

(Mr. Berg, Norway)

In our view this is more than ever a priority task in multilateral disarmament. The importance which my Government attaches to this question is demonstrated by the fact that a research project has been undertaken in Norway dealing with verification of a chemical weapons convention. Last year, as the Committee will recall, we presented a working paper on the results of the first phase of this research project. The second stage of the project is now under way. The results of this will be presented in a follow-up document during the second part of this year's session.

(Mr. Berg, Norway)

Finally, I should like to sum up very briefly how I see Norway's involvement in the activities of this Committee during the current session:

Pending a solution to the membership question, we should like to take full advantage of our observer status and continue our full and active participation in all of the Committee's working groups.

Norwegian scientists will continue to participate in the Group of seismic experts and in expert consultations on chemical weapons. In addition, we would like to see Norwegian experts follow the work of the Committee with regard to outer space.

We intend to continue allocating resources to research projects relevant to disarmament matters on the agenda of this Committee.

Working papers will be prepared on the verification of a chemical weapons convention and on the results of an international experimental exchange of seismic data (so-called level II data).

(Cont'd)