

(Mr. Ekéus, Sweden)

common understanding exists as to the terms and definitions employed in it are hardly convincing. The text of the article has been thoroughly discussed with inputs from delegations of all groups. Its terms and definitions have to a large extent been borrowed from the biological weapons Convention, which has been signed and ratified by most members of the Conference.

The major breakthrough in Working Group B has been the integration into the "rolling text" of a definition of chemical weapons production facilities and of clear language with regard to the undertaking that these facilities should be destroyed, as well as principles and methods for their destruction.

In Working Group C, the Chairman has managed to make considerable progress on the issue of challenge inspections and on procedures following the submission of inspection reports.

As a result of consultations on the final clauses, conducted by the Chairman of the Committee, well-structured elements presented as alternatives are included in appendix II. They form the necessary basis for completion of this important part of the draft convention. Furthermore, the meeting with industrial experts in July highlighted a number of points regarding confidentiality of commercial and industrial information, and also served to illustrate that the chemical industry in major industrialized countries is committed to facilitating the implementation of the convention.

Finally, substantial and results-oriented work has been made in the open-ended consultations on trial inspections. Having chaired those meetings, I will revert to the issue of trial inspections and report to the Conference on the results of our constructive deliberations at the end of my intervention.

Thus, the results which the Conference is able to present this year are tangible even if they are far from sufficient. I will briefly make some observations with regard to the problems that still remain unsolved and indicate areas where, in the view of my delegation, we will have to concentrate our efforts during the inter-sessional work and during the coming session.

Article I remains the very backbone of the draft convention and the basis for all our work. As a result of this summer session it has been further strengthened through the unambiguous undertaking by all States in paragraph 6 to destroy their chemical weapons production facilities. Remaining brackets seem less difficult to deal with. Consultations will have to be undertaken regarding preparation for use, a problem which is also linked to the issue of development of chemical weapons. The question of "jurisdiction or control" could be solved in relation to other articles.

The clarity and comprehensiveness of our scope provisions provide the practical and moral rationale for the whole draft convention and, in the view of Sweden, remaining issues can and must be solved without any major modifications of article I, which has acquired a definitive and timeless character.