

OPCW

Seventy-Fourth Session 8 – 11 October 2013

EC-74/S/2 25 September 2013 Original: ENGLISH

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

FURTHER UPDATE ON THE MATTER CONSIDERED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AT ITS SIXTY-THIRD SESSION UNDER AGENDA SUBITEM 6(i)

- 1. At the Seventy-Third Session of the Executive Council (hereinafter "the Council"), the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter "the Secretariat") submitted a Note to the Council entitled "Update on the Matter Considered by the Executive Council at Its Sixty-Third Session Under Agenda Subitem 6(i)" (EC-73/S/7, dated 19 July 2013), concerning the issue of captive use of Schedule 1 chemicals in Denmark, which was noted by the Council. To bring this matter to closure, in accordance with paragraph 5 of the above-mentioned Note, the Council also noted the Secretariat's intention to provide a further Note on this matter at its next regular session (paragraph 6.14 of EC-73/6, dated 19 July 2013).
- 2. The present Note aims to provide an update on the actions that the Secretariat has taken since the Seventy-Third Session of the Council.
- 3. As announced in paragraph 5 of EC-73/S/7, the Secretariat transmitted a note verbale to Denmark on 31 July 2013, setting out the information that it had received to date and seeking the confirmation of Denmark thereof.
- 4. In a note verbale dated 29 August 2013, Denmark invited the Secretariat to conduct a technical-assistance visit (TAV) to the facility referred to in EC-73/S/7. The specifics of the TAV were subsequently discussed between the Secretariat and Denmark. In particular, Denmark requested that the main objective of the TAV would be to provide assistance in assuring that the captive use activity involving a Schedule 1 chemical had ceased, and in verifying the absence of Schedule 1 activity at this facility.
- 5. The on-site TAV was conducted on 9 and 10 September 2013 by a technical team from the Secretariat, composed of a chemical-production technologist, a senior industry-verification officer, and the Head of the Industry Verification Branch. During this visit, the team was given a technical briefing by the plant site personnel and was granted unimpeded access to the facility, including the records of production and chemical inventories from the beginning of 2010 to the date of the visit, and legal documents regarding the ownership of the facility. The TAV team concluded that there had been no Schedule 1 activity between 16 April 2010 and the date of the visit. In addition, the team confirmed the absence of any Schedule 1 chemical and observed that there had been no other declarable activity at this site.

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6. Following the visit, Denmark confirmed, in a note verbale dated 13 September 2013, that the information contained in the note verbale of 31 July 2013 was accurate, and expressed gratitude to the Secretariat for the professional, timely, and efficient technical assistance rendered in this matter.

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