

(Mr. Friedersdorf, United States)

be needed. We have a number of specific suggestions that will be provided to the Chairman of Working Group 1. It is our hope and expectation that a revised text for the annex can be incorporated in the "rolling text" in August.

While the annex on confidentiality is already well along, work is just beginning on the proposed protocol containing detailed inspection provisions. We welcome this new undertaking, which builds on earlier accomplishments under Dr. Krutzsch of the German Democratic Republic and Mr. Numata of Japan. Developing the inspection protocol will be a complex undertaking that will require great care. It is critical to an effective verification system. Thus, it should not be drafted hastily to meet some artificial deadline. The United States has carefully considered these matters and plans to participate actively and constructively in development of the protocol.

Finally, I would like to comment on activities in Working Group 4 that relate to verification. I have in mind the development of the so-called "chemical annex". We applaud this effort by Mr. Molander to consolidate technical provisions related to the lists of chemicals subject to restriction or monitoring. The chemical annex makes the structure of the convention more logical and comprehensible.

I wanted to focus today on verification-related issues because of their critical importance to an effective ban. There are, of course, other important issues which I was unable to address today because of time limitations. However, I plan to present additional United States views in some of these areas later in the session.