

Two technical matters were given special attention: checking of the materials balance on the basis of information supplied by the company, and the value of taking samples both of products and of effluents so as to confirm that the production process is in keeping with the descriptions supplied and that there are no unauthorized products.

Given the importance France attaches to respect for confidentiality under the various verification régimes, it was also necessary to determine the maximum level of information to be furnished by the manufacturer to ensure an effective inspection: the "need to know" emerges as the essential element of respect for confidentiality when information is made available, as well as the skill and dependability of the inspectors (see document CD/901).

2. Framework of the inspection

The inspection took place in a specific unit of a multi-purpose shop at a time when production was under way. Although this facility does not produce any of the chemicals covered by annex VI [2], it was considered to offer sufficient similarities for simulation of the conditions required for the planned inspection.

The multi-purpose shop itself forms part of an industrial complex manufacturing a large number of products by continuous or batch methods, some of them chemically very similar to the product in question.

3. Type of on-site inspection

In accordance with the provisions mentioned in annex [2] to article VI, the routine inspection was preceded by an initial visit (in fact consisting of a visit lasting several days, with an intermediate evaluation) and several preparatory meetings, in particular to draw up an inspection scenario and later a specific agreement for the facility.

4. Advance information

4. (a) - Declarations: the initial declaration indicated:

- The production capacity for the product in question, specifying actual production in 1988 and planned production for 1989;
- Maximum and mean storage capacity for 1988;
- The fact that it was impossible to produce schedule [1] products.

4. (b) - Inspection procedure:

The specific agreement for the facility, which was derived from the "model for an agreement" negotiated with the industrial company, and regarded as a contractual document binding on all the parties (Technical Secretariat,