



REPORT OF THE SEVENTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session

The Chairperson of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”), Ambassador Bhaswati Mukherjee of India, opened its Seventy-Second Session in The Hague at 10:10 on 6 May 2013.

2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Adoption of the agenda

The Council **considered** and **approved** the following agenda:

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Opening statement by the Director-General
4. Reports by the Vice-Chairpersons on the activities conducted under their respective clusters of issues
5. General debate (inter alia, thematic discussion on the outcome of the Third Review Conference¹)
6. Status of implementation of the Convention:
 - (a) Reports by the Director-General on destruction-related issues
 - (b) Implementation of the Conference of the States Parties and Executive Council decisions on destruction-related issues
 - (c) Other verification-related issues
 - (d) Destruction-related plans and facility agreements
 - (e) Status of implementation of Article X
 - (f) Chemical industry and other Article VI-related issues

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



- (g) Status of implementation of Article XI
 - 7. Report on the implementation in 2012 of the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight
 - 8. Report of the Office of Internal Oversight for 2012
 - 9. Administrative and financial matters:
 - (a) OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 31 March 2013
 - (b) Nomination for membership of the Advisory Board on Administrative and Financial Matters
 - 10. Organisation of follow-up to the Third Review Conference
 - 11. Report by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country
 - 12. Agreement on the privileges and immunities of the OPCW
 - 13. The OPCW's contribution to global anti-terrorism efforts
 - 14. Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Executive Council
 - 15. Any other business
 - 16. Adoption of the report
 - 17. Closure
- 3. AGENDA ITEM THREE – Opening statement by the Director-General**
- The Council **noted** the opening statement by the Director-General (EC-72/DG.10*, dated 6 May 2013).
- 4. AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Reports by the Vice-Chairpersons on the activities conducted under their respective clusters of issues**
- 4.1 The Vice-Chairpersons and coordinators for clusters of issues reported to the Council on informal consultations held during the intersessional period: Ambassador Miguel Eduardo Calahorrano Camino of Ecuador on chemical weapons issues, Ambassador Robert P. Mikulak of the United States of America on chemical-industry and other Article VI issues, Ambassador Roman Kolodkin of the Russian Federation on legal, organisational, and other issues, and Ambassador Sirajuddin Hamid Yousif of the Sudan (represented by Mr Ammar Ahmed Babikar Ali) on administrative and financial issues. The Chairperson also reported on her own activities on behalf of the Council during the intersessional period.
- 4.2 The Council **expressed appreciation** for the work of the facilitator for the implementation of the action plan for universality, Mr Gary Applegarth of the United States.

5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – General debate (inter alia, thematic discussion on the outcome of the Third Review Conference)

The following delegations made statements during the general debate: the Islamic Republic of Iran (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and China), Ireland (on behalf of the European Union and associated countries), Norway, Japan, Brazil, China, Ecuador, the Republic of Korea, India, Cuba (observer), Poland (observer), Nigeria (in its national capacity), Mexico, Canada, Uruguay (observer), the United States of America, and Nigeria (on behalf of the African Group).

6. AGENDA ITEM SIX – Status of implementation of the Convention

Subitem 6(a): Reports by the Director-General on destruction-related issues

6.1 Further to a decision by the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11, dated 1 December 2011), the Council **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the overall progress of destruction activities by possessor States Parties (EC-72/DG.8, dated 3 May 2013).

6.2 Further to a decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012), the Council **noted** a report by the Director-General on the overall progress of the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons (EC-72/DG.9, dated 3 May 2013 and Corr.1, dated 6 May 2013).

Subitem 6(b): Implementation of the Conference of the States Parties and Executive Council decisions on destruction-related issues

6.3 The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) briefed the Council on its destruction-related verification activities.

6.4 The United States of America, the Russian Federation, Libya, China, and Japan briefed the Council on their destruction-related activities.

6.5 The Council **noted** the statements and comments made by States Parties on the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons by possessor States, **recalling** the relevant obligations under the Convention and relevant decisions by the Conference and the Council. The Council **recalled** that the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons by possessor States Parties should continue in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and its Annex on Implementation and Verification, and with the application of the measures contained in decision C-16/DEC.11.

6.6 Further to the above-mentioned decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Council **considered** and **noted** a national paper by the United States of America on the progress made on the completion of the destruction of its chemical weapons, including information on measures to accelerate such progress, as well as on appropriate measures in order to meet the planned completion date (EC-72/NAT.3, dated 8 April 2013), along with comments on the issue as mentioned above. The Council **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.

- 6.7 Further to the same decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Council **considered** and **noted** a national paper by the Russian Federation on the progress made on the completion of the destruction of its chemical weapons, including information on measures to accelerate such progress, as well as on appropriate measures in order to meet the planned completion date (EC-72/P/NAT.1, dated 8 April 2013), along with comments on the issue as mentioned above. The Council **noted** the confirmation provided by the delegation of the Russian Federation that the necessary measures continue to be undertaken in order to meet the planned completion date of December 2015 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.
- 6.8 Further to the same decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Council **considered** and **noted** a national paper by Libya on the progress made on the completion of the destruction of its chemical weapons, including information on measures to accelerate such progress, as well as on appropriate measures in order to meet the planned completion date (EC-72/NAT.2, dated 24 April 2013), along with comments on the issue as mentioned above. The Council **noted** the confirmation provided by the delegation of Libya that the necessary measures continue to be undertaken in order to meet the planned completion date of December 2016 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.
- 6.9 Further to a decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6), a national paper by China (EC-72/NAT.4, dated 22 April 2013) and a national paper by Japan (EC-72/NAT.1, dated 18 April 2013) had been circulated to the members of the Council. While welcoming close cooperation between relevant States Parties, the Council considered and decided to remain seized of the matter, and requested the relevant States Parties to take measures to implement the destruction plan. Both States Parties reaffirmed their commitment to the abovementioned decision.
- 6.10 The Council **welcomed** the review of the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons conducted by the Third Review Conference and the report of the Third Review Conference (RC-3/3*, dated 19 April 2013) relating to abandoned chemical weapons issues. The Council also **welcomed** the planned visit of Chairperson of the Council, the Director-General and a delegation representing the Council to Haerbaling abandoned chemical weapons site, jointly invited by China and Japan.

Subitem 6(c): Other verification-related issues

- 6.11 The Secretariat briefed the Council on its other verification-related activities.
- 6.12 At its previous session, the Council stressed that previously undeclared Schedule 1 facilities and activities should be handled in a transparent, prompt, and consistent manner in accordance with the object and purpose of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”). The Council invited the Director-General to present in writing to the members of the Council, at its Seventy-Second Session,

the Secretariat's procedures for handling such cases in the future in order to solicit their comments and to adjust the procedures if necessary (paragraph 6.16 of EC-71/3, dated 21 February 2013). The Council **noted** the Note by the Director-General on the matter (EC-72/DG.6, dated 24 April 2013).

Subitem 6(d): Destruction-related plans and facility agreements

- 6.13 The Council **considered** and **approved** amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of the Category 1 chemical weapons at the chemical weapons destruction facility (CWDF) located at Shchuchye, Kurganskaya Oblast, the Russian Federation (EC-72/DEC.1, dated 7 May 2013).
- 6.14 The Secretariat submitted to the Council a Note on modifications to the facility agreement with the Russian Federation regarding on-site inspections at the CWDF located at Shchuchye, Kurganskaya Oblast, the Russian Federation (EC-72/S/2, dated 9 April 2013).
- 6.15 Proposed amendments to the aforementioned facility agreement had been submitted separately to the Council (EC-72/DEC.2, dated 7 May 2013), which **considered** and **approved** them. Related amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of Category 1 chemical weapons at the CWDF located at Shchuchye, Kurganskaya Oblast, the Russian Federation, are treated in paragraph 6.14 above.

Subitem 6(e): Status of implementation of Article X

- 6.16 The Council **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the status of implementation of Article X of the Convention (EC-72/DG.1, dated 25 March 2013).
- 6.17 The Council **requested** the Director-General to circulate the list of qualified experts referred to in paragraph 7 of Part XI of the Verification Annex, as an official series document each time the list is updated.
- 6.18 In relation to assistance and protection against chemical weapons, the Council **welcomed** and **supported** further efforts both by States Parties and the Secretariat to promote a high level of readiness to respond to chemical weapons threats as articulated in Article X.
- 6.19 The facilitator for this issue, Ms Sarah Broughton of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, reported on consultations held during the intersessional period. The Council **expressed appreciation** to the facilitator for her report.

Subitem 6(f): Chemical industry and other Article VI-related issues

- 6.20 Further to the decision of the Council at its Sixty-Sixth Session on the policy guidelines for determining the number of Article VI inspections (EC-66/DEC.10, dated 7 October 2011), the Council **noted** the report by the Director-General on the results of the implementation of these policy guidelines (EC-72/DG.4, dated 5 April 2013).

Subitem 6(g): Status of implementation of Article XI

- 6.21 The Council **exchanged** views on the implementation of Article XI. The Council **received** an oral report from the facilitator, Mr Aamir Shouket of Pakistan, on progress made during the intersessional period on Article XI issues. The Council **expressed appreciation** for the report provided by the facilitator.
- 6.22 The Council **noted** the positive outcome of the Third Review Conference, which emphasised the importance of the “Components of an Agreed Framework for the Full Implementation of Article XI” adopted by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.10, dated 1 December 2011), **recognising** that the decision provides guidance for full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of the provisions of Article XI, as well as identifying avenues that would advance its objectives and also allows for consideration of additional proposals to further develop and enhance actions for the advancement of its objectives.
- 6.23 The Council **noted** further the call by States Parties for adequate funding for the OPCW’s international cooperation and assistance programmes, through the regular Budget and voluntary funding.
- 6.24 The Council **emphasised** that the future consideration of avenues for further work should focus on practical measures for the future realisation of the objectives of Article XI.
- 7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Report on the implementation in 2012 of the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight**
- 7.1 The Council **considered** a report by the Director-General on the implementation in 2012 of the recommendations contained in the 2011 annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight (OIO) (EC-72/DG.3, dated 2 April 2013), and **decided** to consider the matter further at the next regular session of the Council.
- 7.2 The facilitator for this issue, Ms Sakiko Hayakawa of Japan, reported on consultations held during the intersessional period. The Council **expressed appreciation** to the facilitator for her report.
- 8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – Report of the Office of Internal Oversight for 2012**
- 8.1 The Council **considered** the annual report of the OIO for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2012, which the Director-General had submitted to it along with his comments (EC-72/DG.2 C-18/DG.3, dated 2 April 2013), and **decided** to consider the matter further at the next regular session of the Council.
- 8.2 The facilitator for this issue, Ms Sakiko Hayakawa of Japan, reported on consultations held during the intersessional period. The Council **expressed appreciation** to the facilitator for her report.

9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – Administrative and financial matters

Subitem 9(a): OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 31 March 2013

9.1 The Council **noted** a report by the Director-General on OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 31 March 2013 (EC-72/DG.5, dated 12 April 2013).

Subitem 9(b): Nomination for membership of the Advisory Board on Administrative and Financial Matters

9.2 The Council **noted** the Note by the Secretariat on the nomination of membership of the Advisory Board on Administrative and Financial Matters (ABAF) (EC-72/S/1, dated 25 March 2013) and **approved** the nomination of Mr Jiang Bo of China to the ABAF, to replace Ms Jiang Ning, retroactive to the date of the letter of nomination for Mr Bo (11 March 2013).

10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – Organisation of follow-up to the Third Review Conference

10.1 The Council **discussed** the organisation of the follow-up to the Third Review Conference. The Director-General **confirmed** that the Secretariat will produce a matrix document based on the report of the Third Review Conference (RC-3/3*), focusing on actionable items, taking into account the cluster structure of the Council, as well as ongoing facilitations, to avoid duplication of effort, and covering the history of recommendations and actionable items, as appropriate. The document will be made available to the Council by early June 2013, prior to its next regular session.

10.2 The Director-General also confirmed that a non-paper on the OPCW as a knowledge repository will be made available to States Parties in mid-June 2013.

10.3 The Council **requested** the Director-General to explore options for alternative conference venues, including options for expanding the Ieper room, and to report to the Council at its next regular session.

10.4 The Council **decided** to consider the same agenda item with the same title, “Organisation of Follow-Up to the Third Review Conference” at its next regular session in July 2013.

10.5 The Council **welcomed** the statement relating to the follow-up to the Third Review Conference made by H.E. Krzysztof Paturej, Chairperson of the Third Review Conference.

11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Report by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

11.1 The Deputy-Director General reported on the activities conducted by the Secretariat in the intersessional period under this agenda item, and informed the Council that the last bilateral meeting with the Host Country took place in December 2012.

11.2 Upon the request of delegations and the recommendation of the Chairperson, the Council **decided** to include this agenda item at its next regular session.

- 11.3 The necessity to resolve issues under discussion by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country (hereinafter “the Host Country Committee”), ideally by the next session of the Council, was emphasised. The Chairperson advised the Council that the subsequent meeting of the Host Country Committee would soon be scheduled by the newly elected Chairperson of the Council, and that all unresolved items would continue to remain on the agenda of the Host Country Committee until resolved.

12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Agreement on the privileges and immunities of the OPCW

The Council **considered** and **concluded** an agreement between the OPCW and the Republic of Sudan on the privileges and immunities of the OPCW (EC-72/DEC.3, dated 7 May 2013).

13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – The OPCW’s contribution to global anti-terrorism efforts

- 13.1 The Council **noted** a Note by the Director-General on the status of the OPCW’s contribution to global anti-terrorism efforts (EC-72/DG.7, dated 25 April 2013).

- 13.2 A working paper by H.E. Professor Ruthie C. Rono, former facilitator of the Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism, on proposals for the way forward for the Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism (EC-72/WP.1, dated 19 February 2013), had been circulated to the Council.

- 13.3 The Council **welcomed** the appointment of Ambassador Dr Nimota Nihinlola Akanbi of Nigeria as facilitator for the Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism.

14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Executive Council

In accordance with Rule 6 of its Rules of Procedure, and with effect from 12 May 2013, the Council **elected** by acclamation Ambassador Dr Olexandr Horin of Ukraine as its new Chairperson, for a term of office ending on 11 May 2014, and as its new Vice-Chairpersons for the same period: Ambassador Odette Melono of Cameroon, Ambassador Miguel Eduardo Calahorrano Camino of Ecuador, Ambassador Bhaswati Mukherjee of India, and Ambassador Francesco Azzarello of Italy.

15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – Any other business

16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Adoption of the report

The Council **adopted** the report of its Seventy-Second Session.

17. AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Closure

The Chairperson closed the session at 18:34 on 7 May 2013.