

(Mr. Sujka, Poland)

Group C, under the chairmanship of Mr. Sadaaki Numata of Japan, invested a good deal of practical work in elaborating how challenge inspections may be conducted in practice in the context of the guidelines on the international inspectorate. The result of very active and intense discussions is the addition of section IV to the guidelines in the addendum to appendix I. However, to the extent that the work has been carried out using as a basis the principles governing on-site inspection on challenge contained in appendix II of the "rolling text", which require further consideration and elaboration, there are still important issues to be resolved.

There has been valuable progress in this Group in clarifying the interrelationship between the highest organ of the Organization, which we will now call the Conference of the States Parties, the Executive Council and the technical secretariat under article VIII. As a consequence the numerous references in the earlier "rolling text" to the International Authority, Consultative Committee or General Conference have been clarified and made more precise.

The results of the work during the resumed session are embodied in the report I am submitting today. I should like to take this opportunity to add a few personal comments.

In 1982 as well as in 1988, I was privileged to preside over the work of the Ad hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons, and in both of these cases I was faced with the exceptional requirement of three reports. I do hope that this report will bring us nearer to our common goal of completing the negotiations on a global ban on chemical weapons. Valuable progress has been made in many important areas. I would also like to underline that this text does not fully reflect what was done during the entire 1988 session. I have in mind very useful and important events like the preparations for multilateral trial inspections in the chemical industry, and a meeting of experts from chemical industry in many countries which took place last July.

I wish to stress, however, that despite hard and intensive work by all of us during the whole session, the results achieved, though important, are, at least in my opinion, not fully satisfactory. We must all ask ourselves whether we have done everything possible to achieve results matching our expectations. This is particularly important bearing in mind that we are now entering into a new phase in our negotiations. The world community expects us to conclude our work urgently and responsibly. This request was made explicitly during the last session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in its consensus resolutions on chemical weapons, as well as in the Final Act of the Paris Conference on the prohibition of chemical weapons. We must not lose our impetus and the strong political will demonstrated by some 150 countries. We have a special opportunity for a real redoubling of our efforts to resolve expeditiously the remaining issues and to conclude the convention at the earliest date, as stated in the Final Declaration of the Paris Conference.

I believe that the present report constitutes a good starting-point on this path. This being said, I wish to pay a warm and special tribute to my immediate collaborators in this endeavour - the chairmen of the three working groups. I am sure that all delegations will join me in extending to them our