

**FIFTH REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE
STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE
DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND
STOCKPILING OF BACTERIOLOGICAL
(BIOLOGICAL) AND TOXIN WEAPONS
AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

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Working paper by Canada and Poland

Draft Proposal for Article IX

1. The Conference reaffirms that Article IX identifies the recognized objective of the effective prohibition of chemical weapons. The Conference welcomes the entry-into-force on 29 April 1997 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, whose goal is the complete exclusion of the use of chemical weapons.
2. The Conference also welcomes the fact that 144 countries have become States Parties to the Convention and strongly urges all those that have not yet ratified or acceded to do so, in order to achieve the early universalization of the Convention and a world free of chemical weapons.
3. The Conference recognizes the contribution made by the verification regime of the Convention towards the fulfilment of its goals, stresses the importance of the implementation of the provisions of the Convention, welcomes the progress that has been made to date, and calls upon all States Parties to continue and reinforce efforts to comply fully with the Convention and to ensure its full and effective implementation, both nationally and internationally.
4. The Conference also welcomes the progress that has been made in the destruction of chemical weapons stockpiles and facilities, and calls upon possessor States to complete this process in accordance with the provisions of the Convention.
5. The Conference recognizes the key role of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and stresses the importance of effective implementation of the Convention.
