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During negotiation of the treaty, senior officials of the US Chemical Manufacturers Association participated at the side of US government negotiators, and the chemical industry has consistently and publicly advocated ratification of the CWC. Now, if the treaty comes into force without US ratification, its constraints on the chemical exports of non-parties will penalize the US chemical industry. Should the Senate not ratify the Convention, the US government would also be excluded from a seat on the CWC's governing body, and from participating in the establishment of operating procedures. At the same time, as signatories we will be obliged to abide by the treaty's prohibitions.

Since the treaty was opened for signature in 1993, the United States and 166 other countries have signed it. Further, 67 countries, including all the major NATO allies, have deposited their instruments of ratifications, as have all other G-7 members.

Those listed below join me in expressing support for ratification of the CWC without delay, so that the United States, which played a leading role in developing this strong treaty, can participate fully in its implementation.

Yours sincerely,



Carl Kaysen
Chairman, FAS
Prof. Emeritus, Defense and Arms Control Studies, MIT
Former Deputy National Security Advisor to the President

Signature Return

I urge the U.S. Senate to ratify the Chemical Weapons Convention without delay.

Signature Joshua Lederberg

Print Name JOSHUA LEDERBERG

Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology Year 1958

Please mail no later than 28 February