

CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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Ad hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons

EGYPT

Report on the National Trial Inspection

Introduction

1. Egypt conducted a national trial inspection (NTI) at one of its chemical plants in order to contribute to the success of international efforts aimed at a total ban on chemical weapons and the destruction of the stocks of such weapons, pursuant to the proposal of the Ad hoc Committee at its summer session in 1988.

2. It should be noted that Egypt neither possesses nor produces chemical weapons. The plant under inspection is fully capable of producing chemical weapons of all kinds, and the Egyptian delegation is ready to discuss this trial with other delegations at the Conference on Disarmament with a view to improving procedures for genuine routine inspection.

Preparations

3. The inspectors undertook to protect the confidentiality of technical information on production processes at the plant under trial inspection.

Objectives of the national trial inspection (NTI)

4. The principal objective of inspection was to verify the following:

(a) Whether data on the production and processing of the chemical substance to be inspected were consistent with the records;

(b) That the facility was not being used to produce any chemical listed in schedules [1] or [2];

(c) That the reaction could not be stopped at a specific stage with a view to producing another chemical listed in schedules [1] or [2].