

Canada has been similarly active recently on the issue of a chemical weapons convention. On 9 July 1987, Canadian Ambassador to the CD, Alan Beesley, presented a series of compendia on chemical weapons comprising documents from the 1986 CD session, as well as a report entitled "Verification: Development of a Portable Trichothecene Sensor Kit for the Detection of T-2 Mycotoxin in Human Blood Samples".⁴ Ambassador Beesley also expressed concern over the use of chemical weapons in the Iran-Iraq war, as well as evidence of their development by an increasing number of countries. Nevertheless, he cautioned that negotiations should proceed with care and deliberation.⁵

Such sentiments were echoed on 13 October 1987 at the 42nd Session of the UN General Assembly by Canadian Ambassador for Disarmament Douglas Roche, who noted that "A treaty banning chemical weapons will require the most complex set of verification measures ever included in a multilateral arms control agreement."⁶

In November 1987, three resolutions were put forth in the General Assembly on chemical and biological weapons. Resolution 42/37A of which Canada was the lead sponsor, urged that efforts be intensified and that increased time be devoted to negotiations on a chemical weapons convention.⁷ Resolution 42/37B called for strict adherence to the Geneva Protocol; efforts by the Secretary General to improve the capability for

⁴ CD/PV 420, 7 July 1987.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Speech by the Canadian Ambassador for Disarmament to the 42nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly, First Committee, New York, 13 October 1987.

⁷ UNGA Resolution 42/37 (A), 30 November 1987.