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**Forty-third session**  
**Item 63 of the preliminary list\***

**CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS**

**Letter dated 25 February 1988 from the Permanent Representative of**  
**the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations**  
**addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a memorandum on the multilateral exchange of data in connection with the elaboration of a convention on the complete and general prohibition and destruction of chemical weapons, which was submitted by the Soviet delegation to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva on 18 February 1988.

I draw attention to the paragraph in the memorandum to the effect that it would be useful if States not participating in the negotiations on a convention on the complete and general prohibition and destruction of chemical weapons also submitted the relevant information.

I should like you to have this letter distributed as an official document of the General Assembly under item 63 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) A. BELONOGOV

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\* A/43/50.

ANNEX

**Memorandum on the multilateral exchange of data in connection with the elaboration of a convention on the complete and general prohibition and destruction of chemical weapons**  
**(proposal by the USSR)**

The Soviet Union proposes **that a multilateral exchange of data on chemical weapons should be conducted with a view to facilitating the speediest drafting, negotiation, signing and entry into force of an international convention on the complete and general prohibition and destruction of chemical weapons, and, in particular, with a view to contributing to the practical solution of questions concerning international control and the creation of an atmosphere of trust,**

It would **be** desirable if **each** State participating in the **negotiations were to provide as a good-will measure the following information in the first half of 1988:**

**1. Concerning stockpiles of chemical weapons:**

Whether the participating State possesses **stockpiles of chemical weapons on its national territory or the territory of other States (with an indication of those States);**

- whether **stockpiles of chemical weapons belonging to other States are located on the territory of that State:**

**The size of stockpiles of chemical weapons located in the participating State. a/**

**2. Concerning installations for the production of chemical weapons:**

Whether **installations for chemical-weapons production are located in the participating State;**

Whether **chemical-weapons production is being continued or has been halted.**

**3. Concerning past transfers to other States of chemical weapons as well as technology and equipment for their production:**

- **Case(s) of the transfer of chemical weapons, technology or equipment for their production (with an indication of the States to which they were transferred);**

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**a/** The approximate size is envisaged here, such as "not exceeding , . , tons of toxic substances".

- Case(s) of the receipt of chemical weapons, technology or equipment for their production (with an indication of the States from which they were received).

It would be desirable at a later stage if each State participating in the negotiations were to provide, within periods of time to be agreed on, the following information:

- Number of depots of chemical weapons;
- Number of installations for chemical-weapons production;
- Number of laboratories, research institutions and test sites specialising (having specialized) in the development of chemical weapons;
- Number of laboratories using chemicals in category I for purposes not related to chemical weapons;
- Number of installations for the destruction of chemical weapons;
- Number of commercial (civilian) installations for production of key precursors and binary chemicals intended for peaceful purposes.

The information should encompass the installations of the participating State located both on its national territory and on foreign territories (with an indication of the States in which these installations are located).

Given the fact that several provisions concerning the proposed exchange of data (for example, the definition of chemical weapons, lists of chemicals, and the like) have not yet been finally agreed on at the negotiations, it would be desirable if States were to include the necessary explanations with the data they submit.

It would be useful if States not participating in the negotiations on a convention on the complete and general prohibition and destruction of chemical weapons also submitted the above-mentioned information.

The Soviet Union expects a positive reaction to its proposal for the exchange of data, which is intended to accelerate the elaboration of a convention, strengthen confidence and increase frankness in the field of chemical weapons.

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