

**PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE ORGANISATION
FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS**

Provisional Technical Secretariat

Office of the Executive Secretary

ES/157/95

The Hague, 31 May 1995

Professor Matthew Meselson
Department of Biochemistry and
Molecular Biology
Harvard University
7 Divinity Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Professor Meselson: *Math*

I am writing to express my appreciation for the Harvard Sussex Program's recent generous offer of financial support to Ms Mitslal Kifleyesus in her work to promote ratification and implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention. As you know, many delegations to the Preparatory Commission from developing countries are located in Brussels, rather than in The Hague. Some additional effort is therefore required to assist these delegations in keeping abreast of developments in the work of the Commission, and to support work in their capitals on the implementation and ratification of the Convention. Ms. Kifleyesus's extensive contacts with Brussels delegations mean that she is ideally suited to performing this task. May I also note my particular appreciation for the Harvard Sussex Program's decision to send Ms Kifleyesus as its representative at the Third African Regional Seminar in Côte d'Ivoire on 8 - 11 May 1995; I understand that the presentation that she made at that seminar was very well-received.

The Provisional Technical Secretariat is also grateful to the Harvard Sussex Program for the financial support it provided towards the travel of persons from developing countries to the Regional Seminar on National Implementation of the Convention in the Asia/Pacific Region, held in Indonesia in November 1994. Many of the participants from developing countries attending the seminar would not have been able to do so without the funding provided by the Harvard Sussex Program.

I would also like to express my thanks for the recent demonstration of database software conducted by the Harvard Sussex Program at the Secretariat. The Secretariat has discovered that there are surprisingly few electronic information resources specifically on chemical weapons issues. The Harvard Sussex Program's database appears to be both very extensive and highly technically sophisticated, and could be quite helpful to the Secretariat in its work. I look forward to receiving further information from you on your proposal to install this database at the Secretariat.

Finally, I would like to note my satisfaction with the recent Pugwash meeting in Noordwijk; I understand that the Harvard Sussex Program played an important role in coordinating the meeting. Pugwash meetings always offer a valuable opportunity to consider important broader issues related to the Chemical Weapons Convention, and this meeting was no exception in that regard. The meeting also provided an opportunity to renew the Secretariat's contacts with the non-governmental community, a group that the Secretariat views as very important to its work.

Yours sincerely



Ian R. Kenyon
Executive Secretary