

## **Conference of the States Parties**

Twenty-First Session 28 November – 2 December 2016

C-21/DEC.5 30 November 2016 Original: ENGLISH

## **DECISION**

## REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISION C-16/DEC.11 (DATED 1 DECEMBER 2011) BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES IN 2017

The Conference of the States Parties,

**Recalling** the obligation under Article 1 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction (hereinafter "the Convention") in terms of which "[e]ach State Party undertakes to destroy chemical weapons it owns or possesses, or that are located in any place under its jurisdiction or control, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention";

**Recalling also** that the Convention determines under Article IV that for each State Party "[s]uch destruction shall begin not later than two years after this Convention enters into force for it and shall finish not later than 10 years after entry into force of this Convention" and that an extension of the deadline for destruction can be requested under Part IV (A) of the Convention's Annex on Implementation and Verification (hereinafter "the Verification Annex") "but in no case shall the deadline for a State Party to complete its destruction be extended beyond 15 years after the entry into force of this Convention";

**Recalling further** that the final extended deadline for the destruction of chemical weapons by the possessor States concerned that was established by the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter "the Conference") in accordance with Part IV (A) of the Verification Annex was 29 April 2012 and that further extensions of the deadline beyond this date were not possible;

**Recalling further** that the Conference decided at its Sixteenth Session that, if the final extended deadline of 29 April 2012 had not been fully met, the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons in the possessor States concerned "shall be completed in the shortest time possible in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and its Verification Annex and under the verification of the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation as prescribed under the Convention and its Verification Annex" (subparagraph 3(a) of C-16/DEC.11, dated 1 December 2011);

**Recalling further** that the Executive Council (hereinafter "the Council"), at its Sixty-Eighth Session, expressed its concern regarding the Director-General's statement in his report (EC-68/DG.9, dated 1 May 2012), provided in accordance with paragraph 2 of C-16/DEC.11, that "three possessor States Parties, namely Libya, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America, have been unable to fully meet the final extended deadline of

29 April 2012 for the destruction of their chemical weapons stockpiles" (paragraph 6.1 of EC-68/3, dated 4 May 2012);

**Recalling further** that each possessor State concerned is to report, and provide a briefing in a closed meeting, at each regular session of the Council and the Conference, on the progress achieved towards the complete destruction of remaining stockpiles and progress made since the last briefing in order to meet the planned completion date by which the destruction of its remaining chemical weapons is to be completed (subparagraphs 3(d) and (f) of C-16/DEC.11);

**Recalling further** that the Director-General is to provide a written report at each regular session of the Council and the Conference on the overall destruction progress by the possessor States concerned that is based on the independent information received by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter "the Secretariat") in accordance with Part IV (A) D of the Verification Annex (subparagraphs 3(e) and (g) of C-16/DEC.11);

**Recalling further** that, at the Twenty-Second Session of the Conference, in 2017, an extra day is to be added for a specially designated meeting or meetings for the review of the implementation of C-16/DEC.11, unless otherwise decided by the Conference at its Twenty-First Session, in 2016 (subparagraph 3(f) of C-16/DEC.11);

**Noting** that the Council shall review progress towards completion of destruction and take the necessary measures to document this progress in accordance with paragraph 28 of Part IV(A) of the Verification Annex, and shall make arrangements for the sessions of the Conference, including the preparation of the draft agenda under subparagraph 32(c) of Article VIII of the Convention; and

**Considering** the recommendations relating to the review of the implementation of C-16/DEC.11 by the Conference at its Twenty-Second Session, in 2017, submitted to it by the Council (EC-82/DEC.3, dated 14 July 2016);

## Hereby:

- 1. **Confirms** that the reporting obligations of possessor States and the Director-General pursuant to C-16/DEC.11 in relation to the progress of destruction of the remaining chemical weapons stockpiles, as well as the verification activities conducted by the Secretariat and other measures foreseen by C-16/DEC.11, provide the necessary assurances for the continuous review of the implementation of that decision;
- 2. **Decides** that, in light of the above, it is not necessary to add an extra day at the Twenty-Second Session of the Conference for a specially designated meeting or meetings for the review of the implementation of C-16/DEC.11; and
- 3. **Decides further** that the review of the implementation of C-16/DEC.11 shall take place under an appropriate agenda item on the regular agenda of the Twenty-Second Session of the Conference.