IV. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

13. The Working Group took note of the report of the Chairman on consultations held on issues relating to toxicity determination, as contained in CD/CW/WP.22/Rev.1 and decided to make the following recommendations:

(a) that the Committee on Disarmament take note of the CD/CW/WP.22/Rev.1 of 23 July 1981, and consider it a suitable basis for the delegations to prepare further work on methods to be agreed for toxicity determinations for a chemical weapons convention;

(b) that the following issues be discussed at the Committee's 1982 session, using the toxicity values for super-toxic lethal, other lethal and other harmful chemicals given in CD/112 as a starting point for the work:

(i) Specific testing methods for determination of acute lethal toxicity, using the relevant points found in Annex V of CD/CW/WP.22/Rev.1;

(ii) Circumstances in which inhalation criteria will be required, including the possibility of supplementing inhalation toxicity measurements with intravenous injection;

(iii) Possible criteria based on other types of harmful effects;

(v) Inventory of international resources for toxicity determination and the possibility of international co-operation.

Expertise, particularly in toxicology, as well as scientific and technical background material, which may be provided by delegations, will be of value for such discussions.

(c) that further consultations, similar to those held this year, should take place in the week 1-5 March, 1982, on the issues mentioned under (b) unless the Committee on Disarmament decided otherwise at the beginning of its 1982 session.

(d) that the questions related to possible applications of toxicity criteria in a chemical weapons convention should be taken up within the Committee in the week thereafter.

14. The substantive considerations of the Working Group reaffirmed the conclusions, reflected in the Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, that the prohibition of chemical weapons and their destruction represented one of the most urgent measures of disarmament and that the conclusion of such a convention is of the highest priority in multilateral negotiations. The urgency of achieving concrete results to this end was especially recognized in the light of the second special session to be held in 1982.

15. After the extensive examination of the various issues related to a chemical weapons convention, both in 1980 and 1981, the Working Group considers that a convergence of views has emerged on many issues, but that some important divergencies