

12. With regard to destruction, diversion, dismantling and conversion, the Contact Group reviewed the report of the Co-ordinator, as contained in document CD/334. In the course of this review, the Group attempted to determine whether there had been changes in the positions of delegations as recorded in that report, and also endeavoured to refine and clarify concepts and formulations relating to the destruction of stocks and facilities. Some of these concepts were clarified and some others need further elaboration.

13. With regard to national implementation measures, there was general agreement that States Parties should take the appropriate measures to implement the convention and organise and employ their national implementation system in accordance with their own legislation. Whereas some delegations felt that for those reasons it was not necessary to reflect on the internal functions of this system, others deemed it appropriate to establish an Annex to the convention containing guidelines concerning the functions of the national implementation system. These delegations felt that the corresponding examples given in documents CD/334 and CD/333 served this purpose and could be further elaborated. Concerning the co-operation between the national and international bodies in implementing the Convention, there was general agreement that the tasks reflected in the above-mentioned documents were relevant and should be further elaborated. Questions with regard to the legal nature of the Annex and its place in the Convention should be solved at a later stage.

14. Some proposals were made to revise the draft element on national technical means of verification contained in document CD/333 by inserting some ideas from the relevant part of document CD/334. Proceeding from this, the co-ordinator proposed a new wording which in his view could be of some assistance in drafting a possible Article on national technical means at a later stage. At the same time and in order to take into account the positions of all sides he provided a second alternative which in a general way would foresee the possibility to use national technical means of verification for the purpose of monitoring compliance with the convention. For the next stage of the work of the Chemical Weapons Working Group it has been suggested to discuss jointly all aspects of the verification system of the future convention in order to reach a clear understanding on the interrelationship between the different elements of this system.

15. With regard to Consultation and Co-operation and the Consultative Committee, the Contact Group reviewed the concepts pertaining to the chapter on consultations and co-operation as well as the section corresponding to the fact-finding procedures. Discussions were also focused on the functions and eventual structure of the Consultative Committee. These in-depth discussions helped to clarify the different positions of delegations with respect to the sub-elements identified in 1982, and brought the Group closer to the elaboration of specific provisions in this regard. In the course of the discussions, references were made to various documents already tabled by delegations as well as to the suggestion of possible compromise wordings presented by the Chairman of the Working Group in document CD/333.