

**COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT**

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LETTER DATED 9 AUGUST 1982 FROM THE HEADS OF THE DELEGATIONS  
OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND OF THE KINGDOM OF THE  
NETHERLANDS ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON  
DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING A DOCUMENT CONTAINING PRELIMINARY  
QUESTIONS CONCERNING CD/294

Please find attached hereto a document containing preliminary questions  
concerning CD/294 submitted by the Soviet Union.

We kindly request you to circulate this document on behalf of the delegations  
of the Federal Republic of Germany and of The Netherlands as an official document  
of the Committee on Disarmament.

(Signed) Dr. Henning Wegener  
Ambassador  
Head of the Delegation  
of the Federal Republic  
of Germany

(Signed) Dr. Frans van Dongen  
Ambassador  
Head of the Delegation  
of the Kingdom of  
The Netherlands

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### Introduction

This document supersedes and elaborates upon the set of questions put forward by the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany in the meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Chemical Weapons of 22 July 1982 (doc. CD/CW/CRP.63) and is submitted with a view to facilitate the clarification which the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics undertook to submit in due course.

Preliminary questions concerning CD/294 submitted by the Soviet Union  
"Basic Provisions of a Convention on the Prohibition of the Development,  
Production and Stockpiling of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction".

Non-stationing (I)

(1) Why is a specific provision for "non-stationing" provided? To what period after entry into force of the Convention would this provision apply? How is it envisioned that this provision would be verified?

Promotion of development goals (I)

(2) What precise activities (examples) are understood by "international co-operation in the field of peaceful chemical activities"?

Declarations of harmful chemicals (II.7)

(3) How could declaration of harmful chemicals be realized without interfering with the operation of a large section of the commercial chemical and pharmaceutical industry?

(II.8)

(4) What substances (examples) are envisaged to be included in the list suggested in paragraph 3?

General Provisions on Verification (III)

(5) What specific procedures are referred to in the phrase "international measures of verification shall be carried out through international procedures within the framework of the United Nations"?

(Consultative Committee, paragraph 2)

(6) How is it to be decided when convening the Consultative Committee is "necessary"?

Fact-finding procedure relating to compliance with the Convention. On-site inspections

(7) (paragraph 1) What information is the State which receives a request obligated to provide?

(8) (paragraph 2) What procedure applies after a challenged State Party refuses a request for an on-site inspection? Who will decide whether explanations are "appropriate and sufficiently convincing"?

(9) (paragraph 2 bis) Under this approach is it necessary to have suspicion of a violation before submitting any request for an on-site visit in connection with a notification concerning the destruction and dismantling of a chemical weapons production facility?

(10) (Fact-finding procedure, etc., paragraphs 3 and 4) Would international on-site inspection be agreed in advance in the Convention? To what does the word "possibility" refer?

(11) Would the international on-site inspections referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 be conducted under the aegis of the Consultative Committee?

(12) (paragraph 3) In its working paper of 3 August 1977 (CCD/539) the Soviet Union states that verification of the destruction of CW stockpiles serves the following main purposes:

"To establish

- (a) the fact of the destruction of an agent of a certain type,
- (b) the quantity of the agent destroyed, and
- (c) the quality of this agent,

and to produce appropriately documented results of the verification".

Are the "systematic international on-site inspections" proposed by the Soviet Union designed to achieve these goals?

(13) What is meant in this connection by an "agreed quota"? What does the quota refer to (number of stockpiles, amount of weapons, total number of visits, total number of man-days, number of visits per site, etc.)? How is the quota to be agreed upon? (In the Consultative Committee?)

(14) On what principle would the quota be based?

(15) If question (12) were, in principle, to be answered in the affirmative:

Would this require a detailed account of the weapons, stockpiles and production facilities within the framework of the declarations to be provided according to II, 1 and 5?

(16) Do the "international on-site inspections" include the possibility of near-site use of technical means of verification of the destruction process of chemical weapon stockpiles?

(17) Why are "systematic international on-site inspections" requested only for the destruction of stockpiles, but not for "the destruction and dismantling of facilities"? Is there a difference between "destruction" and "dismantling" of production facilities?

(18) As the destruction of production facilities is to be completed only 10 years after the State concerned becomes a Party to the CW convention (see I item 7 "elimination ... of facilities"): How is non-production to be verified in the meantime in production facilities which have been mothballed or in which CW stockpiles are being destroyed?

(19) Under paragraph 4, why is the word "systematic" not used? In other words, what is the difference between "systematic international on-site inspection" (paragraph 3) and "international on-site inspection" (paragraph 4)?

(20) Do we understand the provision in paragraph 4 correctly as intending to guarantee that the maximum amount of supertoxic agents permitted (1 t) is not surpassed? What is meant in this connection by "quota"? How is it to be ascertained that the upper limit is not exceeded?

(21) If the interpretation given in question (20) above is correct:

How is international verification of the permitted quantities to be ensured if international on-site inspections are limited to special production facilities which may produce permitted quantities of supertoxic agents, while verification through international on-site inspections of the production of other chemical plants producing precursors for supertoxic substances can only take place if the State concerned agrees?