

(Mr. Israelyan, USSR)

account some other questions I mentioned earlier, and they would not create problems for anyone if binary types of weapons were not commissioned at all.

The Soviet delegation believes that work on the convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons should continue at a considerably more intensive rate than has been the case up to now. The situation can hardly be considered normal when work in the Committee on such a priority item is done during only two or three months of the year, and for the rest of the time there is a recess. This aspect of the matter should be seriously thought over and we should try to improve the situation. We for our part, are ready to continue the negotiations for as long as is necessary to complete as soon as possible, the elaboration of a convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons.

In conclusion, we would like to call on all delegations to display real and not sham constructiveness and flexibility. Recently in the Committee the representative of a Western country went out of his way to prove that the group which he represents allegedly displays "pragmatism" and "political flexibility". We would like to ask -- where specifically is it displayed? On what issues have the delegations of Western countries in fact met half-way the positions of other States, including the country which I have the honour to represent? Apparently some in the Committee see their task as the stubborn and, I would say, sometimes obstinate repetition of rigid, inflexible positions and the adoption of a prejudiced attitude to the position of the other side.

Such an approach can only lead us to an impasse. We hope that the example shown by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, which have repeatedly displayed during the current session of the Committee their readiness to take into account the reasonable demands of the other participants in the negotiations, will be followed also by those delegations which still do not go further than their declarations about their constructiveness.