CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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LETTER DATED 20 MARCH 1984 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT CONTAINING PROPOSALS ON SOME ELEMENTS OF A FUTURE CONVENTION ON THE COMPLETE PROHIBITION AND TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

I have the honour to enclose herewith some proposals concerning some elements of a future convention on the complete prohibition and total destruction of chemical weapons.

You are kindly requested to have this document circulated as an official document of the Disarmament Conference.

(Signed) Nasrollah KAZEMI KAMYAB
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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PROPOSALS ON SOME ELEMENTS OF A FUTURE CONVENTION ON THE COMPLETE PROHIBITION AND TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

PREAMBLE

The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, being a victim of a crime against peace and security of mankind, namely the systematic and indiscriminate use of chemical weapons by a criminal regime, presents some preliminary ideas in respect of the prohibition of the use of chemical weapons, international co-operation on protective purposes and some general provisions and hopes that every delegation, conscious of its responsibility in suppressing this kind of crime in the future Convention, will take a positive view in considering these proposals. The indignation raised by the use of chemical arms will never be equal to the horror of these methods which are particularly odious and insidious and which have always been both morally and judicially condemned.

The delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran considers that the preamble should contain a strong condemnation of the use of chemical weapons as a means of warfare in any circumstances and use of chemical weapons must be recognized as a war-crime. There must be a reaffirmation of the obligations of States under the Protocol for the prohibition of the use in war of asphyxiating, poisonous or other cases and of bacteriological methods of warfare and renunciation of the reservation to the Protocol by all States.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

- I. States parties shall undertake to respect and to ensure respect for the present Convention in all circumstances.
- II. No reservation or exception may be made to this Convention unless expressly permitted by other articles of this Convention.
- III. (1-10) years after entry into force of the Convention it shall prevail, as between States parties to the Geneva Protocol for the prohibition of the use in war of asphyxiating, poisonous or other gases and of bacteriological methods of warfare.
- IV. States parties to the Convention agree that the use of chemical weapons in any circumstances constitute a war-crime and shall undertake never in any circumstances to use or threaten to use chemical weapons.
- V. States parties to the Convention agree that there can be no amendments to the basic principle relating to prohibition of use of chemical weapons set forth in Article and they shall not be a party to any agreement in derogation thereof.
- VI. States parties undertake to inform the consultative committee on all direct or indirect commercial transfer of dual purposes chemical agents without undue delay.
- VII. States parties, in a spirit of international co-operation, shall guarantee an exchange of information and access to the protective devices and medical treatment developments with the aim of enabling States parties to improve their capabilities and skills in these areas.