Исполнительный совет





Пятьдесят восьмая сессия 13-16 октября 2009 года

EC-58/2 1 October 2009 RUSSIAN Original: ENGLISH

### ТРЕБОВАНИЕ О ВКЛЮЧЕНИИ ПОДПУНКТА В ПРЕДВАРИТЕЛЬНУЮ ПОВЕСТКУ ДНЯ ПЯТЬДЕСЯТ ВОСЬМОЙ СЕССИИ ИСПОЛНИТЕЛЬНОГО СОВЕТА 13-16 ОКТЯБРЯ 2009 ГОДА

В письме от 30 сентября 2009 года и согласно правилу 16 с) Правил процедуры Исполнительного совета (далее "Совет") постоянный представитель Южной Африки в ОЗХО обратился к Председателю Совета Его Превосходительству Хорхе Ломонако Тонде с требованием о включении в пункт 5 - "Состояние дел с осуществлением Конвенции" - предварительной повестки дня пятьдесят восьмой сессии Совета (документ ЕС-58/1 от 11 сентября 2009 года) дополнительного подпункта "Безопасность и уничтожение химического оружия в ситуациях, не предусмотренных Конвенцией о химическом оружии".

Приложение (только на английском языке)

Letter from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the OPCW to the Chairperson of the Council, dated 30 September 2009 (Письмо постоянного представителя Южной Африки при ОЗХО Председателю Совета от 30 сентября 2009 года)

01/10 09 DON 08:25 FAX 070 3617862 EC-58/2 Annex page 2 SOUTH AFFRICAN EMBASSY

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Annex

#### LETTER FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SOUTH AFRICA TO THE OPCW TO THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COUNCIL, DATED 30 SEPTEMBER 2009

30 September 2009

H.E. Ambassador Jorge Lomónaco Tonda Chairperson of the Executive Council of the OPCW Permanent Representation of Mexico Nassau Plein 28, 2585, The Hague

Fax nr: 070-356 0543

Your Excellency,

# REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF A SUB-ITEM ON THE AGENDA OF THE 58<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1. The South African delegation would like to request the inclusion of a subitem under agenda item 5 of the agenda for the 58<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Council (EC58) which would read as follows:

Item 5 (...): Security and destruction of chemical weapons in situations not foreseen by the Chemical Weapons Convention

- 2. This request follows-up on the discussion which took place during the 57<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Council on the security and destruction of chemical weapons in a conflict situation involving a non-State Party (agenda item 17, EC-57/16). On that occasion the Council encouraged interested States Parties to consult on this matter, as appropriate, in a timely fashion. The South African delegation has subsequently consulted and is continuing to consult with the delegations of the United States and the United Kingdom as well as other delegations on this matter.
- 3. The proposal for a sub-item relates directly to the importance of this matter, which is to prevent the weakening of and/or damage to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) as a result of chemical weapons being secured and destroyed in future situations (including conflict situations) that are not foreseen by the Convention. The inclusion of this

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matter on the EC agenda would ensure that it is dealt with in a substantive as well as transparent and inclusive manner.

- 4. The South African delegation is also pleased to provide you with a note on this matter which provides further background on its request as well as on the proposed report language which the South African delegation would seek to include in the EC58 report.
- 5. Your kind assistance, as Chairperson of the Executive Council, would be much appreciated in this regard.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

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H.E. Ambassador Peter Goosen Permanent Representative of the Republic of South Africa to the OPCW

- Ref: ML1/NLD/OPCW/EC/4
- CC: Ambassador Abuelgasim Abdelwahid Shiekh Idris, Vice-Chair of the Executive Council for the African Group (070-361 7975)

Mr. Alexander Khodakov, Director, OPCW Policy Making-Organs (070-416 3861)

## PROPOSAL BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION TO THE OPCW

New agenda subitem 5 (...): Security and destruction of chemical weapons in situations not foreseen by the Chemical Weapons Convention

The Council **decided** to establish an open-ended working group to develop guidelines, which would in future be read together with the Chemical Weapons Convention, for the security and destruction of chemical weapons that come into the possession and/or control of a State Party or States Parties in situations not foreseen by the Convention, including conflict situations and otherwise.

The Council **welcomed** the appointment of Mr./Ms. ... as facilitator for this matter and encouraged States Parties to finalise their work in this regard as soon as possible.

## PROPOSED TEXT

**New Agenda subitem**: Security and destruction of chemical weapons in situations not foreseen by the CWC

#### BACKGROUND

- It is important to address this matter as soon as possible in order to prevent the weakening of and/or damage to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) as a result of chemical weapons being secured and destroyed in situations (including conflict situations) that are not foreseen by the Convention.
- This process will be forward looking to focus on future situations. Relevant past activities will be used to draw information on experiences that were gained in destroying chemical weapons in situations not foreseen by the CWC.
- A new agenda subitem is therefore necessary in order to clearly provide for and address this issue in the Executive Council in an inclusive and transparent manner.

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The Council **decided** to establish an • open-ended working group to develop guidelines, which would in future be read together with the Chemical Weapons Convention, for the security and destruction of chemical weapons that come into the possession and/or control of a State Party or States • Parties in situations not foreseen by the Convention, including conflict situations and otherwise.

- An open-ended working group is proposed in order for this process to be inclusive, thereby giving all interested States Parties the opportunity to participate in these deliberations.
- The establishment of an openended working group highlights the importance of this matter and is in line with the practice of the Organisation on important issues, as illustrated by the establishment of the open-ended working group on the fight against terrorism.
- The establishment of an OEWG will provide transparency and legitimacy to the work that is done on this issue.
- The OEWG will produce a negotiated document to cover all situations (including conflict situations) that are not foreseen by the CWC in terms of securing and destroying chemical weapons and will be read together with the Convention.
- The reference to conflict situations does not refer to any specific conflict, but is a general reference, which is further broadened by the words "...and otherwise".
- The existence of the OEWG would be finite and the Group would cease to exist once it has completed the work of preparing a set of guidelines that will be read together with the CWC to deal with situations that were not envisaged by the original negotiators of the Convention.

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The Council **welcomed** the appointment of Mr./Ms. ... as facilitator for this matter and encouraged States Parties to finalise their work in this regard as soon as possible.

It is proposed that EC58 appoint a facilitator for this process in order for the work on the proposed guidelines to commence as soon as possible.

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