

(Mr. Komatina, Secretary-General of the
Conference and Personal Representative
of the Secretary-General)

"The effective prohibition of chemical weapons has been on the agenda of your Conference for a number of years now. Considerable work has already been done on all technical issues relating to a ban on chemical weapons and on the destruction of existing stocks. Comprehensive and detailed proposals have been put forward on all aspects of a convention text. I would urge that no effort be spared at this session to achieve compromise solutions to the political issues which have so far prevented agreement. I am convinced that this would be in the best interests of all nations and that it is feasible.

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(Mr. Issraelyan, USSR)

Important tasks also face the Conference on Disarmament in 1985 in connection with the questions of prohibiting chemical weapons and radiological weapons. The record of the Conference's work on these problems in previous years shows that all preliminary conditions exist for achieving progress in these fields. Only one thing is needed: a common desire and political will for the achievement of mutually acceptable agreements, the abandonment of attempts to impose one's own approaches which, as is now obvious to everyone, cannot provide a basis for reaching a consensus. With regard to the question on the prohibition of chemical weapons, we are in favour of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons resuming its work without delay on the basis of the existing mandate for the holding of appropriate negotiations with a view to drafting an agreement.