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UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS OF USE OF  
CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH MAY BE DEEMED TO BE EXCESSIVELY  
INJURIOUS OR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 2nd MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
on Thursday, 13 September 1979, at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. VOUTOV (Bulgaria)

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Organization of work (continued)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK (continued)

1. The CHAIRMAN said that, following consultations, it had been decided to propose that Mr. Akkerman (Netherlands) should be appointed Chairman of the Working Group on Landmines and Booby-Traps, and Mr. Felber (German Democratic Republic) Chairman of the Working Group on Incendiary Weapons. He assumed that that proposal was acceptable to the Committee.
2. It was so agreed.
3. The CHAIRMAN said that, as had been agreed the previous day, the Working Group on Landmines and Booby-Traps would start its work immediately. He inquired whether the Committee wished to hold a brief discussion of incendiary weapons with a view to facilitating the task of the working group on that subject. It had, however, been studied at length during meetings of the Preparatory Conference.
4. Mr. DE ICAZA (Mexico) said that the positions of delegations had been clearly stated during the Preparatory Conference and, despite further consultations, had not since undergone any substantive changes. He therefore considered it unnecessary to hold a general debate.
5. Mr. ABDINE (Syrian Arab Republic) supported the statement by the representative of Mexico.
6. Mr. EL IBRASHI (Egypt), speaking on behalf of the African Group, said that the report of the second Preparatory Conference had shown that there was a consensus on the subject of non-detectable fragments, so that that question, too, should be referred to a working group. The general debate in the Committee of the Whole should cover all conventional weapons and other working groups could subsequently be set up. It would, for example, be possible for a new working group to be established when the working group on the "umbrella treaty" finished its work the following week.
7. The CHAIRMAN said there seemed to be agreement that there was no need for a general debate on incendiary weapons. He therefore suggested that the working group on those weapons should also start its work immediately.
8. It was so agreed.

The meeting rose at 3.40 p.m.