

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Report on a Trial Challenge Inspection in a Chemical Industry Plant

Introduction

In a continuing effort to foster the conclusion of the chemical weapons convention and to gather experience and technical knowledge for the future implementation of the convention, a trial challenge inspection has been conducted in a chemical industry plant in the GDR. The plant selected was the WOFATOX-factory of Chemiekombinat Bitterfeld (Chemical Combine Bitterfeld), a facility producing the organophosphorous pesticide parathion-methyl.

This is a general description of the activities undertaken and of preliminary conclusions drawn. The report is in four parts:

1. The aim of the trial inspection and its basic approach
2. Description of the inspection methodology
3. Experimental validation of the inspection methodology in laboratory experiments and in the actual trial inspection
4. Summary and preliminary conclusions

More specific information on inspection methodology and trace analysis is included in two related working papers.

1. The aim of the trial inspection and its basic approach

The aim of the trial has been to develop and evaluate an inspection methodology for challenge inspections in industrial plants, and to improve the understanding of the technical implementation of Ad-Hoc-type inspections.

Inspection procedures and time frames were not the primary targets of the trial. Nevertheless, some preliminary conclusions could also be drawn on these issues. At the core of the experiment, however, were methodical problems of the conduct of challenge inspections in industry plants. This may be of some relevance for the elaboration of an inspection manual.