

**REPORT OF THE FIFTH SESSION  
OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES****1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The following 109 States Parties participated in the Fifth Session of the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter the "Conference"): Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, and Zimbabwe.
- 1.2 The following two contracting States participated in this session of the Conference: the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Malaysia.
- 1.3 In accordance with Rule 29 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the following seven signatory States participated in this session of the Conference: Cape Verde, Gabon, Israel, Rwanda, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.
- 1.4 In accordance with Rule 30 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, and pursuant to decision C-V/DEC.1, dated 15 May 2000, a representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya was granted observer status.
- 1.5 The Conference, in decision C-V/DEC.2, dated 15 May 2000, approved the participation of the following international organisations in this session of the Conference: the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organisation (CTBTO), the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the United Nations, and the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

- 1.6 The Conference, in decision C-V/DEC.3\*, dated 15 May 2000, approved the participation of 16 non-governmental organisations and industry representatives in this session of the Conference.

**2. AGENDA ITEM ONE - Opening of the session**

The Fifth Session of the Conference was opened on 15 May 2000 by the Chairman of the Fourth Session of the Conference, Ambassador István Gyarmati of Hungary. The Conference received the message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the opening ceremony of this session of the Conference (C-V/2, dated 15 May 2000).

**3. AGENDA ITEM TWO - Election of the Chairman**

In accordance with Rules 34 and 35 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference, by acclamation, elected as its Chairman Ambassador Jaime Lagos of Chile, who shall hold office until his successor is elected at the next regular session of the Conference.

**4. AGENDA ITEM THREE - Election of Vice-Chairmen and other officers**

- 4.1 In accordance with Rules 34 and 35 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, Representatives of the following ten States Parties were elected as Vice-Chairmen of the Conference, to hold office until their successors are elected at the next regular session of the Conference: Ghana, Sudan (Africa); India, Indonesia (Asia); Croatia, the Russian Federation (Eastern Europe); Brazil, Cuba (Latin America and the Caribbean); France, and the United States of America (WEOG).

- 4.2 Also in accordance with Rules 34 and 35 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, Mr Krzysztof Paturej of Poland was elected Chairman of the Committee of the Whole until a new Chairman is elected for this body at the next regular session of the Conference.

**5. AGENDA ITEM FOUR - Adoption of the agenda**

The Conference **adopted** the following agenda for its Fifth Session:

1. AGENDA ITEM ONE - Opening of the session
2. AGENDA ITEM TWO - Election of the Chairman
3. AGENDA ITEM THREE - Election of Vice-Chairmen and other officers
4. AGENDA ITEM FOUR - Adoption of the agenda
5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE - Organisation of work and establishment of subsidiary bodies
6. AGENDA ITEM SIX - Appointment of Credentials Committee

7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN - Statement by the Director-General
8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT - General debate
9. AGENDA ITEM NINE - Status of implementation of the Convention
10. AGENDA ITEM TEN - Report of the Organisation on the year 1999
11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN - Report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities
12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE - Election of members of the Executive Council
13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN - Appointment of the External Auditor
14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN - Implementation of Section B of Part IX of the Verification Annex
15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN - Programme and budget of the Organisation, submitted by the Executive Council for the ensuing financial period, and all items pertaining to this budget
16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN - Scale of assessments to be paid by States Parties
17. AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN - Fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities
18. AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN - Ensuring universality of the Convention
19. AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN - Appointment of the Director-General
20. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY - Any other business
21. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-ONE - Date and duration of the next regular session of the Conference of the States Parties
22. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-TWO - Reports of subsidiary bodies
  - (a) Committee of the Whole
  - (b) General Committee
  - (c) Confidentiality Commission
  - (d) Credentials Committee
23. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-THREE - Adoption of the report of the Conference of the States Parties
24. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FOUR - Closure

**6. AGENDA ITEM FIVE - Organisation of work and establishment of subsidiary bodies**

- 6.1 The Conference, noting that no request for a supplementary item had been received by the Director-General, and that no request for an additional agenda item had been received by the General Committee, under Rules 14 and 20 respectively of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, adopted the recommendation of the General Committee to approve the agenda for this session of the Conference as contained in C-V/1, dated 1 March 2000.
- 6.2 Under Rule 16 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the Executive Council (hereinafter the "Council") referred to the General Committee a proposal to place on the agenda of the Conference an additional item - the appointment of the Director-General. The General Committee reported this proposal promptly to the Conference, which approved it.
- 6.3 The Conference referred the following items to the Committee of the Whole, to consider and report back: appointment of the External Auditor; the implementation of Section B of Part IX of the Verification Annex; the fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities; the reporting of ricin production; the authentication and certification procedure for the Central OPCW Analytical Database and on-site databases; and guidelines for assessing whether laboratories may retain their designated status.
- 6.4 The Conference adopted the recommendation of the General Committee to close the Fifth Session of the Conference on 19 May 2000.

**7. AGENDA ITEM SIX - Appointment of Credentials Committee**

In accordance with Rule 27 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference, on the proposal of its Chairman, appointed the following ten members of the Credentials Committee to hold office until new members are appointed at the next regular session of the Conference: Bangladesh, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Namibia, the Netherlands, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Ukraine, and Uruguay.

**8. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN - Statement by the Director-General**

The Conference noted the opening statement by the Director-General (C-V/DG.11, dated 15 May 2000).

**9. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT - General debate**

The following delegations made statements during the general debate: Japan, Portugal (on behalf of the European Union and associated countries), Nigeria, Switzerland, the United States of America, Greece, China, Ukraine, the Republic of Korea, Chile, India, Canada, Peru, the Czech Republic, Cuba, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Sri Lanka, Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Pakistan, Croatia, Norway, Mexico, Morocco, South Africa, the Russian Federation, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Philippines, Algeria, Bangladesh, Slovenia, Kuwait, Indonesia, South Africa (on behalf of the African Group), Panama, and Benin.

## **10. AGENDA ITEM NINE - Status of implementation of the Convention**

### **Submission of declarations**

- 10.1 The Conference noted the report by the Director-General on the status of submission of initial declarations and notifications as of 11 May 2000 (C-V/DG.8, dated 12 May 2000). The Conference noted with approbation that its own expressions of concern, and those of the Council, had resulted in effective action which meant that, as of 11 May 2000, all States Parties had submitted their initial declarations as required under the Convention. The Conference encouraged the Director-General to give favourable consideration to applying the techniques which had produced such good results in this area to other areas in which a significant proportion of States Parties were not in fulfilment of the requirements of the Convention. The Conference requested the Council to continue to monitor the fulfilment by States Parties of this important obligation under the Convention throughout the subsequent period, and to report back to it at its next regular session. The delegation of the United States of America submitted a national paper on this subject (C-V/NAT.2, dated 18 May 2000).

### **Procedures for the handling of confidential information**

- 10.2 The Conference noted the report by the Director-General on the implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Secretariat in 1999 (C-V/DG.5, dated 8 May 2000). The Conference requested the Council to continue to monitor the fulfilment by States Parties of this important obligation under the Convention throughout the subsequent period, and to report back to it at its next regular session.

### **Status of implementation of the requirement for States Parties to provide two-year multiple entry/exit visas to inspectors/inspection assistants**

- 10.3 The Conference noted the report by the Director-General on the status of implementation of the requirement for States Parties to provide two-year multiple entry/exit visas to inspectors/inspection assistants (C-V/DG.4, dated 2 May 2000), as well as the Note by the Director-General on the availability of visas to inspectors and inspection assistants in the case of a challenge inspection or an investigation of alleged use (C-V/DG.3, dated 28 April 2000). The Conference requested the Council to continue to monitor the fulfilment by States Parties of this important obligation under the Convention throughout the subsequent period, and to report back to it at its next regular session.

### **Legislation, cooperation, and legal assistance**

- 10.4 The Conference noted with concern from the relevant information contained in the annex to the report by the Director-General on the status of submission of initial declarations and notifications, submitted to the Conference at this session, that the proportion of States Parties which had fulfilled the requirements of the Convention in relation to legislation, cooperation, and assistance had barely increased since the Fourth Session of the Conference, and urged all States Parties which had not

implemented their obligations under Article VII of the Convention, including enacting penal legislation with respect to prohibited activities, and informing the Organisation of the legislative and administrative measures taken, to do so promptly. The Conference requested the Council to continue to monitor the fulfilment by States Parties of this important obligation under the Convention throughout the subsequent period, and to report back to it at its next regular session.

- 10.5 The Conference considered and adopted the decision on national implementation measures (C-V/DEC.20, dated 19 May 2000).

**11. AGENDA ITEM TEN - Report of the Organisation on the year 1999**

The Conference considered and approved the “Report of the Organisation on the Implementation of the Convention (1 January - 31 December 1999)” (C-V/5, dated 17 May 2000).

**12. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN - Report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities**

- 12.1 The Conference noted the “Report of the Executive Council on the Performance of its Activities (30 April 1999 - 2 April 2000)” (EC-XIX/5 C-V/3, dated 7 April 2000). The report was introduced by the outgoing Chairman of the Council, Ambassador Ignacio Pichardo Pagaza of Mexico.

**Recommendations of the Council to the Conference**

- 12.2 The Conference took the following actions on the basis of recommendations and decisions of the Council:

**(a) Agreements on the privileges and immunities of the OPCW**

- (i) The Conference, in accordance with the recommendation of the Council at its Nineteenth Session, considered and adopted the decision approving the negotiated text of the agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons on the privileges and immunities of the OPCW (C-V/DEC.4, dated 17 May 2000).
- (ii) The Conference, in accordance with the recommendation of the Council at its Nineteenth Session, considered and adopted the decision approving the negotiated text of the agreement between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons on the privileges and immunities of the OPCW (C-V/DEC.5, dated 17 May 2000).

(iii) The Conference, in accordance with the recommendation of the Council at its Nineteenth Session, considered and adopted the decision approving the negotiated text of the agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons on the privileges and immunities of the OPCW (C-V/DEC.6, dated 17 May 2000).

**(b) 1986 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organisations, or between International Organisations**

The Conference, in accordance with the recommendation of the Council at its Sixteenth Session, considered and adopted the decision authorising the Director-General, on behalf of the OPCW, to deposit its instrument of accession to the 1986 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties between States and International Organisations, or between International Organisations, with the Secretary-General of the United Nations as the Depository for the Convention (C-V/DEC.7, dated 17 May 2000).

**(c) Methodology for selecting Schedule 3 plant sites for inspection**

The Conference, in accordance with the recommendation of the Council at its Seventeenth Session, confirmed the Council's decision on the methodology for selecting Schedule 3 plant sites for inspection (EC-XVII/DEC.7, dated 1 December 1999).

**(d) Reports of the External Auditor on the financial statements of the OPCW for 1998 and 1999**

(i) The Conference noted the audited financial statements of the OPCW and the Provident Fund of the OPCW for the period ended 31 December 1998, and the External Auditor's report and opinion thereon (C-V/DG.1, dated 11 November 1999, and Corr.1\*, dated 1 December 1999), including the response of the Director-General to the above-mentioned External Auditor's report. In accordance with OPCW Financial Regulation 13.10, these audited financial statements and the External Auditor's report and opinion thereon had been forwarded to the Conference by the Council at its Seventeenth Session.

(ii) The Conference noted the audited financial statements of the OPCW and the Provident Fund of the OPCW for the period ended 31 December 1999 and the External Auditor's report and opinion thereon (C-V/DG.2, dated 5 April 2000, and Corr.1, dated 9 May 2000), including the response of the Director-General to the above-mentioned External Auditor's report. In accordance with OPCW Financial Regulation 13.10, these audited financial statements and the External Auditor's report and opinion thereon had been forwarded to the Conference by the Council at its Nineteenth Session.

- (e) **Requests for the use of chemical weapons production facilities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention**
- (i) The Conference, in accordance with the recommendation of the Council at its Seventeenth Session, considered and adopted the decision approving the request by the Russian Federation to use the chemical weapons production facility (mustard gas production facility) in Berezniki, for purposes not prohibited under the Convention (C-V/DEC.8, dated 17 May 2000).
  - (ii) The Conference, in accordance with the recommendation of the Council at its Seventeenth Session, considered and adopted the decision approving the request by the Russian Federation to use the chemical weapons production facility (mustard gas production facility) in Chapaevsk, for purposes not prohibited under the Convention (C-V/DEC.9, dated 17 May 2000).
  - (iii) The Conference, in accordance with the recommendation of the Council at its Seventeenth Session, considered and adopted the decision approving the request by the Russian Federation to use the chemical weapons production facility (filling mustard gas-lewisite mixture into munitions) in Chapaevsk, for purposes not prohibited under the Convention (C-V/DEC.10, dated 17 May 2000).
  - (iv) The Conference, in accordance with the recommendation of the Council at its Nineteenth Session, considered and adopted the decision approving the request by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to use the chemical weapons production facility, ICI Valley, Rhydymwyn, North Wales, for purposes not prohibited under the Convention (C-V/DEC.11, dated 17 May 2000).
  - (v) The Conference, in accordance with the recommendation of the Council at its Nineteenth Session, considered and adopted the decision approving the request by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to use the chemical weapons production facility, ICI Randle, Runcorn, Cheshire, for purposes not prohibited under the Convention (C-V/DEC.12, dated 17 May 2000).
  - (vi) The Conference, in accordance with the recommendation of the Council at its Nineteenth Session, considered and adopted the decision approving the request by the Russian Federation to use the chemical weapons production facility (DF production), OJSC “Khimprom”, Volgograd, for purposes not prohibited under the Convention (C-V/DEC.13, dated 17 May 2000).



**(f) Request by the Russian Federation to grant an extension of its obligation to meet an intermediate deadline for destruction of Category 1 chemical weapons stockpiles**

- (i) The Conference, in accordance with the recommendation of the Council at its Nineteenth Session, considered and adopted the decision on the request by the Russian Federation for an extension of its obligation to meet an intermediate deadline for the destruction of one percent of its Category 1 chemical weapons stockpiles in accordance with paragraph 22 of Part IV(A) of the Verification Annex to the Chemical Weapons Convention (C-V/DEC.14, dated 17 May 2000).
- (ii) The Conference, in accordance with the recommendation of the Council at its Nineteenth Session, considered and adopted the decision on international financial assistance to the Russian Federation for the destruction of its chemical weapons (C-V/DEC.15, dated 17 May 2000).

**(g) Annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight**

The Conference noted that, in accordance with Financial Regulation 12.5, the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight for the period from 1 January to 31 December 1999 (attachment to EC-XIX/DG.10, dated 4 April 2000) had been submitted to the Council at its Nineteenth Session before it was submitted to the Conference, and took cognisance of this annual report. The Conference also noted that the Director-General had accepted in full the recommendations contained in the report, and that their implementation had already been initiated.

**(h) Implementation of restrictions on transfers of Schedule 2 and Schedule 3 chemicals to and from States not party to the Convention**

The Conference, in accordance with the recommendation of the Council at its Nineteenth Session, considered and adopted the decision on the implementation of restrictions on transfers of Schedule 2 and Schedule 3 chemicals to and from States not party to the Convention (C-V/DEC.16, dated 17 May 2000).

**(i) Guidelines regarding low concentration limits for declarations of Schedule 2 and 3 chemicals**

The Conference, in accordance with the recommendation of the Council at its Tenth Meeting, considered and adopted the decision on guidelines regarding low concentration limits for declarations of Schedule 2 and 3 chemicals (C-V/DEC.19, dated 19 May 2000).

**(j) Model facility agreement for chemical weapons destruction facilities**

The Conference, in accordance with the recommendation of the Council at its Tenth Meeting, considered and adopted the decision on the model facility agreement for chemical weapons destruction facilities (C-V/DEC.23, dated 19 May 2000).

**13. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE - Election of members of the Executive Council**

In accordance with Article VIII, paragraph 23 of the Convention, and with Rule 83 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the following 21 States Parties were elected members of the Council, for a two-year term of office commencing on 12 May 2001:

Africa:	Botswana, Cameroon, Nigeria, Sudan, Tunisia
Asia:	China, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia
Eastern Europe:	Bulgaria, Croatia
Latin America and the Caribbean:	Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Uruguay
Western Europe and Other States:	France, Germany, Italy, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

**14. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN - Appointment of the External Auditor**

The Conference considered and adopted the decision on the appointment of the External Auditors of the OPCW for the financial years 2000 - 2005 (C-V/DEC.24, dated 19 May 2000).

**15. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN - Implementation of Section B of Part IX of the Verification Annex**

The Conference referred this issue back to the Council with a view to a recommendation being made to the Conference at its Sixth Session.

**16. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN - Programme and budget of the Organisation, submitted by the Executive Council for the ensuing financial period, and all items pertaining to this budget**

**Programme and budget of the Organisation for 2001**

- 16.1 The Conference noted the draft OPCW programme and budget for 2001 (annex to C-V/DG/CRP.1\*, dated 11 May 2000, and Corr.1, dated 17 May 2000), as well as the relevant recommendations of the Council at its Tenth Meeting (subparagraph 3 of EC-MX/3\*, dated 18 May 2000). The Conference considered and adopted the decision on the OPCW programme and budget for 2001 (C-V/DEC.18, dated 18 May 2000). The Conference noted the statement made by Brazil on behalf of the

Latin American and Caribbean Group (C-V/NAT.3, dated 18 May 2000). The Conference noted the comments made by the Director-General on the draft 2001 OPCW budget to the Ninth Meeting of the Executive Council on 2 May 2000 (C-V/DG.15, dated 19 May 2000).

### **Draft Medium-Term Plan**

- 16.2 In the light of the encouragement offered at its Fourth Session for the Secretariat to continue to refine the Draft Medium-Term Plan, the Conference noted that the Draft Medium-Term Plan 2001 - 2004 (EC-XIX/DEC/CRP.9, dated 3 April 2000), which was received by the Council at its Nineteenth Session, will be further considered by the Council.

### **17. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN - Scale of assessments to be paid by States Parties**

- 17.1 The Conference considered and adopted the decision on the scale of assessments to be paid by States Parties for the financial year 2001 (C-V/DEC.25, dated 19 May 2000).

### **Status of assessed contributions**

- 17.2 The Conference noted the Report by the Director-General on the status of assessed contributions as of 30 April 2000 (C-V/DG.9, dated 12 May 2000, and Corr.1, dated 18 May 2000). The Conference requested the Council to continue to monitor the fulfilment by States Parties of this important obligation under the Convention throughout the subsequent period, and to report back to it at its next regular session.
- 17.3 The Conference took note of the Note by the Director-General on States Parties in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the OPCW for the preceding two full years, as of 11 May 2000 (C-V/DG.10, dated 12 May 2000). The Conference noted that, as of 11 May 2000, the provisions of paragraph 8 of Article VIII of the Convention applied to 23 States Parties. The Conference also took note of the Note by the Director-General on a request under paragraph 8 of Article VIII of the Convention concerning the right to vote (C-V/DG.14, dated 18 May 2000).

### **Status of reimbursement of verification costs under Articles IV and V**

- 17.4 The Conference noted the Report by the Director-General on the status of reimbursement of verification costs under Articles IV or V of the Convention as of 30 April (C-V/DG.6, dated 9 May 2000). The Conference noted that, notwithstanding requests from the Council for those States Parties which were in arrears to reimburse the Organisation as soon as possible, very considerable amounts were still in arrears as of 30 April 2000, and urged all States Parties in arrears for the reimbursement of such invoices to settle their debts as soon as reasonably possible. The Conference requested the Council to continue to monitor the fulfilment by States Parties of this important obligation under the Convention throughout the subsequent period, and to report back to it at its next regular session.

**18. AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN - Fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities**

18.1 The Conference noted statements by the following delegations in relation to this agenda item: Bangladesh, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Canada, Cuba, and Mexico. The Conference also noted the statement by the Director-General on fostering international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities (C-V/DG.13, dated 18 May 2000).

18.2 The Conference referred this issue back to the Council for further consideration, with a view to the Council reporting to the Conference at its Sixth Session, and with a view to decisions being taken promptly. Many delegations requested that consultations on the draft decision be intensified with a view to it being adopted by the Conference at its next session.

**19. AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN - Ensuring universality of the Convention**

The Conference noted the Report by the Director-General on the implementation of the recommendation of the Conference at its Fourth Session on ensuring the universality of the Convention (C-V/DG.12, dated 16 May 2000). The Conference considered and adopted the recommendation on ensuring the universality of the Convention (C-V/DEC.21, dated 19 May 2000).

**20. AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN - Appointment of the Director-General**

20.1 The Conference, noting the decision of the Council at its Tenth Meeting on the renewal of the appointment of the Director-General (EC-MX/DEC.2, dated 18 May 2000), and in accordance with Rule 16 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, considered and approved the recommendations of the Council and of the General Committee to include the appointment of the Director-General in the agenda of the Conference, as an additional agenda item.

20.2 The Conference considered and adopted the decision on the renewal of the appointment of the Director-General (C-V/DEC.22, dated 19 May 2000). The Conference noted the statement by the Director-General on the renewal of his appointment for the second term of office (C-V/DG.16, dated 19 May 2000).

**21. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY - Any other business**

**Scientific Advisory Board**

21.1 The Conference took note of the Note by the Director-General concerning the results of the expert meeting on the conclusions and recommendations submitted by the Scientific Advisory Board in 1999 (EC-XIX/DG.4, dated 14 March 2000).

**Reporting of ricin production**

21.2 The Conference considered and adopted the decision on the reporting of ricin production (C-V/DEC.17, dated 18 May 2000).

**Authentication and certification procedure for the Central OPCW Analytical Database and on-site databases**

- 21.3 The Conference, taking note of the Note by the Director-General on the authentication and certification procedure for the Central OPCW Analytical Database and on-site databases (C-V/DG.7, dated 12 May 2000, and Corr.1, dated 19 May 2000), considered the draft decision on this subject (C-V/DEC/CRP.21, dated 12 May 2000). The Conference referred this issue back to the Council for further consideration at its next regular session, with a view to the Council making a recommendation to the Conference at its Sixth Session.

**Guidelines for assessing whether laboratories may retain their designated status**

- 21.4 In the context of the request by the Council at its Nineteenth Session for the Director-General to prepare and distribute the revised criteria for the retention of designation status for deliberation by States Parties as soon as possible, the Conference considered the draft decision on guidelines for assessing whether laboratories may retain their designated status (C-V/DEC/CRP.17, dated 11 May 2000). The Conference referred this issue back to the Council for further consideration as a priority issue at its next regular session, and mandated the Council to take a decision on this issue.

**22. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-ONE - Date and duration of the next regular session of the Conference of the States Parties**

The Conference confirmed the decision taken at its Second Session to hold its next regular session from 14 - 18 May 2001.

**23. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-TWO - Reports of subsidiary bodies**

**Committee of the Whole**

- 23.1 The Conference noted the report of the Committee of the Whole on the results of its consideration of those agenda items referred to it by the Conference on the recommendation of the General Committee (C-V/CoW.1, dated 19 May 2000), and took appropriate action as required.

**General Committee**

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

**Confidentiality Commission**

- 23.3 The Conference noted the report of the fourth meeting of the Confidentiality Commission (C-V/CC.1, dated 26 April 2000, and Corr.1, dated 10 May 2000), which was introduced by Mr Camilo Sanhueza Bezanilla, the chair of the Confidentiality Commission. The Conference approved the request of the Confidentiality Commission for authorisation to hold a special session, to be convened exclusively for consideration of requests by the Council at its Eighteenth Session in relation to confidentiality.

### **Credentials Committee**

- 23.4 The report of the Credentials Committee (C-V/4, dated 19 May 2000) was presented by its Chairman, Ambassador Y.L.M. Zawahir of Sri Lanka. The Chairman orally reported that, following the close of the Credentials Committee meeting, formal credentials were received for the Representatives of Algeria, Ghana, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Nigeria, the Philippines and Suriname, and that an official communication was received regarding the representation of Niger. Formal credentials will be submitted for the latter in due course. The Conference noted this additional information, and approved the report. The Conference also remarked that the number of members which failed to submit credentials for their Representatives on time in this session was considerably greater than at previous sessions, and urged adherence to the requirements of Rule 26 of its Rules of Procedure for its next session. Under that rule, the Director-General should receive the credentials preferably one week in advance of the session.

**24. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-THREE - Adoption of the report of the Conference of the States Parties**

The Conference considered and adopted the report of its Fifth Session.

**25. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FOUR - Closure**

The Chairman closed the Fifth Session at 18:15 on 19 May 2000.

--- 0 ---