

Mr. ELARABY (Egypt):

... I take the floor today, very briefly, to present to the Conference on Disarmament a report on the national trial inspection carried out by Egypt. The report is contained in document CD/958 of 23 January 1990. The trial inspection was conducted at one of our chemical plants in a Cairo suburb at the end of last summer. The principal objectives of the trial inspection were to verify whether data on the production and processing of the chemical substance covered by the inspection were consistent with the records; that the facility was not being used to produce any chemical listed in schedules [1] or [2]; and that the reaction could not be stopped at a specific stage with a view to producing another chemical listed in schedules [1] or [2].

In the course of the national trial inspection it became clear that several provisions of the draft convention concerning verification by inspection on a routine basis require further study. Other questions also arose with regard to access to confidential information and protection of confidentiality. The report contains a list of these issues. I wish to add that my delegation is ready to discuss this trial inspection with other delegations in the Conference on Disarmament with a view to improving procedures for genuine routine inspections.

I shall be asking for the floor at a later stage to express my delegation's views on the items on our agenda.