



OPCW

Conference of the States Parties

Fourth Session
28 June - 2 July 1999
Agenda Item 18

C-IV/DEC.15
1 July 1999
Original: ENGLISH

DECISION

SIMULATION EQUIPMENT

The Conference,

Recognising that simulation equipment is required, *inter alia*, for the design, commissioning and maintenance of chemical weapons destruction facilities, including as applicable for abandoned chemical weapons, as well as for the training of explosive ordnance disposal personnel;

Without prejudice to decisions on unresolved issues related to old and abandoned chemical weapons;

Recognising further that simulation equipment, in its characteristics and design, must resemble closely the respective chemical weapon;

Noting that simulation equipment is neither “specifically designed to cause death or other harm through the toxic properties of those toxic chemicals specified in subparagraph (a) which would be released as a result of the employment of such munitions and devices” (subparagraph 1(b) of Article II), nor “specifically designed for use directly in connection with the employment of munitions or devices specified in subparagraph (b)” (subparagraph 1(c) of Article II), and hence does not meet the definition of chemical weapons;

Recalling its decision that simulant filled munitions intended for testing chemical weapons destruction procedures should be incorporated into national declarations (C-I/DEC.16, dated 16 May 1997);

Noting that the issue of simulation equipment was referred to the Committee of the Whole by the Conference of the States Parties at its First Session (C-I/2, dated 12 May 1997);

Having received from the Committee of the Whole during the Fourth Session of the Conference a report containing a recommendation to adopt the decision below:

Hereby:

1. **Decides** that declarations of simulant filled munitions provided pursuant to Conference decision C-I/DEC.16 should include a list of the types of simulation equipment held by the State Party;
2. **Recommends** that a State Party that has submitted a declaration in relation to simulation equipment consult with the Technical Secretariat in order to establish the distinguishing characteristics between each type of simulation equipment and the corresponding chemical weapon;
3. **Recommends** that
 - (a) the State Party shall notify the leader of the inspection team at a chemical weapons destruction facility (CWDF) of the arrival of simulation equipment at the CWDF, including their types and quantities. The timing of this notification shall be similar to the notification timing for the transfer of chemical weapons from a CW storage facility to a CW destruction facility;
 - (b) the inspection team may count these items upon arrival at the CWDF, and may verify the State Party's accounting for their use and destruction, for the purpose of avoiding confusion of these items with the monitoring and accounting of chemical weapons and their destruction;
 - (c) the records accounting for the simulation equipment shall be kept on-site and will not be recorded in the preliminary factual findings, the interim reports, or the final inspection reports. Simulation equipment that is located at a CWDF but is not being used to test facility operations should, to the extent practicable, be stored in locations separate from those where chemical weapons are stored;
 - (d) details of the notification, accounting and record keeping shall be included in the facility agreement;
4. **Affirms** that no accountancy will be required for any simulation equipment located outside a CWDF;
5. **Agrees** to remove from the list of unresolved issues the issue of simulation equipment.

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