First Session Agenda item 46.1

OPCW

C-I/DEC.21 16 May 1997 Original: ENGLISH

DECISION

GUIDELINES WITH RESPECT TO THE APPLICABILITY OF BILATERAL/MULTILATERAL VERIFICATION PROCEDURES

The Conference

Recalling that the Commission, in its PC-VI/22, subparagraphs 6.6 (a) - (d), adopted the guidelines with respect to the applicability of bilateral/multilateral verification procedures,

Bearing in mind that the Commission recommended in paragraph 49.1.9 of its Final Report that the Conference adopt the above mentioned guidelines ,

Hereby:

1. **Adopts** the guidelines with respect to the applicability of bilateral/multilateral verification procedures, annexed hereto.

Annex

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Annex

GUIDELINES WITH RESPECT TO THE APPLICABILITY OF BILATERAL/MULTILATERAL VERIFICATION PROCEDURES

- (a) the applicability of any bilateral or multilateral verification agreements be assessed against the criteria of consistency, comprehensives, and effectiveness in accordance with the principles and provisions noted in the Chairman's Paper to PC-VI/B/WP.9;
- (b) if complementary verification measures related to any bilateral/multilateral agreement have been implemented by the Executive Council, the Director-General should report to the Executive Council on the verification activities taken by the parties to the bilateral/multilateral agreement and on the complementary measures. This should include an assessment of their effectiveness;
- (c) should the Director-General have uncertainties at any time about the effectiveness of any bilateral/multilateral inspection regime he shall approach the States Parties concerned for clarification. If the uncertainties cannot be removed or if the facts established are of a nature to suggest that obligations undertaken under the Convention have not been met, the Director-General shall inform the Executive Council without delay; and
- (d) if the Executive Council finds reason to doubt the effectiveness of any bilateral/multilateral agreement, it should consider directing the implementation of the Organisation's verification regime for the States Parties concerned. The Executive Council should take appropriate measures aimed at clarifying the issues prior to directing such action.

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