



REPORT OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES

1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session

- 1.1 The Twenty-Seventh Session of the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) was opened on 28 November 2022 at 10:12 in the King Willem-Alexander Theater in the World Forum by the Chairperson of the Conference for its Twenty-Sixth Session, Ambassador Bård Ivar Svendsen of Norway.
- 1.2 The following 139 States Parties participated in the Twenty-Seventh Session: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, the Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, the State of Palestine, the Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, and Zimbabwe.
- 1.3 In accordance with Rule 29 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the following signatory State participated in this session of the Conference as an observer: Israel.
- 1.4 In accordance with Rule 30 of the Rules of Procedure, and pursuant to a decision of the Conference on the matter (C-27/DEC.1, dated 28 November 2022), the following non-signatory State participated in this session of the Conference as an observer: South Sudan.



- 1.5 In accordance with Rules 31 and 32 of the Rules of Procedure, and pursuant to a decision of the Conference on the matter (C-27/DEC.2, dated 28 November 2022), eight international organisations, specialised agencies, and other international bodies attended the Twenty-Seventh Session.
- 1.6 In accordance with the recommendations of the Third Review Conference (RC-3/3*, dated 19 April 2013), and pursuant to a decision of the Conference on the matter (C-27/DEC.3, dated 28 November 2022), the Conference **invited** representatives of the global chemical industry and scientific community to attend the Twenty-Seventh Session.
- 1.7 In accordance with Rule 33 of the Rules of Procedure, and pursuant to a decision of the Conference on the matter (C-27/DEC.4, dated 28 November 2022), 119 non-governmental organisations were invited to attend and participate in the Twenty-Seventh Session in person or by remote access, as well as through pre-recorded statements.
- 1.8 The Permanent Representative of the Netherlands read a joint statement on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America, concerning the accreditation of non-governmental organisations for the Twenty-Seventh Session of the Conference.
- 1.9 The delegations of Mexico, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Syrian Arab Republic made statements under this agenda item.

2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Election of the Chairperson

In accordance with Rules 34 and 35 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference **elected** as its Chairperson Ambassador Vusimuzi Philemon Madonsela of South Africa, who shall hold office until his successor is elected at the next regular session of the Conference.

3. AGENDA ITEM THREE – Election of Vice-Chairpersons and other officers

- 3.1 In accordance with Rules 34 and 35 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference **elected** the following eight States Parties as Vice-Chairpersons of the Conference, to hold office until their successors are elected at its next regular session: Algeria, Ecuador, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, New Zealand, Peru, Rwanda, and the United Arab Emirates.
- 3.2 The Chairperson proposed that the Conference proceed to a vote to fill the two seats pertaining to the Eastern European Group.
- 3.3 The delegations of Croatia, Latvia, and the Russian Federation presented their candidacies.
- 3.4 Pursuant to Rule 79 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the delegation of Belarus, on behalf of Belarus, Burundi, China, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, the State of Palestine, Tajikistan, and Zimbabwe, requested a vote by secret ballot. The delegations of Saudi Arabia, Cuba, Uganda, Armenia, Ethiopia, Eritrea, the Syrian Arab Republic, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia also made statements under this agenda item.

- 3.5 The delegation of Albania presented a joint statement under this agenda item on behalf of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Ukraine.
- 3.6 The Conference **elected** the following two States Parties from the Eastern European Group as Vice-Chairpersons of the Conference: Croatia and Latvia.
- 3.7 Also in accordance with Rules 34 and 35 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference **elected**, as Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole, Ambassador Thomas Schieb of Germany, who shall hold office until a new Chairperson is elected at the next regular session of the Conference.

4. AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Adoption of the agenda

- 4.1 The provisional agenda for the Twenty-Seventh Session was circulated under cover of C-27/1, dated 19 July 2022.

- 4.2 The Conference approved the following agenda for its Twenty-Seventh Session:

AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session

AGENDA ITEM TWO – Election of the Chairperson

AGENDA ITEM THREE – Election of Vice-Chairpersons and other officers

AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Adoption of the agenda

AGENDA ITEM FIVE – Organisation of work and establishment of subsidiary bodies

AGENDA ITEM SIX – Appointment of the Credentials Committee

AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Statement by the Director-General

AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – General debate

AGENDA ITEM NINE – Status of implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention

AGENDA ITEM TEN – Annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in 2021

AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Annual report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities for the period from 13 July 2021 to 8 July 2022

AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Election of Member States to membership of the Executive Council

AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Mid-biennium Draft Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2023, submitted by the Executive Council, and all items pertaining to this Budget

AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Scale of assessments for 2023

AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – External Auditor’s report on the audited Financial Statements of the OPCW and the Provident Fund for 2021

AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Future procedures for the appointment of the External Auditor

AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Administrative and financial matters

AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN – Fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities

AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN – Ensuring the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY – The OPCW Programme for Africa

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-ONE – Engagement with the chemical industry and the scientific community

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-TWO – Reports of subsidiary bodies

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-THREE – Follow-up to the Third Review Conference¹

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FOUR – Any other business

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FIVE – Adoption of the report of the Conference of the States Parties

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-SIX – Closure

5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – Organisation of work and establishment of subsidiary bodies

The Conference **considered** and **adopted** the recommendations of the General Committee that were reported to it in accordance with Rule 43(b) of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference.

6. AGENDA ITEM SIX – Appointment of the Credentials Committee

In accordance with Rule 27 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference, on the recommendation of its Chairperson, **appointed** the following 10 members of the Credentials Committee to hold office until new members are appointed at the next regular session of the Conference: Chile, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Iraq, Kenya, Lithuania, Poland, Saudi Arabia, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Statement by the Director-General

The Conference **noted** the opening statement by the Director-General (C-27/DG.16, dated 28 November 2022).

¹ Review Conference = Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – General debate

- 8.1 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: Azerbaijan (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and China), Ghana (on behalf of the African Group), Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, the State of Palestine, Sweden, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Uruguay, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
- 8.2 The following signatory State made a statement during the general debate: Israel.
- 8.3 The following delegations made statements, exercising their right of reply: the Syrian Arab Republic, the State of Palestine, the Russian Federation, and Ukraine.
- 8.4 The following international body made a statement during the general debate: the European Union.
- 8.5 The following representative from the chemical industry and the scientific community made a statement under this agenda item: the International Council of Chemical Associations.
- 8.6 In accordance with paragraph 2 of C-27/DEC.4, the following non-governmental organisations addressed the Conference: African Centre for Science and International Security (AFRICISIS), AIDEN Niger, Altar Relief Foundation, Amman Center for Peace and Development (ACPD), ArgiIQ, Armiti Human Rights Organisation, Association for Supporting Victims of Chemical Weapons, Association for the Defence of Chemical Injuries Fars Province (SCWVSF), A World Without Chemical and Biological Weapons (WWW), Bradford University, BSOC, CBWNet, Center for Countermeasures Against Chemical and Biological Warfare Agents, Centre de Recherche et d'Information pour le Désarmement et la Sécurité (CRIDS), Charity Peace Organization, Christian Fellowship and Care Foundation, Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation (CTBTO) Youth Group, Consejo Argentino de Relaciones Internacionales (CARI), Doors Foundation, Global Network for Sustainable Development, Halabja Memorial Foundation, Kenyatta University, Kurdish Organisations Network Coalition for the International Criminal Court, Liberians United to Expose Hidden Weapons, Life Organization to Prevent War and Clean up the Environment from War Remnants, Maat for Peace Development and Human Rights, MWS Strategies, Organisation for Defending Sardasht Victims of Chemical Weapons (ODVCW), Organisation of Defending Mass Graves Victims' Rights, Organisation of the Justice Campaign (OJC), Peace Foundation and International Cooperation, Society for the Study of Peace and Conflict, Stimson Center, Tehran Peace Museum, University of Leeds, the Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC), and the Youth Association for Development (YAD) Pakistan.

9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – Status of implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention

Subitem 9(a): Progress report on the implementation of the plan of action regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations

9.1 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Fourteenth Session regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations (C-14/DEC.12, dated 4 December 2009), the Conference **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the “Overview of the Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2022” (EC-101/DG.13* C-27/DG.9, dated 9 September 2022, and Add.1, dated 3 October 2022); a report by the Director-General on the “Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2022: Article VII – Initial Measures” (EC-101/DG.16 C-27/DG.12, dated 15 September 2022); and a report by the Director-General on the “Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2022: Additional Measures for States Parties That Possess Industrial Facilities Which are Declarable Under the Convention” (EC-101/DG.14 C-27/DG.10, dated 12 September 2022).

Subitem 9(b): Implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Technical Secretariat in 2021

9.2 The Conference **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) in 2021 (EC-99/DG.9 C-27/DG.1, dated 17 February 2022).

Subitem 9(c): Implementation of the Conference of the States Parties and Executive Council decisions on destruction-related issues

9.3 The Conference **noted** that, at its Sixteenth Session, it had adopted a decision on the final extended deadline of 29 April 2012 (C-16/DEC.11, dated 1 December 2011). The Conference **expressed its concern** regarding the Director-General’s statement in his report to the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) at its Sixty-Eighth Session, provided in accordance with paragraph 2 of C-16/DEC.11. The Conference **noted further** that the measures that had been identified in paragraph 3 of its decision (C-16/DEC.11) were now being implemented.

9.4 The Conference **noted** the statements and comments made by States Parties on the destruction of the only remaining declared chemical weapons by the sole possessor State Party, recalling the relevant obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) and relevant decisions by the Conference and the Council. The Conference **recalled** that the destruction of the only remaining declared chemical weapons by the sole possessor State Party should continue in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and its Verification Annex and with the application of the measures contained in decision C-16/DEC.11.

9.5 Further to the same decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (subparagraph 3(g) of C-16/DEC.11), the Director-General provided an annual written report to the Conference on the overall progress with respect to the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons stockpiles (C-27/DG.15, dated 23 November 2022),

based on the independent information received by the Secretariat from the Organisation's inspectors undertaking verification in accordance with Part IV(A) D of the Verification Annex, which included information on the progress achieved to meet the planned completion date(s) and the effectiveness of any specific measures that have been undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes.

- 9.6 Further to the same decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the United States of America provided an annual report (C-27/NAT.1, dated 14 November 2022) and an annual briefing on the progress in the destruction of its remaining stockpiles of chemical weapons, including on any specific measures undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes and information on the projected schedule for destruction activities to meet the planned completion date, which were **considered** and **noted** by the Conference, along with comments on the issue as mentioned above (the briefing was posted on the external server of the OPCW). The Conference **noted** the confirmation provided by the delegation of the United States of America that the necessary measures continue to be undertaken in order to meet the planned completion date of September 2023 for its destruction activities, as submitted to the Council at its Sixty-Eighth Session in accordance with subparagraph 3(c) of C-16/DEC.11.
- 9.7 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Russian Federation.
- 9.8 Pursuant to the above-mentioned decision at its Sixteenth Session (subparagraph 3(f) of C-16/DEC.11), the Conference **undertook** an annual review of the implementation of this decision at a specially designated meeting of the Conference. In furtherance of the implementation of subparagraphs 3(d), 3(f), and 3(h) of its decision C-16/DEC.11, the Conference **encouraged** the possessor State Party concerned to include confirmation in the required reporting to the Council and the Conference that it remains on schedule to complete destruction activities by its planned completion date.
- 9.9 The Conference **welcomed** the Council's decision at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012) and the destruction plan beyond the year 2022 for the chemical weapons abandoned by Japan in China (EC-101/DEC.2, dated 4 October 2022) attached as its Annex 3 and adopted by the Council at its 101st Session, bearing in mind that the destruction progress was less than expected in the previous destruction plan attached to the decision "The Deadline of 29 April 2012 and Future Destruction of the Chemical Weapons Abandoned by Japan in the People's Republic of China" (EC-67/DEC.6), and **encouraged** continued cooperation between China and Japan in the implementation of EC-67/DEC.6.
- 9.10 The Conference **recalled** the provisions of the Convention that the Abandoning State Party undertakes to destroy all chemical weapons it abandoned on the territory of another State Party and shall provide all necessary financial, technical, expert, facility as well as other resources, **expressed its determination** to remain seized of the matter, and **urged** the Abandoning State Party to continue to make the fullest possible effort to complete the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China as early as possible in accordance with the Council's decision (EC-67/DEC.6) and its Annex 3 in a faithful manner and to address challenges including ensuring the safety of people and protecting the environment. The Conference **reaffirmed** that the Territorial State Party shall provide appropriate cooperation.

- 9.11 The Conference **also reaffirmed** the obligation of the Abandoning State Party to provide all available information including, to the extent possible, the location, type, and quantity as well as information on the abandonment in accordance with relevant provisions of the Convention, so as to facilitate the expedited destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China.
- 9.12 The Conference **welcomed** the virtual visit by the Chairperson of the Council, the Director-General, representatives of the Council, as well as States Parties as observers to the Haerbaling Abandoned Chemical Weapons Site, Jilin Province, China, on 15 September 2022, at the joint invitation by China and Japan. The Conference **expressed its appreciation** for the first-hand information on the destruction-related progress and the bilateral cooperation of the relevant States Parties obtained through the visit.
- 9.13 The following delegations made further statements under this agenda item: Japan, China, and the Russian Federation.
- 9.14 The following delegations made statements, exercising their right of reply: Japan and China.

Subitem 9(d): Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use

- 9.15 The Conference at its Fourth Special Session adopted a decision entitled “Addressing the Threat from Chemical Weapons Use” (C-SS-4/DEC.3, dated 27 June 2018). Since the previous regular session of the Conference, and pursuant to paragraph 24 of the above-mentioned decision, the following documents had been circulated to the Council: EC-99/DG.8, dated 15 February 2022; EC-100/DG.13, dated 23 June 2022; and EC-101/DG.26, dated 29 September 2022.
- 9.16 At its Twenty-Fifth Session, the Conference adopted a decision entitled “Addressing the Possession and Use of Chemical Weapons by the Syrian Arab Republic” (C-25/DEC.9, dated 21 April 2021). Since the previous regular session of the Conference, and pursuant to paragraph 8 of the above-mentioned decision, the following documents had been circulated to the Council: EC-99/DG.3, dated 23 December 2021; EC-99/DG.5, dated 24 January 2022; EC-99/DG.13, dated 24 February 2022; EC-100/DG.2, dated 24 March 2022; EC-100/DG.4, dated 25 April 2022; EC-100/DG.6, dated 24 May 2022; EC-100/DG.14, dated 23 June 2022; EC-101/DG.2, dated 22 July 2022; EC-101/DG.4, dated 24 August 2022; EC-101/DG.22, dated 23 September 2022; EC-102/DG.1, dated 25 October 2022; and EC-102/DG.2, dated 24 November 2022.
- 9.17 The delegation of France presented a joint statement under this agenda item on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and Uruguay.

- 9.18 The European Union made a statement under this agenda item.
- 9.19 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: India, the Syrian Arab Republic, Canada, China, Australia, the Russian Federation, Brazil, Cuba, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Switzerland, the United States of America, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Austria, Ireland, Malaysia, and France.
- 9.20 The delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement, exercising its right of reply.
- 9.21 Further on this agenda item, the delegation of Germany presented a joint statement on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America.
- 9.22 The European Union made a further statement under this agenda item.
- 9.23 The following delegations made further statements: New Zealand (on behalf of Australia, Canada, and New Zealand), Romania, Canada, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic, Ireland, the United States of America, China, and France.
- 9.24 The following delegations made further statements, exercising their right of reply: the Russian Federation, Ukraine, New Zealand, and the United States of America.
- 10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – Annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in 2021**
- 10.1 The Conference **considered** the draft report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2021 (EC-100/2 C-27/CRP.1, dated 6 July 2022), which was considered and submitted to it by the Council at its 100th Session.
- 10.2 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: the Russian Federation, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, China, Belgium, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Cuba, Norway, Canada, the United States of America, France, and Mexico.
- 10.3 The European Union made a statement under this agenda item.
- 10.4 The Russian Federation made a proposal to the Conference to hold a separate vote on paragraph 7 of the introduction and paragraphs 1.23, 1.24, and 1.34 to 1.42 of the above-mentioned draft report.
- 10.5 Under Rule 69 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the proposal was voted on. The vote led to the following result: seven in favour (Belarus, China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Russian Federation, the State

of Palestine, and Zimbabwe); 69 against (Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, the Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and Uruguay); and 37 abstentions (Algeria, Angola, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Eswatini, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Senegal, South Africa, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, and the United Republic of Tanzania). In light of that result, the proposal of the Russian Federation was not adopted.

10.6 The following delegations explained their vote(s): India and Saudi Arabia.

10.7 The Conference **adopted** the above-mentioned report.

10.8 The delegations of the Russian Federation, China, and the Islamic Republic of Iran disassociated themselves from the adoption of the above-mentioned report in its current form.

11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Annual report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities for the period from 13 July 2021 to 8 July 2022

The Conference **noted** the report of the Council on the performance of its activities for the period from 13 July 2021 to 8 July 2022, its Attachment entitled “Note by the Technical Secretariat: The Destruction of Chemical Weapons Abandoned by Japan in the People’s Republic of China”, and its Annex entitled “Actions Taken by the Conference of the States Parties at its Twenty-Sixth Session in Response to Recommendations Made by the Executive Council” (EC-101/3 C-27/2, dated 4 October 2022). The report was introduced by the Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Ziad M. D. Al Atiyah of Saudi Arabia, who also briefed the Conference on any developments that had taken place since the cut-off date for the report (the briefing was posted on the external server of the OPCW).

12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Election of Member States to membership of the Executive Council

In accordance with paragraph 23 of Article VIII of the Convention and with Rule 83 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the Conference **elected** 21 members to serve on the Council for a term of two years, starting on 12 May 2023. To ensure that the Council is constituted in accordance with paragraph 23 of Article VIII, the regional distribution of the elective places to be filled is to be as follows:

Africa: Angola, Cameroon, Kenya, Morocco, Rwanda

Asia and the Pacific: China, India, Japan, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia

Eastern Europe:	North Macedonia, Romania
Latin America and the Caribbean:	Argentina, Brazil, Mexico
Western Europe and Other States:	France, Germany, Italy, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Mid-biennium Draft Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2023, submitted by the Executive Council, and all items pertaining to this Budget

- 13.1 At the 101st Session of the Council, the Secretariat circulated Notes by the Director-General entitled “Financial Status of the Special Fund for Cybersecurity, Business Continuity, and Physical Infrastructure Security” (EC-101/DG.23, dated 27 September 2022) and “Financial Status of the Special Fund for IT Infrastructure to Support Implementation of Decision C-SS-4/DEC.3” (EC-101/DG.17, dated 15 September 2022).
- 13.2 In accordance with subparagraph 32(a) of Article VIII of the Convention, the Council at its 101st Session considered the Draft Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2023 (EC-101/DG.1/Rev.1, dated 22 September 2022 and Corr.1, dated 4 October 2022). The Council could not achieve consensus on the adoption of a draft decision on the Draft Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2023, containing the recommendations of the Council (EC-101/DEC/CRP.5, dated 28 September 2022). Following a vote on the matter (paragraph 10.21 of EC-101/5, dated 7 October 2022), the Council adopted the decision and submitted the Draft Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2023, together with its recommendation, to the Conference at its Twenty-Seventh Session (EC-101/DEC.6, dated 5 October 2022).
- 13.3 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: the United States of America, China, the Russian Federation, the Netherlands, Cuba, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and New Zealand.
- 13.4 The European Union made a statement under this agenda item.
- 13.5 Under Rule 69 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the draft decision on the Draft Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2023 (C-27/DEC/CRP.4, dated 21 October 2022) was voted on. The vote led to the following result: 99 in favour (Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Eswatini, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, the Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South

Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay, and Viet Nam); seven against (Belarus, China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, Uzbekistan, and Zimbabwe); and 15 abstentions (Angola, Armenia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Burundi, Eritrea, Kazakhstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Nepal, Pakistan, the State of Palestine, the Sudan, Tajikistan, and the United Republic of Tanzania). In light of that result, the decision was **adopted** (C-27/DEC.11, dated 29 November 2022).

- 13.6 The following delegations explained their vote: Saudi Arabia, Algeria, the Islamic Republic of Iran, China, the Russian Federation, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and the State of Palestine.

14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Scale of assessments for 2023

The Conference **adopted**, pursuant to Regulations 3.7(b) and 5.2 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, a decision on the scale of assessments to be paid by States Parties for the financial year 2023 (C-27/DEC.5, dated 28 November 2022).

15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – External Auditor's report on the audited Financial Statements of the OPCW and the Provident Fund for 2021

The Conference **noted** the Financial Statements of the OPCW and the report of the External Auditor for the year ending 31 December 2021 (EC-101/DG.5 C-27/DG.5, dated 25 August 2022), in accordance with Regulation 13.10 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules.

16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Future procedures for the appointment of the External Auditor

- 16.1 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Twenty-Fifth Session (C-25/DEC.10, dated 21 April 2021), the Council at its Ninety-Seventh Session established the Working Group on the Manner of Appointment of the External Auditor (paragraph 12.1 of EC-97/3, dated 8 July 2021) to develop a proposal for the manner in which the Conference shall appoint the External Auditor of the OPCW in the future.
- 16.2 The report of the Working Group on the Manner of Appointment of the External Auditor was circulated to the Council at its 101st Session (EC-101/WP.1, dated 3 October 2022).
- 16.3 Based on the recommendation of the Council at its 101st Session (EC-101/DEC.7, dated 5 October 2022), the Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision entitled "Manner of Appointment of the External Auditor" (C-27/DEC.6, dated 28 November 2022).

17. AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Administrative and financial matters

Subitem 17(a): Special fund for OPCW special missions

- 17.1 At its 101st Session and in accordance with a decision by the Conference at its Twentieth Session (C-20/DEC.11, dated 3 December 2015), the Council considered and adopted a decision recommending the extension of the special fund for OPCW special missions for a period of one further year (EC-101/DEC.8, dated 6 October 2022), and transmitted it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Seventh Session. The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the matter (C-27/DEC.7, dated 28 November 2022).

Subitem 17(b): Status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions

- 17.2 At its Eleventh Session, the Conference adopted a decision (C-11/DEC.5, dated 7 December 2006) on a mechanism to encourage States Parties that are in arrears to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions through the use of multi-year payment plans, requesting the Secretariat to submit a report to it each year, through the Council, on the status of implementation of agreed multi-year payment plans as at the end of the quarter that falls immediately before the session of the Council that precedes the session of the Conference.
- 17.3 The Conference **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Director-General reporting on the status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans (EC-101/DG.6 C-27/DG.6, dated 25 August 2022) that the Council, at its 101st Session, considered and forwarded to it pursuant to the above-mentioned decision.

Subitem 17(c): Recommendation for write-offs of irrecoverable accounts receivable

- 17.4 The Council at its 101st Session considered a Note by the Director-General on the recommendation for write-offs of irrecoverable accounts receivable and of losses of assets and recommended that the Conference at its Twenty-Seventh Session approve these write-offs, totalling EUR 6,802.95 (EC-101/DG.3 C-27/DG.4, dated 28 July 2022). The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the matter (C-27/DEC.8, dated 28 November 2022).

Subitem 17(d): Transfers of funds during 2021

- 17.5 In accordance with Regulation 4.5 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, all transfers between budget programmes shall be reported to the Conference. The Conference **noted** a Note by the Director-General on this matter (EC-100/DG.18 C-27/DG.3, dated 30 June 2022).

Subitem 17(e): Annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight for 2021

- 17.6 In accordance with Regulation 12.5 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, the Director-General transmitted to the Conference, through the Council, the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2021, and the accompanying Note by the Director-General (EC-100/DG.3 C-27/DG.2, dated 11 April 2022), along with his own comments and any other comments made by the Council. The Conference **noted** this report.

Subitem 17(f): Rehiring of inspectors

- 17.7 At its Twenty-Fourth Session, the Conference adopted a decision on the rehiring of inspectors (C-24/DEC.10, dated 28 November 2019) and reviewed its implementation at its Twenty-Sixth Session.
- 17.8 At its 101st Session, the Council adopted a decision on the rehiring of inspectors (EC-101/DEC.5, dated 5 October 2022), and transmitted it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Seventh Session. The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the matter (C-27/DEC.9, dated 28 November 2022).

Subitem 17(g): Amendments to the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules

- 17.9 At its 101st Session, the Council adopted a decision entitled “Amendments to the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules” (EC-101/DEC.1, dated 4 October 2022), and transmitted it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Seventh Session. The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the matter (C-27/DEC.10, dated 28 November 2022).

18. AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN – Fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities

- 18.1 The Conference at its Sixteenth Session adopted a decision regarding components of an agreed framework for the full implementation of Article XI of the Convention (C-16/DEC.10, dated 1 December 2011), and requested the Secretariat to report to the Conference at each annual session on the progress of concrete measures undertaken in implementing the decision, and on the status of implementation of Article XI.
- 18.2 The Conference **noted** a report by the Director-General on the progress made and review of the status of implementation of Article XI of the Convention for the period from 26 August 2021 to 25 August 2022 (EC-101/DG.9 C-27/DG.7, dated 31 August 2022).
- 18.3 The Conference **received** a report by the facilitator for Article XI issues, Ms Fatima Hamdia Tanweer of Pakistan, on activities held during the intersessional period (the report was posted on the external server of the OPCW).
- 18.4 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: Cuba, China, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic, Pakistan, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, Chile, and Algeria.
- 18.5 The European Union made a statement under this agenda item.

19. AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN – Ensuring the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention

- 19.1 The Council at its Twenty-Third Meeting adopted an action plan for the universality of the Convention (EC-M-23/DEC.3, dated 24 October 2003). The plan requested the Director-General, inter alia, to submit to the Conference at its regular sessions an annual report on the implementation of the action plan, and to keep the Council regularly informed, so that the Conference and the Council may review progress and monitor its implementation effectively.

19.2 The Conference **noted** the annual Note by the Director-General reporting on the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention during the period from 16 August 2021 to 15 August 2022 (EC-101/DG.15 C-27/DG.11, dated 13 September 2022).

20. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY – The OPCW Programme for Africa

20.1 The Conference **noted** a Note by the Director-General on the Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention (EC-101/DG.12 C-27/DG.8, dated 7 September 2022).

20.2 The delegation of Ghana made a statement under this agenda item on behalf of the African Group.

21. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-ONE – Engagement with the chemical industry and the scientific community

The Conference **noted** a Note by the Director-General on engaging the chemical industry associations (C-27/DG.14, dated 20 October 2022).

22. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-TWO – Reports of subsidiary bodies

Committee of the Whole

22.1 The Conference **noted** that, during this session, no items had been allocated to the Committee of the Whole.

General Committee

22.2 The Conference **noted** the reports of the General Committee, and took appropriate action as required.

Commission for the Settlement of Disputes Related to Confidentiality

22.3 The Conference **noted** the report of the Twenty-Fourth Meeting of the Commission for the Settlement of Disputes Related to Confidentiality (hereinafter “the Confidentiality Commission”) (CC-24/1, dated 9 September 2022).

22.4 In accordance with paragraph 23 of the Confidentiality Annex to the Convention and Rule 2(b) of the Operating Procedures of the Confidentiality Commission (C-III/DEC.10/Rev.2, dated 4 December 2013), the Conference **elected** 19 members of the Confidentiality Commission for a term of two years, starting from 1 May 2023:

Africa	Mr Amine Sid (Algeria) Mr John Billy-Eko (Cameroon) Colonel Crépin Arsène Sambou (Senegal) Ms Boipelo Motsi (South Africa)
Asia	Mr Zuo Qi (China) Mr Febrizki Bagja Mukti (Indonesia) Dr Reza Najafi (Iran, Islamic Republic of) Ms Wan Maisarah Mohamed Idrus (Malaysia)

Eastern Europe	Mr Jerzy Gierasimiuk (Poland) Ms Anne Kogteva (Russian Federation) Mr Serhii Trotskyi (Ukraine)
Latin America and the Caribbean	Mr Gustavo Rodolfo Zlauvinen (Argentina) Mr Jorge Carvajal San Martin (Chile) Mr Carlos Ernesto Álvarez Pérez (Cuba) Mr Isaac Morales Tenorio (Mexico)
Western European and Other States	Mr Dieter Umbach (Germany) Mr Ioannis Seimenis (Greece) Mr Paul van Rhijn (Netherlands) Mr Jack Marsh (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

22.5 The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on amendments to the Operating Procedures of the Confidentiality Commission (C-27/DEC.12, dated 30 November 2022).

Credentials Committee

22.6 The Conference **considered** and **approved** the report of the Credentials Committee on the credentials of representatives to the Twenty-Seventh Session of the Conference, which was presented to it by the Chairperson of the Credentials Committee, Mr Lester Antonio Ortega Lemus, Chargé d'Affaires of the Republic of Guatemala (C-27/3, dated 30 November 2022).

22.7 The Conference further **noted** and **approved** the Chairperson's oral report that, following the close of the Credentials Committee meeting, additional original credentials had been received from Eswatini, Latvia, and South Africa.

Committee on Relations with the Host Country

22.8 At its Eleventh Session, the Conference adopted a decision establishing a Committee on Relations with the Host Country (hereinafter "the Host Country Committee") (C-11/DEC.9, dated 7 December 2006). The Conference **considered** and **noted** a report by the Host Country Committee entitled "Report of the Nineteenth Meeting of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country – Record of Discussions Held on 7 April 2022" (EC-100/HCC/1 C-27/HCC/1, dated 13 May 2022).

22.9 The Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Ziad M. D. Al Atiyah of Saudi Arabia, reported to the Conference on the status of the work of the Host Country Committee.

22.10 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: the Russian Federation and the Netherlands.

Advisory Board on Education and Outreach

22.11 The Conference **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Director-General reporting on the activities of the Advisory Board on Education and Outreach (ABEO) covering the period from 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 (EC-101/DG.20 C-27/DG.13, dated 19 September 2022).

22.12 The Secretariat circulated a statement by Mr Shahab Ud Din, Chairperson of the ABEO (the statement was posted on the external server of the OPCW).

Scientific Advisory Board

- 22.13 The Secretariat circulated a statement by Mr Günter Povoden, Chairperson of the Scientific Advisory Board (the statement was posted on the external server of the OPCW).

23. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-THREE – Follow-up to the Third Review Conference

In paragraph 9.17 of its report (RC-3/3*, dated 19 April 2013), the Third Review Conference expressed its intention to keep the declarations contained in paragraphs 9.3 to 9.16 of that document under review at each regular session of the Conference. The most recent such document is EC-101/S/2, dated 9 September 2022. The Conference **noted** the activities in furtherance of its review of the declarations contained in paragraphs 9.3 to 9.16 of RC-3/3*.

24. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FOUR – Any other business

Preparation of the Fifth Review Conference

- 24.1 The Chairperson of the Bureau of the Open-Ended Working Group for the Preparation of the Fifth Review Conference, Ambassador Lauri Kuusing of Estonia, reported to the Conference on its activities.
- 24.2 The following delegations made statements: China, Cuba, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Brazil, and the United States of America.

Gender equality perspective in the work of the OPCW

- 24.3 The delegation of Costa Rica made a statement on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and Uruguay.
- 24.4 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: New Zealand and Guatemala.

25. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FIVE – Adoption of the report of the Conference of the States Parties

The Conference **considered** and **adopted** the report of its Twenty-Seventh Session.

26. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-SIX – Closure

The Chairperson closed the session at 15:58 on 1 December 2022.