to take samples and transport these, etc.

It would be up to the Technical Secretariat to evaluate the quality of existing and new equipment and to decide whether these should be utilized by the Organization.

1.9 Maintenance of equipment for on-site inspections

Of course, the equipment which is being used by the Technical Secretariat needs to be kept up. In particular, the sophisticated analytical verification equipment used during inspections needs to be calibrated, repaired, etc.

2. Structure of the laboratory network

2.1 General approach

2.1.1 Certain tasks for the implementation of the Convention have to be performed by the international staff of the Technical Secretariat at or near the Headquarters of the Organization. Other work can be done by Accredited Laboratories in States Parties, on request or under contract by other laboratories and scientific/technical or sometimes even commercial institutes.

2.1.2 Two different alternatives could be pursued in structuring the laboratory network:

- The first approach would be to try to perform as many tasks as possible in a kind of "central laboratory". The analytical chemical work entrusted to off-site laboratories would be assigned to Accredited Laboratories in States Parties. In this option, such a central laboratory would be a fully equipped analytical laboratory, would have possibilities to synthesize chemical warfare agents, would have the capability to develop and test new analytical methods and equipment, calibrate mobile analytical instruments, etc..

- In the second approach, facilities and knowledge in States Parties would be optimally utilized on request or under contract of the Technical Secretariat. In this option analytical and other related tasks would be performed in Accredited Laboratories to the maximum extent possible. The corresponding unit of the Technical Secretariat would not comprise an analytical laboratory. The technical workload of the Secretariat would also