

(Mr. Datcu, Romania)

The priority our delegation attaches to nuclear disarmament does not make us forget the dangers represented by the existence and development of other weapons of mass destruction. We attach great importance to the Committee's negotiations on the prohibition of chemical and radiological weapons and on new types of weapons of destruction and new systems of such weapons.

An increasing number of delegations have this year expressed the idea that our negotiations on the prohibition of chemical weapons are of top priority, bearing in mind also the impressive amount of work which has been done to date. Perhaps I may be permitted in this connection to add the thanks of the Romanian delegation to those already addressed to the Chairman of the Ad-Hoc Working Group on Chemical Weapons, Ambassador Bogumil Sujka of Poland, and I beg the representative of Poland to convey my sincere gratitude to him. It is my delegation's most sincere conviction that all the necessary preparations within the Committee have been completed and that this year we can elaborate a draft text of the future convention in this sphere. We believe that the presentation by the United States of its detailed views, last year's initiative by the Soviet delegation, which put forward the basic elements for a future convention, and the other documents we have before us constitute the necessary basis for going on to effective negotiations in this regard.

(Mr. Maung Maung Gyi, Burma)

As negotiations go, our work on a chemical weapons convention is in an advanced stage that offers high prospects for elaborating a draft treaty. Therefore, the further intensification of our work on chemical weapons will, we hope, result in progress that will stimulate the political will that is necessary for concluding an agreement.