

A May 2, 1997 Russian law had prohibited, *inter alia*, transportation of chemical weapons across Russian regions. As a result of an amendment signed by President Putin on November 29, 2001, Russian federal law now allows the transportation of nerve agents from one storage site to another storage site. Russia is seriously considering a recent U.S. proposal that it formally confirm the Russian commitment to eliminate all nerve agents at a single site (i.e., Shchuch'ye). The amendment of November 29, 2001, coupled with an anticipated official commitment by Russia to eliminate all nerve agents at Shchuch'ye, would satisfy this condition.

**3. Plan to promote a full and accurate disclosure by Russia regarding the size, content, status, and location of its chemical weapons stockpile.**

The United States continues to work closely with Russia in an attempt to resolve our concerns with the first element. The United States intends to address this concern through a combination of gathering corroborating information, encouraging Russian cooperation and transparency, conducting bilateral expert consultations, and seeking Russian agreement to a U.S. proposal that would allow short-notice visits, with unimpeded access, to undeclared suspect Russian CW sites. The Administration continues to stress with senior Russian officials the importance of resolving this element.