

(Mr. Mock, Austria)

international life for many years. I might mention the existence of 10 international schools, with instruction in 8 languages, 3 foreign-language theatres, and also the presence of churches and places of worship belonging to 10 religions. Finally, I should like to add that the opening up of the borders between East and West is particularly tangible in Vienna, and this in itself constitutes a factor conducive to international disarmament efforts.

The recent welcome progress achieved in the area of disarmament is also to be observed in other exchanges which are under way in Vienna: I am referring to the talks on confidence- and security-building measures and the negotiations on conventional armed forces in Europe.

In view of the very effective competition from the Netherlands it is quite clear that I have had to advance very detailed arguments.

Allow me to conclude my comments on chemical weapons with a brief comment on the forty-fourth session of the United Nations General Assembly. We welcome with satisfaction the report of the group of experts on procedures for verification in the event of the use of chemical weapons, and we view it as an invaluable instrument which could serve as a basis for measures to be taken by the United Nations Secretary-General. In the area of biological weapons the delegation of your country, Mr. Minister, and the delegation of Australia, as well as our delegation, closely co-operated at the General Assembly and successfully redrafted the United Nations General Assembly resolution on this issue. Bearing in mind the Austrian chairmanship of the second review conference in 1986, which was crowned with success, and thinking ahead to the next review conference in 1991, we attach considerable importance to the results achieved in New York, and to active preparation for this conference.