

FINAL RECORD OF THE EIGHT HUNDRED AND THIRD MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Thursday, 24 August 1978, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman: U-SAW HLAING (Burma)

PRESENT AT THE TABLE

<u>Argentina:</u>	Mr. L. MOLteni
<u>Brazil:</u>	Mr. I. MASTROGIOVANNI
<u>Bulgaria:</u>	Mr. P. VOUTOV Mr. I. PETROV
<u>Burma:</u>	U SAW HLAING
<u>Canada:</u>	Mr. C. SIROIS
<u>Czechoslovakia:</u>	Mr. M. RUZEK Mr. V. ROHAL-ILKIV
<u>Egypt:</u>	Mr. H. EL-BARADEI
<u>Ethiopia:</u>	Mr. G. ALJULA
<u>German Democratic Republic:</u>	Mr. G. HERDER Mr. M. GRACZYNSKI Mr. R. EGGERT
<u>Germany, Federal Republic of:</u>	Mr. G. PFEIFFER Mr. H. MÜLLER Mr. J. PÖHLMANN
<u>Hungary:</u>	Mr. M. DOMOKOS Mr. C. GYÖREFFY
<u>India:</u>	Mr. S.T. DEVARE Mr. B. BALAKRISHNAN
<u>Iran:</u>	Mr. M. FARTASH Miss C. TAHMASSEB
<u>Italy:</u>	Mr. C. FRATESCHI
<u>Japan:</u>	Mr. M. OGISO Mr. T. SAWAI Mr. Y. NAKAMURA Mr. P. IWANAMI

<u>Mexico:</u>	Mr. A. GARCÍA ROBLES Mr. N. MARÍN
<u>Mongolia:</u>	Mr. D. ERDEMBILEG Mr. K. OLZVOY
<u>Morocco:</u>	Mr. M. MAOULAININE
<u>Netherlands:</u>	Mr. A.J. MEERBURG
<u>Nigeria:</u>	Mr. T.S.O. OLUMOKO
<u>Pakistan:</u>	
<u>Peru:</u>	Mr. J. AURICH MONTERO
<u>Poland:</u>	Mr. A. OLSZÓWKA Mr. H. PAĆ Mr. M. KRUCZYK
<u>Romania:</u>	Mr. G. TINCA
<u>Sweden:</u>	Mr. L. NORBERG Mr. U. REINIUS Mr. R. ANGSTRÖM
<u>Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:</u>	Mr. V.I. LIKHATCHEV Mr. U.K. NAZARKIN Mr. N.V. PESTEREV Mr. P.F. SHAKHOV Mr. E.D. ZAITSEV Mr. Y.V. KOSTENKO Mr. E.K. POTIARKIN
<u>United Kingdom:</u>	Sir Derick ASHE Mr. I.R. KENYON
<u>United States of America:</u>	Mr. A.S. FISHER Mr. A. AKALOVSKY Mr. C. FLOWERREE Mr. N. DALEY Mr. C.J. TAYLOR Mr. R.R. STRAND

Yugoslavia:

Mr. D. DJOKIĆ

Zaire:

Mr. BINTU'A-TSHIABOLA

Mr. LUKABU K'HABOUJI

Special Representative of the
Secretary-General:

Mr. Risto HYVÄRINEN

Alternate Representative of the
Secretary-General:

Mr. A. CORRADINI

Assistant Secretary-General:

Mr. R. BJÖRNERSTEDT

Communiqué of the meeting

The following communiqué was issued today by the CCD:

The Conference of the Committee on Disarmament today held its 803rd plenary meeting at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, under the chairmanship of H.E. Ambassador U Saw Hlaing, representative of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma.

The representative of Iran (H.E. Ambassador Manoutchehr Fartash) made a statement on behalf of the Group of 15 concerning the progress report on the USSR/United States bilateral initiative on chemical weapons made on 22 August by the representative of the United States of America on behalf of the two negotiating Powers.

He said that the Group found it most regrettable that seven years after the conclusion of the negotiations on a biological weapons convention, multilateral negotiations on the complete elimination of chemical weapons had not yet started; and this in spite of valuable contributions made by the members of the CCD.

The next plenary meeting of the Conference will be held on Tuesday, 29 August 1978, at 10.30 a.m.

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Mr. FARTASH (Iran): Last Tuesday, the distinguished representative of the United States of America presented a joint United States-USSR statement providing information on their bilateral negotiations on the prohibition of chemical weapons.

The Group of 15 appreciates the promptness with which it was made in response to the Group's request. The Group has given its consideration to the statement.

In the view of the Group the statement adds very little to the already known situation on the subject, and merely amounts to a further assurance that the parties concerned will exert additional effort in order to complete the elaboration of a joint initiative on CW.

On behalf of the Group of 15, I would like to express our deep concern and disappointment over the lack of tangible results on this question. Contrary to the expectations of the Group, the statement did not provide any substantive information on the status of the bilateral negotiations.

The Group finds this situation particularly regrettable in view of the fact that even seven years after the conclusion of the negotiations on a BW convention, multilateral negotiations on the complete elimination of chemical weapons have not yet started, and this in spite of valuable contributions made by the members of the CCD.

Since 1976, the CCD has become more and more paralysed in spite of the fact that the General Assembly has continuously referred this subject to the CCD as a high-priority item, and the special session also endorsed its high-priority nature (Final Document of the special session, para. 45). Suggestions in the Committee that the debate should be taken up on specific matters have been left unheeded.

The Group strongly believes that the members of the sole multilateral negotiating body cannot indefinitely stand idly by waiting for a distant joint initiative. Therefore, it is of the opinion that pending the result of the bilateral negotiations the members of the negotiating body should be in a position to participate on an equal footing in the elaboration of a convention on CW.

The meeting rose at 11 a.m.