

PRINCIPLES AND ORDER OF DESTRUCTION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS 1/

1. The elaboration of the Order of Destruction shall build on the undiminished security for all States during the entire destruction stage, confidence-building in the early part of the destruction stage, gradual acquisition of experience in the course of destroying chemical weapons stocks and applicability irrespective of the actual composition or size of the stockpiles and the methods chosen for the destruction of the chemical weapons.
2. Each State Party possessing chemical weapons shall begin destruction not later than one year after it becomes a Party to the Convention, and all stockpiles must have been destroyed by the end of the tenth year after the entry into force of the Convention. 2/
3. The entire destruction period is divided into annual periods.
4. For the purpose of destruction, chemical weapons declared by each State Party are divided into three categories:
  - Category 1: Chemical weapons on the basis of Schedule 1 chemicals;
  - Category 2: Chemical weapons on the basis of all other chemicals;
  - Category 3: Unfilled munitions and devices, and equipment specifically designed for use directly in connection with employment of chemical weapons.
5. The Order of Destruction shall be based on the principle of levelling out the stockpiles of chemical weapons of State Parties, while observing the principle of undiminished security. (The level of such stockpiles shall be agreed upon).
6. Each State Party possessing chemical weapons
  - shall start the destruction of Category 1 chemical weapons not later than one year after it becomes a Party to the Convention, and shall complete it not later than 10 years after the entry into force of the Convention; the comparison factor for such weapons shall be agent tons, i.e. the aggregate weight of the chemicals within such Category,

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1/ Some delegations drew attention to another proposal which suggests a specific phased approach, including a special phase for advance destruction by the largest chemical weapons owners until midway of the destruction period. This proposal is contained in CD/822 of 29 March 1988.

2/ The view was expressed that possible additional provisions applicable to States possessing chemical weapons but which ratify the Convention at a later stage would need to be discussed. The view was also expressed that the Convention should include from the beginning all States possessing chemical weapons. Another view was expressed that the final version of this paragraph depends on what is agreed in Article IV.