



**OPCW**

**Executive Council**

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**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
ON THE PERFORMANCE OF ITS ACTIVITIES  
IN THE PERIOD FROM 20 JULY 2013 TO 11 JULY 2014**



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## 1. ORGANISATIONAL MATTERS

- 1.1 The Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) is the executive organ of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). The Council promotes the effective implementation of, and compliance with, the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”). It also supervises the activities of the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”), cooperates with the National Authority of each State Party, and facilitates consultations and cooperation amongst States Parties at their request.
- 1.2 The following tables show, by regional grouping, the composition of the Council for the period from 12 May 2013 to 11 May 2014, and from 12 May 2014 to 11 May 2015.

**TABLE 1: COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL FROM 12 MAY 2013 TO 11 MAY 2014**

<b>Regional Group</b>	<b>States Parties</b>
Africa	Algeria, Cameroon, Kenya, Libya, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, and Sudan
Asia	China, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Japan, Pakistan, Qatar, Republic of Korea, and Saudi Arabia
Eastern Europe	Czech Republic, Poland, Russian Federation, Serbia, and Ukraine
Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, and Uruguay
Western European and Other States	Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America

**TABLE 2: COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL FROM 12 MAY 2014 TO 11 MAY 2015**

<b>Regional Group</b>	<b>States Parties</b>
Africa	Algeria, Cameroon, Kenya, Libya, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, and Tunisia
Asia	China, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Malaysia, Pakistan, Qatar, Republic of Korea, and Saudi Arabia
Eastern Europe	Belarus, Croatia, Poland, Russian Federation, and Serbia
Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Peru, and Uruguay
Western European and Other States	Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America

- 1.3 At its Eighteenth Session, the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) adopted decisions on five matters the Council had referred to it.

### **Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Executive Council**

- 1.4 At its Seventy-Fifth Session, the Council elected Ambassador Álvaro Marcelo Moerzinger of Uruguay as its Chairperson, and Dr Ali Gebril Werfeli of Libya, Ambassador Masaru Tsuji of Japan, Ambassador Vesela Mrđen Korać of Croatia, and Ambassador Francesco Azzarello of Italy as its Vice-Chairpersons, for a term of office ending on 11 May 2015.
- 1.5 The following table lists the dates on which the Council held its regular sessions during the period under review.

**TABLE 3: DATES OF REGULAR SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL**

<b>Session</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Seventy-Fourth	8 – 11 October 2013
Seventy-Fifth	4 – 7 March 2014
Seventy-Sixth	8 – 11 July 2014

- 1.6 The Council held ten meetings during the reporting period:
- (a) its Thirty-Third Meeting, on 27 September and 3 October 2013;
  - (b) its Thirty-Fourth Meeting, on 5 and 15 November 2013;
  - (c) its Thirty-Fifth Meeting, on 26 and 29 November 2013;
  - (d) its Thirty-Sixth Meeting, on 17 December 2013 and 8 January 2014;
  - (e) its Thirty-Seventh Meeting, on 8 January 2014;
  - (f) its Thirty-Eighth Meeting, on 30 January and 21 February 2014;
  - (g) its Thirty-Ninth Meeting, on 21 and 25 February 2014;
  - (h) its Fortieth Meeting, on 28 March, 11 and 29 April, and 8 May 2014;
  - (i) its Forty-First Meeting, on 22 May 2014; and
  - (j) its Forty-Second Meeting, on 17 and 30 June 2014.

### **Accreditation of representatives to the Executive Council**

- 1.7 The most recent examination of credentials (EC-76/DG.8/Rev.2, dated 7 July 2014), which the Director-General conducted and reported on to the Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session, in accordance with Rule 4 of its Rules of Procedure, established that the credentials of the representatives of all members of the Council, as at the date of that report, met the requirements of Rule 3.

### **Application of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council**

- 1.8 During the period under review, observer States Parties participated actively in all sessions of the Council, with an average of 43 present at each session. Each request

by observers to present their views was granted under Rule 22 of the aforementioned Rules of Procedure.

- 1.9 The Council, bearing in mind Rule 50 of its Rules of Procedure, invited the Syrian Arab Republic, a State not Party, to attend the Thirty-Third Meeting of the Council. This decision neither had, nor was intended to create, a precedent and any possible future requests of a similar nature shall be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- 1.10 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session, also bearing in mind Rule 50 of its Rules of Procedure, considered a request from the Syrian Arab Republic, a State not Party, and, accordingly, invited it to attend the Seventy-Fourth Session of the Council.

#### **Working methods of the Executive Council**

- 1.11 During the period under review, the Chairperson of the Council, working in consultation with its Vice-Chairpersons and its members, reviewed and published lists of issues under regular consultation and outstanding issues on the agenda of the Council (EC-74/INF.1, dated 29 August 2013; EC-75/INF.1, dated 20 January 2014; and EC-76/INF.1, dated 17 April 2014).
- 1.12 The Chairperson of the Council acted as the coordinator for the Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism, which continued its work. The Vice-Chairpersons of the Council were designated as coordinators for chemical weapons issues; chemical-industry and other Article VI issues; administrative and financial issues; and legal, organisational, and other issues. Facilitators were also appointed for many of the issues requiring resolution.
- 1.13 Further to the request of the Council at its Seventy-Third Session (paragraph 18.2 of EC-73/6, dated 19 July 2013), at the Seventy-Fourth Session the Chairperson reported on his continuing consultations on the appointment of facilitators.
- 1.14 The Council also kept under its consideration the matter of issues relating to the improvement of the methodology of its work.

#### **Reports by the Vice-Chairpersons on activities conducted under their respective clusters of issues**

- 1.15 The Vice-Chairpersons reported to the Council at its regular sessions on informal consultations held during the intersessional periods.
- 1.16 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session welcomed the report (EC-76/WP.1, dated 8 July 2014) by the Vice-Chairperson for chemical industry and other Article VI issues, Ambassador Francesco Azzarello of Italy, on the activities held during the intersessional period, including information on the Note the Secretariat would issue on the implementation of a proposal for improving Article VI verification at mixed plant sites. The Council noted the statement by Ambassador Rajesh Prasad of India affirming that, while it was not yet ready for the implementation of the proposal, India would not stand in the way of a consensus of the Council on the proposal.

## **2. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION**

### **Statements and reports by the Director-General**

- 2.1 In his opening statement to each session of the Council during the period under review, the Director-General elaborated, inter alia, on aspects of compliance by States Parties with the requirements of the Convention, and on related activities undertaken by the Secretariat. He also submitted reports to the Council, either in fulfilment of various requirements of the Convention or in response to requests by the Council or the Conference.

### **Draft annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention for 2013**

- 2.2 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session considered the “Draft Report of the OPCW on the Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction in 2013” (EC-76/5 C-19/CRP.1, dated 11 July 2014) and forwarded it to the Conference for consideration at its Nineteenth Session.

### **Universality-related activities**

- 2.3 At its Twenty-Third Meeting, the Council adopted an action plan for the universality of the Convention (EC-M-23/DEC.3, dated 24 October 2003). The plan, inter alia, requested the Director-General to submit to the Conference at its regular sessions an annual report on the implementation of the plan and to keep the Council regularly informed, so that the Conference and the Council might review progress and monitor implementation of the plan effectively.
- 2.4 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session considered and noted the annual report on the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention during the period from 16 August 2012 to 15 September 2013, which was being submitted to both the Council and the Conference (EC-74/DG.11 C-18/DG.12, dated 30 August 2013 and Add.1, dated 10 October 2013).
- 2.5 At this same session, the Council reaffirmed the unqualified commitment of the OPCW to achieve universality. The Council noted the accession of the Syrian Arab Republic with effect from 14 October 2013. Encouraged by this development, the Council urgently called upon all States not Party to the Convention to join without delay or precondition.

### **Verification Implementation Reports**

- 2.6 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session considered and noted a supplement to the 2012 Verification Implementation Report (VIR) (EC-74/HP/DG.1, dated 19 September 2013).
- 2.7 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session considered and noted the 2013 VIR (EC-76/HP/DG.1\*, dated 29 April 2014 and Corr.1, dated 7 July 2014). The Council also noted the comments and views received on the 2013 VIR (EC-76/HP/DG.2,



dated 7 July 2014), as well as the Chairperson's summary of the informal consultations on it (EC-76/4, dated 25 June 2014).

**Issues related to meeting the final extended deadline and other destruction-related issues**

- 2.8 Further to the relevant decisions by the Conference at its Eleventh, Fourteenth, and Sixteenth Sessions, reports by the possessor States Parties on the progress made by those States Parties that had been granted extensions of deadlines for the destruction of their chemical weapons were circulated to the members of the Council at its Seventy-Fourth, Seventy-Fifth, and Seventy-Sixth Sessions:
- (a) Libya (EC-74/NAT.2, dated 24 September 2013; EC-75/NAT.3, dated 21 February 2014; and EC-76/NAT.5, dated 30 June 2014), with the Council at all three sessions noting the confirmation provided by the delegation of Libya that the necessary measures continued 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 (dated 1 December 2011);
  - (b) the Russian Federation (EC-74/P/NAT.1, dated 24 September 2013; EC-75/P/NAT.1, dated 17 February 2014; and EC-76/NAT.4, dated 26 June 2014), with the Council at all three sessions noting the confirmation provided by the delegation of the Russian Federation that the necessary measures continued 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. The Council noted at its Seventy-Sixth Session that at four facilities, namely, Maradykovsky, Leonidovka, Pohep, and Shchuchye, destruction would be completed in accordance with the planned completion date. The Council further noted with regret the information provided by the delegation of the Russian Federation that, despite such measures, with regard to the Kizner facility, the destruction would continue after 2015, and requested the Russian Federation to provide an update to the detailed destruction plan (EC-68/P/NAT.1, dated 3 April 2012), as soon as possible and no later than the Nineteenth Session of the Conference. The Council would inform the Nineteenth Session of the Conference about its activities relating to the issue; and
  - (c) the United States of America (EC-74/NAT.3, dated 24 September 2013; EC-75/NAT.1, dated 11 February 2014; and EC-76/NAT.2, dated 12 June 2014), with the Council at all three Sessions noting the confirmation provided by the delegation of the United States of America that the necessary measures continued 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.

- 2.9 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session considered and noted a Note by the Director-General on the schedule for submission by chemical weapons possessor States of the reports on their destruction activities after the extended deadline of 29 April 2012 (EC-74/DG.17, dated 2 October 2013).
- 2.10 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Council at its Seventy-Fourth, Seventy-Fifth, and Seventy-Sixth Sessions considered and noted reports by the Director-General on the overall progress of destruction activities by possessor States (EC-74/DG.18, dated 3 October 2013 and Corr.1, dated 11 October 2013; EC-75/DG.7, dated 26 February 2014 and Corr.1, dated 28 February 2014; and EC-76/DG.15, dated 4 July 2014).
- 2.11 Further to a decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012), the Council at its Seventy-Fourth, Seventy-Fifth, and Seventy-Sixth Sessions noted reports by the Director-General on the overall progress with regard to the destruction of the chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China (EC-74/DG.19\*, dated 7 October 2013; EC-75/DG.8, dated 28 February 2014; and EC-76/DG.17, dated 7 July 2014).
- 2.12 Further to the same decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6), national papers by China (EC-74/NAT.4, dated 26 September 2013; EC-75/NAT.2, dated 12 February 2014; and EC-76/NAT.6, dated 2 July 2014) and national papers by Japan (EC-74/NAT.1, dated 10 September 2013; EC-75/NAT.4, dated 20 February 2014; and EC-76/NAT.3, dated 13 June 2014) were circulated to the members of the Council at its Seventy-Fourth, Seventy-Fifth, and Seventy-Sixth Sessions. Bearing in mind the destruction progress was less than expected in the destruction plan attached to the relevant decision (EC-67/DEC.6), while welcoming close cooperation between relevant States Parties, the Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session considered and decided to remain seized of the matter, and urged the relevant States Parties to continue to make the fullest possible efforts to complete destruction of abandoned chemical weapons as soon as possible in accordance with the Council decision (EC-67/DEC.6) in a faithful manner. Both States Parties reaffirmed their effective commitment to the abovementioned decision.
- 2.13 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth, Seventy-Fifth, and Seventy-Sixth Sessions welcomed the review of the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons conducted by the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “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.
- 2.14 The Council at its Seventy-Fifth Session noted the voluntary presentation by Italy on the destruction of its old chemical weapons pursuant to Council decision EC-67/DEC.8 (dated 17 February 2012).

#### **Visits by representatives of the Executive Council**

- 2.15 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session noted the report of the visit by a delegation of the Council to the Haerbaling abandoned chemical weapons site in China, jointly invited by China and Japan, from 9 to 13 September 2013 (EC-74/2, dated

3 October 2013 and Corr.1, dated 9 October 2013) and expressed its appreciation at its Seventy-Fourth, Seventy-Fifth, and Seventy-Sixth Sessions for the first-hand information on the destruction-related progress and the bilateral cooperation of the relevant States Parties obtained through the visit.

- 2.16 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session noted the report of the visit by the Chairperson of the Council and representatives of the Council to the Kizner chemical weapons destruction facility (CWDF) in the Russian Federation, from 14 to 18 April 2014 (EC-76/1, dated 30 May 2014). The Council noted the assurances by the Russian Federation contained in the report that it would complete the destruction of the chemical weapons stockpiles at four facilities, namely, Maradykovsky, Leonidovka, Pochev, and Shchuchye, by the planned completion date of 31 December 2015. With regard to the Kizner facility, according to the report, the Russian Federation was currently assessing all factors affecting the planned date for the completion of destruction operations, and would inform the Council about the mitigation measures at its forthcoming session.

#### **Detailed plans for verification of the destruction of chemical weapons**

- 2.17 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session considered and approved amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of the Category 1 chemical weapons at the CWDF located at Maradykovsky, Kirovskaya Oblast, the Russian Federation (EC-74/DEC.1, dated 9 October 2013).
- 2.18 The Council at its Seventy-Fifth Session considered and approved amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of chemical weapons at the Rabta Toxic Chemicals Destruction Facility, Libya (EC-75/DEC.2, dated 5 March 2014).
- 2.19 The Council also considered and approved at its Seventy-Fifth Session the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of the Category 1 chemical weapons at the CWDF located at Kizner, Udmurt Republic, the Russian Federation (EC-75/DEC.5 and EC-75/P/DEC.1, both dated 6 March 2014).
- 2.20 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session considered and approved the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of chemical weapons at the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant Explosive Destruction System, located at Pueblo, Colorado, the United States of America (EC-76/DEC.2, dated 9 July 2014).

#### **Facility agreements**

- 2.21 The Secretariat submitted to the Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session a Note on modifications to the facility agreement with the Russian Federation regarding on-site inspections at the CWDF located at Maradykovsky, Kirovskaya Oblast, the Russian Federation (EC-74/S/1, dated 16 September 2013). Proposed amendments to the aforementioned facility agreement had been submitted separately to the Council (EC-74/DEC.2, dated 9 October 2013), which considered and approved them.
- 2.22 The Council at its Seventy-Fifth Session considered and approved the facility agreement with the Russian Federation regarding on-site inspections at the CWDF

located at Kizner, Udmurt Republic, the Russian Federation (EC-75/DEC.6 and EC-75/P/DEC.2, both dated 6 March 2014).

- 2.23 The Secretariat submitted to the Council at this same session a Note on modifications and updates to the facility agreement with China regarding on-site inspections at a single small-scale facility (EC-75/S/3, dated 14 January 2014).
- 2.24 The Secretariat also submitted to the Council at Seventy-Fifth Session a Note on a modification to the facility agreement with Norway regarding on-site inspections at a Schedule 1 protective purposes facility (EC-75/S/2, dated 14 January 2014).
- 2.25 The Secretariat submitted to the Council at its Seventy-Fifth Session a Note on amendments, modifications, and updates to the facility agreement regarding on-site inspections at the Rabta Toxic Chemicals Destruction Facility, Libya, and amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification for that facility (EC-75/S/1, dated 30 October 2013). Proposed amendments to the aforementioned facility agreement had been submitted separately to the Council (EC-75/DEC.1, dated 5 March 2014), which considered and approved them.
- 2.26 The Secretariat submitted to the Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session a Note on amendments to the facility agreement with the Slovak Republic regarding on-site inspections at a Schedule 1 protective purposes facility (EC-76/S/3, dated 16 June 2014). The Council considered and adopted a decision on amendments to the aforementioned facility agreement (EC-76/DEC.1\*, dated 9 July 2014). Proposed amendments had been submitted separately to the Council (EC-76/P/DEC.1, dated 9 July 2014), which considered and approved them at its Seventy-Sixth Session.
- 2.27 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session considered and approved the facility agreement with the United States of America regarding on-site inspections at the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant Explosive Destruction System, located at Pueblo, Colorado, the United States of America (EC-76/DEC.3, dated 9 July 2014).

### **Progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme**

#### Implementation of decisions of the Executive Council at its Thirty-Third and Thirty-Fourth Meetings

- 2.28 The Council at its Thirty-Third Meeting considered and approved a decision on the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons (EC-M-33/DEC.1, dated 27 September 2013).
- 2.29 The Council at its Thirty-Fourth Meeting considered and approved a decision on the detailed requirements for the complete elimination of Syrian chemical weapons material and equipment, including the intermediate destruction milestones (EC-M-34/DEC.1, dated 15 November 2013).
- 2.30 The Council at its Thirty-Fourth, Thirty-Fifth, Thirty-Seventh, and Forty-Second Meetings, and at its Seventy-Fifth and Seventy-Sixth Sessions, noted Notes by the Director-General reporting on progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical

weapons programme (EC-M-34/DG.1, dated 25 October 2013; EC-M-35/DG.1, dated 25 November 2013; EC-M-37/DG.1, dated 23 December 2013; EC-M-42/DG.1, dated 23 May 2014; EC-75/DG.6, dated 25 February 2014; and EC-76/DG.14, dated 25 June 2014). The Council also received Notes by the Director-General at its Thirty-Eighth and Fortieth Meetings, reporting on progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme (EC-M-38/DG.1, dated 23 January 2014; EC-M-40/DG.1/Rev.1, dated 27 March 2014; and EC-M-40/DG.4, dated 25 April 2014).

- 2.31 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session noted the document EC-74/S/4 (dated 10 October 2013), which described the Secretariat's briefing on the technical-assistance visit to the Syrian Arab Republic.
- 2.32 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session expressed its appreciation for the efficient and prompt manner in which the Secretariat had acted following the decision of the Council at its Thirty-Third Meeting (EC-M-33/DEC.1) and in which it had commenced activities in the Syrian Arab Republic towards the implementation of that decision. It expressed its full support for the Director-General and his staff in fulfilling, in the most challenging circumstances, the mandate granted to them by the international community for the destruction of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic.
- 2.33 Further to paragraph 13 of EC-M-35/DG.1, the Council at its Thirty-Fifth Meeting requested that the Director-General consult with the relevant State Party in order to obtain its agreement before any contract was concluded for the destruction of the binary chemical weapons components, any associated reaction masses, and declared chemicals referred to in paragraph 24 of decision EC-M-34/DEC.1 at a commercial chemical disposal facility located on the relevant State Party's territory or in any place under its jurisdiction or control.
- 2.34 The Council at its Thirty-Sixth Meeting noted a Note by the Director-General reporting on the implementation of a decision of the Council (EC-M-34/DEC.1) on the detailed requirements for the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons and Syrian chemical weapons production facilities (CWPFs) (EC-M-36/DG.1, dated 2 December 2013).
- 2.35 The Council at its Thirty-Sixth Meeting also considered a Note by the Director-General on the plan for the destruction of the Syrian chemical weapons outside the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic (EC-M-36/DG.3, dated 15 December 2013), and adopted a decision on this matter (EC-M-36/DEC.2, dated 17 December 2013).
- 2.36 The Council at its Thirty-Sixth Meeting also noted a Note by the Director-General on a call for proposals for the treatment and disposal of chemicals, effluents, and related packaging materials with respect to the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons (EC-M-36/DG.4, dated 16 December 2013).
- 2.37 The Council at its Thirty-Seventh Meeting noted a Note by the Director-General on the implementation of the plan for the destruction of chemical weapons outside the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic (EC-M-37/DG.2, dated 7 January 2014).

- 2.38 The Council at its Thirty-Seventh Meeting also noted a national paper by the Syrian Arab Republic on progress relating to the destruction of chemical weapons and CWPFs on its territory (EC-M-37/P/NAT.1, dated 20 December 2013). The Council noted that, notwithstanding the technical difficulties resulting in delays, the transportation of priority chemicals had begun on 7 January 2014, and encouraged all States Parties in a position to do so to maintain the momentum.
- 2.39 National papers by the Syrian Arab Republic were circulated to the Council at its Thirty-Eighth Meeting (EC-M-38/P/NAT.1, dated 14 January 2014 and EC-M-38/P/NAT.2, dated 16 January 2014).
- 2.40 The Council at its Thirty-Eighth Meeting adopted a decision on verification measures for the destruction of isopropanol by the Syrian Arab Republic (EC-M-38/DEC.2, dated 30 January 2014).
- 2.41 A national paper by the Syrian Arab Republic was circulated to the Council at its Thirty-Ninth Meeting (EC-M-39/P/NAT.1, dated 18 February 2014).
- 2.42 At its Seventy-Fifth Session, the Council reviewed the current situation with respect to elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme, discussing the progress that had been made, which was positively noted in the Council, and the delays that had occurred, about which concerns were expressed in the Council. The Council noted that on 23 February 2014 the Syrian Arab Republic informed the OPCW-UN Joint Mission of a revised plan for the removal of all relevant chemicals from its territory by 27 April 2014. The Council noted the increasing pace of removal of the Syrian chemical weapons and requested the Syrian Arab Republic to continue systematic, predictable, and substantial movements and to accelerate, where possible and in cooperation with the Joint Mission, its efforts in order to complete removal in the shortest possible time. The Council decided to continue to closely monitor progress achieved with respect to the elimination of Syrian chemical weapons material and equipment. For this purpose, the Council requested the Director-General, in addition to his monthly reports, to brief delegations each week, based on the independent information from the Joint Mission, on progress in implementing the plan.
- 2.43 The Council at its Seventy-Fifth Session noted a national paper by the Syrian Arab Republic (EC-75/P/NAT.2, dated 24 February 2014).
- 2.44 National papers by the Syrian Arab Republic were circulated to the Council at its Fortieth Meeting (EC-M-40/P/NAT.1, dated 17 March 2014 and EC-M-40/P/NAT.3, dated 17 April 2014).
- 2.45 The Council at its Forty-First Meeting welcomed the statement by the Director-General in which he outlined the status of the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme. Mindful of the established framework set out for the total elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme under the Convention and in accordance with relevant decisions, the Council called on the Syrian Arab Republic to undertake all possible efforts to complete the speedy removal of the remaining chemicals.

- 2.46 The Council at its Forty-Second Meeting reviewed the current situation with respect to the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme, discussing the progress that had been made since the Seventy-Fifth Session of the Council, which was positively noted in the Council, and the further delays that had occurred, about which concerns were expressed in the Council.
- 2.47 The Council at its Forty-Second Meeting also considered and adopted a decision on the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons (EC-M-42/DEC.1, dated 17 June 2014), requesting the Director-General to provide to the Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session an overall report on the elimination of Syrian chemical weapons programme.
- 2.48 The Council at its Forty-First Meeting and Seventy-Sixth Session noted national papers by the Syrian Arab Republic on progress relating to the destruction of chemical weapons and CWPFs on its territory (EC-M-41/P/NAT.1, dated 15 May 2014 and EC-76/P/NAT.1, dated 16 June 2014).
- 2.49 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session noted the overall report (EC-76/DG.16, dated 4 July 2014) on the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme submitted by the Director-General to the Council on 4 July 2014 in accordance with decision EC-M-42/DEC.1.
- 2.50 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session welcomed the significant progress achieved in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme and noted, in particular, the completed elimination by 23 June 2014, i.e., in the first half of 2014 as envisaged in EC-M-33/DEC.1, of all declared chemical weapons material and equipment from the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic, despite uniquely challenging conditions.
- 2.51 The Council at this same session recalled the letter of the Director-General dated 3 October 2013, transmitting the United Nations Security Council resolution 2118 (2013) of 27 September 2013, and noted that, with respect to the requirements of the decisions of the Council (EC-M-33/DEC.1, EC-M-34/DEC.1, and other relevant decisions of the Council) as at 30 June 2014, the following actions had been taken:
- (a) an initial declaration required by subparagraph 1(b) of EC-M-33/DEC.1 had been submitted to the Secretariat, and subsequently updated;
  - (b) the destruction of chemical weapons production and mixing/filling equipment required by subparagraph 1(d) of EC-M-33/DEC.1 had been completed;
  - (c) the destruction of Category 3 chemical weapons required by subparagraph 2(a)(i) of EC-M-34/DEC.1 had been completed;
  - (d) the destruction of isopropanol required by subparagraph 2(a)(iii) of EC-M-34/DEC.1 had been completed;
  - (e) the destruction of the residual mustard agent required by subparagraph 2(a)(iv) of EC-M-34/DEC.1 had been completed;

- (f) the removal of all designated chemicals from the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic required by subparagraph 2(a)(ii) of EC-M-34/DEC.1 had been completed within the first half of 2014 as envisaged in EC-M-33/DEC.1, though the Syrian Arab Republic did not follow the timeline established in EC-M-34/DEC.1; and
- (g) the destruction of 14 declared CWPFs had been completed.

2.52 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session noted also that, with respect to the requirements of the decisions referred to in paragraph 2.51 above, the following actions remained to be taken:

- (a) destruction of chemical weapons material removed from the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic, outside its territory, as required by EC-M-34/DEC.1 and other applicable decisions;
- (b) destruction of the twelve remaining declared CWPFs. The Syrian Arab Republic submitted its destruction plan on 18 March 2014, after 15 March 2014, the date set by the Council as part of the timeline (EC-M-34/DEC.1) for completion of the destruction of these facilities. The Secretariat submitted combined plans for destruction and verification to the Council on 27 March 2014. The Council had not yet achieved consensus on the destruction plan submitted by the Syrian Arab Republic. The Council noted its decision “Destruction of Twelve Chemical Weapons Production Facilities in the Syrian Arab Republic” (EC-M-42/DEC.3, dated 17 June 2014) and once again encouraged all parties concerned to continue their consultations with a view to arriving at an agreement on the combined plans for destruction and verification for the 12 CWPFs, and requested that the Syrian Arab Republic initiate, as appropriate, any preparatory work necessary for the destruction of the CWPFs; and
- (c) inspections of the declared sites that remained to be inspected. In this regard, the Council noted that the inspections required by subparagraph 2(b) of EC-M-33/DEC.1 had been initiated by the Secretariat and carried out at 21 of 23 declared sites, while one site was not under the control of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and had not been inspected.

2.53 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session noted the briefing provided by the Secretariat on its ongoing consultations with the Syrian Arab Republic regarding its declaration and related disclosures. The Council urged the Secretariat and the Syrian authorities to continue to cooperate, through technical discussions on outstanding issues regarding Syria’s declaration, with a view to the earliest possible resolution of questions raised by the Secretariat in order to further the accuracy and completeness of the declaration.

2.54 The Council at this same session commended the invaluable contribution of the OPCW-UN Joint Mission and the OPCW personnel to the progress achieved in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme, as well as the assistance and support extended to this endeavour by the States Parties. The Council welcomed the



effective coordination between the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Joint Mission and OPCW personnel.

Combined plans for the destruction and verification of chemical weapons production facilities

- 2.55 The Council at its Thirty-Fifth Meeting considered and adopted a decision entitled “Destruction of Syrian Chemical Weapons Productions Facilities”, (EC-M-35/DEC.2, dated 29 November 2013). This decision did not prejudice the right of a relevant State Party to make new requests for permission to use a CWPF for purposes not prohibited under the Convention, in accordance with paragraph 13 of Article V of the Convention.
- 2.56 The Council at its Thirty-Sixth Meeting noted a Note by the Director-General on the combined plans for destruction and verification of the CWPFs in the Syrian Arab Republic (EC-M-36/DG.2, dated 9 December 2013 and Add.1, dated 16 December 2013), as well as a national paper by the Syrian Arab Republic containing detailed plans for the destruction of CWPFs (EC-M-36/P/NAT.1, dated 6 December 2013). The Council considered and adopted a decision on the combined plans for the destruction and verification of CWPFs in the Syrian Arab Republic (EC-M-36/DEC.1, dated 17 December 2013).
- 2.57 The Council at its Seventy-Fifth Session requested that the Syrian Arab Republic, in close consultation with the Secretariat and making every effort to develop a common approach, submit to the Secretariat a revised detailed plan for the destruction of the 12 CWPFs, including proposed measures for verification, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention.
- 2.58 The Council at this same session requested the Director-General to facilitate the preparation of this destruction plan and for this purpose to dispatch a team of experts from the Secretariat to the Syrian Arab Republic to carry out the necessary studies and to render appropriate advice to the State Party.
- 2.59 At its Forty-First Meeting, a Note by the Director-General on the combined plans for the destruction and verification of CWPFs was circulated to the Council (EC-M-40/DG.2, dated 27 March 2014), along with a national paper by the Syrian Arab Republic (EC-M-40/P/NAT.2, dated 24 March 2014).
- 2.60 The Council at this same meeting considered and adopted a decision on the destruction of twelve CWPFs in the Syrian Arab Republic that, inter alia, encouraged all parties concerned to continue their consultations with a view to arriving at an agreement on the combined plans for destruction and verification, and requested that the Director-General start preparatory work for the conclusion of a contract without calling for tenders, quotations, or proposals with a commercial company for the provision of expertise and equipment, as appropriate (EC-M-42/DEC.3).

Destruction-related plans and facility agreements

- 2.61 The Council at its Thirty-Seventh Meeting considered and approved a decision on the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of chemical weapons at the

Cape Ray Field Deployable Hydrolysis System (FDHS) CWDF (EC-M-37/DEC.1, dated 8 January 2014).

- 2.62 The Council at this same meeting considered and approved a decision on a facility agreement between the OPCW and the Government of the United States of America regarding on-site inspections at the Cape Ray FDHS CWDF (EC-M-37/DEC.2, dated 8 January 2014).
- 2.63 At its Thirty-Eighth Meeting, the Council considered and adopted a decision on the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons at commercial facilities and arrangements governing on-site inspections (EC-M-38/DEC.1, dated 30 January 2014).
- 2.64 The Council at its Seventy-Fifth Session considered and approved an arrangement with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland specifying the arrangements governing on-site inspections at commercial facilities (EC-75/DEC.3, dated 5 March 2014).
- 2.65 At this same session, the Council considered and approved an agreement with Finland specifying the arrangements governing on-site inspections at commercial facilities (EC-75/DEC.4, dated 5 March 2014).
- 2.66 At its Fortieth Meeting, the Council approved an arrangement between the OPCW and the Government of Germany governing on-site inspections at the Gesellschaft zur Entsorgung von chemischen Kampfstoffen und Rüstungs-Altlasten (GEKA mbH), Münster, and at the port of disembarkation in Germany (EC-M-40/DEC.1, dated 29 April 2014).
- 2.67 The Council at its Forty-Second Meeting considered and approved a facility agreement between the OPCW and the Government of the United States of America specifying the arrangements governing on-site inspections at Veolia ES Technical Solutions, L.L.C. Port Arthur, Texas, the United States of America (EC-M-42/DEC.2, dated 17 June 2014).
- 2.68 The Secretariat submitted to the Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session a Note on amendments and modifications to the arrangement with the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland governing on-site inspections at the Ellesmere Port High Temperature Incinerator and Marchwood Military Port, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (EC-76/S/8, dated 9 July 2014). The Council considered and approved amendments and modifications to the aforementioned arrangement (EC-76/DEC.5, dated 11 July 2014).

#### **Submission of the summary report of the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria**

- 2.69 The Council at its Forty-Second Meeting received the “Summary Report of the Work of the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria Covering the Period from 3 to 31 May 2014” (S/1191/2014, dated 16 June 2014).
- 2.70 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session reaffirmed the broad support for the Director-General’s decision to send a mission to establish the facts surrounding the allegations of the use of toxic chemicals, reportedly chlorine, for hostile purposes in

the Syrian Arab Republic. The Council also condemned the armed attack on a Mission convoy which occurred on 27 May 2014 as the Mission attempted to conduct a field visit to Kafr Zeyta, the site of an alleged incident. The Council commended Mission personnel for their courage and dedication in carrying out their assignment.

- 2.71 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session noted that the attack on the Mission and the resulting denial of access prevented the Mission from presenting definitive conclusions. However, in view of the report's finding that the available information "lends credence to the view that toxic chemicals, most likely pulmonary irritating agents such as chlorine, have been used in a systematic manner in a number of attacks," the Council underlined that the use of chemical weapons by anyone under any circumstances would be reprehensible and completely contrary to the legal norms and standards of the international community.
- 2.72 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session re-emphasised its unequivocal support for the Director-General's decision to continue the Mission, while stressing that the safety and security of Mission personnel remains the top priority. The Council called upon all parties in the Syrian Arab Republic to extend their full cooperation to the Mission and to ensure that it completes its work safely and effectively. The Council also encouraged all States Parties that are in a position to do so to work with the relevant parties in the Syrian Arab Republic in this respect.
- 2.73 The Council at this same session requested that the Director-General provide, as appropriate, updates on the status of the Mission and its activities.

#### **Timely submission of declarations under Article VI of the Convention**

- 2.74 Further to a decision by the Council at its Fifty-First Session (EC-51/DEC.1, dated 27 November 2007), the Council at its Seventy-Fifth and Seventy-Sixth Sessions noted the status reports by the Director-General on the timely submission by States Parties of declarations under Article VI of the Convention (EC-75/DG.1, dated 15 January 2014, and EC-76/DG.10\*, dated 11 June 2014).
- 2.75 Further to a 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 at its Seventy-Sixth Session noted a report by the Director-General on the results of the implementation of these policy guidelines (EC-76/DG.3, dated 3 April 2014).

#### **Captive use of Schedule 1 chemicals under Article VI of the Convention**

- 2.76 At its Seventy-Third Session, the Council noted the Note by the Secretariat 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. To bring this matter to closure, in accordance with paragraph 5 of the above-mentioned Note, the Council noted the intention of the Secretariat to provide a further Note on this matter at its next regular session.

- 2.77 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session noted the Note by the Secretariat on further information concerning the issue of captive use of Schedule 1 chemicals (EC-74/S/2, dated 25 September 2013) and noted further that the issue had been brought to closure.

**Progress made in the implementation of Article VII obligations**

- 2.78 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Fourteenth Session regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations (C-14/DEC.12, dated 4 December 2009), the Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session noted a Note by the Director-General on the "Overview of the Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2013" (EC-74/DG.7 C-18/DG.9, dated 28 August 2013 and Corr.1, dated 14 November 2013); a report by the Director-General on the "Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2013: Article VII - Initial Measures" (EC-74/DG.8 C-18/DG.10, dated 28 August 2013; Corr.1, dated 11 September 2013; and Corr.2, dated 14 November 2013); and a report by the Director-General entitled "Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2013: Additional Measures for States Parties that Possess Industrial Facilities Which are Declarable Under the Convention" (EC-74/DG.9 C-18/DG.11, dated 28 August 2013; Corr.1, dated 11 September 2013; and Corr.2, dated 14 November 2013). The Council forwarded the documents to the Conference for consideration at its Eighteenth Session.
- 2.79 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session received an oral report by the facilitator for this issue, Dr Zlatko Dimitroff of Bulgaria, on the activities held during the intersessional period. The Council noted that the facilitator presented to the delegations ideas for further discussion in future consultations for the advancement of the objectives of Article VII, and in this regard requested him to continue further with consultations.
- 2.80 The Council at this same session noted a briefing by the Secretariat on the agenda for the implementation of Article VII in 2014, which was based upon the mandate provided by States Parties in the context of the relevant recommendations of the Third Review Conference in 2013.
- 2.81 The Council also took note at its Seventy-Sixth Session of the activities carried out by the Secretariat that are aimed at promoting Article VII implementation and encouraged the Secretariat to continue consultations with States Parties in the context of the ongoing Article VII facilitations.
- 2.82 The Council at this same session expressed appreciation for the efforts of the Secretariat and those of States Parties in advancing the implementation of Article VII. The Council noted the request by the Director-General for States Parties to provide full and timely feedback on Article VII implementation-support activities to facilitate the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of the provisions of Article VII.
- 2.83 The Council welcomed the discussion that took place on Article VII at its Seventy-Sixth Session and noted that some of the activities and programmes carried

out by the Secretariat could be further developed in the future, on the basis of their evaluation.

### **Readiness of the Technical Secretariat to conduct a challenge inspection and an investigation of alleged use**

- 2.84 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth and Seventy-Sixth Sessions considered and noted a Note by the Director-General reporting on the readiness of the Secretariat to conduct a challenge inspection or an investigation of alleged use (EC-74/DG.15, dated 25 September 2013 and EC-76/DG.11, dated 12 June 2014).

### **OPCW Central Analytical Database**

- 2.85 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session considered a Note by the Director-General on the lists of new validated data of scheduled chemicals for approval by the Council for inclusion in the OPCW Central Analytical Database (EC-76/DG.4, dated 22 April 2014) and adopted a decision on the inclusion (EC-76/DEC.4, dated 10 July 2014).

### **Status of implementation of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons**

- 2.86 The Conference at its Sixteenth Session endorsed a proposal for the establishment of the international support network for victims of chemical weapons and the establishment of a voluntary trust fund for this purpose (C-16/DEC.13, dated 2 December 2011). It requested the Director-General to report every two years, through the Council, to the Conference at its regular sessions on the status of implementation of this decision.
- 2.87 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session noted a report by the Director-General on the status of implementation of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons (EC-74/DG.12 C-18/DG.13, dated 9 September 2013).

### **Status of implementation of Article X**

- 2.88 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session received an oral report by the facilitator for this issue, Ms Sarah Broughton of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on the activities held during the intersessional period. The Council encouraged the facilitator to continue making regular reports to the Council on her work.
- 2.89 The Council at this same session noted the briefing by the Secretariat on “Article X Activities and Programme, Plan for 2014” and encouraged the Secretariat to continue evaluating and improving programmes in consultation with States Parties in the context of the ongoing Article X facilitations. The Secretariat was further encouraged to report on the effectiveness of regional and subregional meetings and the pilot project to target training at selected relevant officials who, through concerted investment within a twelve-month period, gain expertise and the ability to train others at home.

- 2.90 The Council welcomed the discussion on Article X at its Seventy-Sixth Session and noted that future such exchanges would be beneficial to the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of Article X.

**The content of the assistance-and-protection data bank and its use**

- 2.91 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session considered and noted a Note by the Secretariat on the content of the assistance-and-protection data bank and its use (EC-76/S/2, dated 11 June 2014).

**Status of implementation of Article XI**

- 2.92 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session considered and noted a report by the Director-General on the progress made and review of the status of implementation of Article XI of Convention for the period from 1 January 2012 to 30 August 2013 (EC-74/DG.13 C-18/DG.14, dated 9 September 2013).
- 2.93 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth and Seventy-Fifth Sessions received an oral report by the facilitator for this issue, Mr Tariq Karim of Pakistan, on the activities held during the intersessional periods and noted the proposals made by delegations that were aimed at further enhancing the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of the provisions of Article XI, and requested him to continue consultations in this regard.
- 2.94 The Council at its Seventy-Fifth Session noted that the facilitator presented to the delegations the additional proposal, which he had received earlier, to further develop and enhance the future actions for the advancement of the objectives of Article XI. The Council encouraged the facilitator to continue making regular reports to the Council on his work.
- 2.95 The Council at this same session noted the briefing by the Secretariat on “Article XI Activities and Programmes, Plan for 2014” and encouraged the Secretariat to continue evaluating and improving programmes in consultation with States Parties in the context of the ongoing Article XI facilitations. The Council endorsed the call by the Director-General for States Parties to provide full and timely feedback on Article XI implementation-support activities.
- 2.96 Also at this same session, the Council welcomed the discussion on Article XI and noted that the rich exchange of views provided a basis for further discussion in the informal consultations aimed at achieving the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of Article XI.
- 2.97 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session received a summary report by the facilitator for the implementation of Article XI of the Convention, Mr Tariq Karim of Pakistan, on the activities held during the intersessional period and noted that the facilitator presented to the delegations an additional proposal, which he received earlier, for the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of Article XI. The Council noted that, during the facilitations, the delegates agreed that a document be produced building on the components of an agreed framework for the full implementation of Article XI (C-16/DEC.10, dated 1 December 2011), the recommendations of the

Third Review Conference, the relevant elements of an additional proposal received from the Non-Aligned Movement States Parties and China (RC-3/NAT.13, dated 8 April 2013), and other existing and forthcoming proposals, as well as inputs from the workshops on Article XI to act as a basis for further consultations, and encouraged the continuation of the facilitations with a view to finding consensus on the document as soon as possible.

### **The OPCW's Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention**

- 2.98 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session considered and noted a Note on the Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter "the Africa Programme") (EC-74/DG.6 C-18/DG.8, dated 20 August 2013).
- 2.99 At its Seventy-Fifth Session, the Council considered and noted a Note on the third phase of the Africa Programme (EC-75/DG.5, dated 17 February 2014).

### **The OPCW's contribution to global anti-terrorism efforts**

- 2.100 The Council at its Seventy-Fifth Session noted a Note by the Director-General on the status of the OPCW's contribution to global anti-terrorism efforts (EC-75/DG.3, dated 12 February 2014).

### **Follow-up process to the Third Review Conference**

- 2.101 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth, Seventy-Fifth, and Seventy-Sixth Sessions considered and noted Notes by the Secretariat entitled "Updated Matrix of Actionable Items Identified at the Third Review Conference" (EC-74/S/3, dated 30 September 2013; EC-75/S/7, dated 18 February 2014, and EC-76/S/6, dated 3 July 2014), further to the request of the Council at its Seventy-Third Session that the Director-General submit to each regular session an updated version of the document.
- 2.102 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session noted the information provided by the Secretariat on the reports identified by the Third Review Conference that were important for decisions on the Programme and Budget for 2014 and on developments during the intersessional period with regard to the knowledge-management capabilities of the Organisation.
- 2.103 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session also noted the Secretariat's presentation on "Options for Alternative Conference Venues" and welcomed the Host Country's offer to provide support in organising the forthcoming sessions of the Conference.

### **Education and outreach**

- 2.104 At the Seventy-Sixth Session of the Council, a national paper by Argentina entitled "Final Report on the Regional Meeting on Education in the Responsible Application of Knowledge of Dual-Use Chemicals, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 7-9 April 2014" (EC-76/NAT.1, dated 5 June 2014) and a Note by the Secretariat entitled "Ongoing and Planned Awareness-Raising, Education and Outreach Activities" (EC-76/S/4,

dated 1 July 2014), were made available to the Council for the discussion of this agenda item.

- 2.105 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session received an oral report and a presentation by the Secretariat regarding the activities carried out on various items related to education and outreach.
- 2.106 The Council at this same session encouraged the Secretariat to continue implementing the appropriate recommendations of the Third Review Conference regarding education and outreach and also the recommendations reached at the regional meeting on education and outreach held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 7 to 9 April 2014. In that regard, the Council highlighted the importance to have sufficient funding for this issue in the regular budget.
- 2.107 Due to the importance of education and outreach, the Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session also agreed to consider having regular discussions of this item in the future sessions of the Council.

#### **Implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Technical Secretariat**

- 2.108 The Council at its Seventy-Fifth Session considered and noted a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Secretariat in 2013 (EC-75/DG.9 C-19/DG.2, dated 28 February 2014).

#### **Report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities**

- 2.109 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session considered and approved a report on the performance of its activities in the period from 16 July 2012 to 19 July 2013 and submitted it to the Conference for consideration at its Eighteenth Session (EC-74/4 C-18/2, dated 9 October 2013). A note by the Secretariat entitled "The Destruction of Chemical Weapons Abandoned by Japan in the People's Republic of China" was attached to the above-mentioned report.

#### **Administrative and financial matters**

##### Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2014, and all items pertaining to this Budget

- 2.110 Having considered at its Seventy-Fourth Session the Draft Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2014 (EC-74/CRP.1/Rev.1, dated 22 November 2013 and Corr.1, dated 26 November 2013), which the Director-General had submitted to the Council in accordance with Financial Regulation 3.4, the Council at its Thirty-Fifth Meeting considered it further and transmitted it to the Conference at its Eighteenth Session, together with its comments and recommendations (EC-M-35/DEC.1, dated 26 November 2013).
- 2.111 At its Seventy-Fourth Session, the Medium-Term Plan for the period from 2013 to 2015 (EC-70/S/1/Rev.1 C-17/S/1/Rev.1, dated 12 July 2013) was circulated to the members of the Council.



- 2.112 A Note by the Secretariat on the programme performance for the year 2012 (S/1098/2013, dated 31 May 2013) was also circulated to the members of the Council at this same session.

OPCW income and expenditure

- 2.113 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session considered and forwarded to the Conference at its Eighteenth Session a report by the Director-General on OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 30 June 2013 (EC-74/DG.2 C-18/DG.4, dated 30 July 2013 and Corr.1, dated 9 August 2013).
- 2.114 The Council at this same session also considered and forwarded to the Conference at its Eighteenth Session a Note by the Director-General on the cash situation and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 31 August 2013 (EC-74/DG.14 C-18/DG.15, dated 17 September 2013).
- 2.115 The Council at its Seventy-Fifth Session noted a report by the Director-General on OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 31 December 2013 (EC-75/DG.2, dated 10 February 2014).

Status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions

- 2.116 Further to a decision of the Conference at its Eleventh Session (C-11/DEC.5, dated 7 December 2006), the Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session considered and forwarded to the Conference at its Eighteenth Session a Note by the Director-General on the status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans (EC-74/DG.5 C-18/DG.7, dated 20 August 2013).

Transfer of funds

- 2.117 The Council at its Seventy-Fifth Session noted a Note by the Director-General on transfers of funds during 2013 (EC-75/DG.4 C-19/DG.1, dated 13 February 2014).

Recommendation for write-offs of irrecoverable accounts receivable and of losses of assets

- 2.118 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session considered a Note by the Director-General on the recommendation for write-offs of irrecoverable accounts receivable and of losses of assets and recommended that the Conference at its Eighteenth Session approve these write-offs, totalling EUR 125,467.94 (EC-74/DG.4 C-18/DG.6, dated 31 July 2013).

Draft Enterprise Resource Planning Strategy for the OPCW

- 2.119 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session welcomed presentations by representatives of the International Atomic Energy Agency on “Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Systems” and the Secretariat on the “Draft ERP Strategy” for the OPCW. It was noted that the Secretariat would submit the final ERP strategy for the OPCW and draft decisions on the reduction of the level of the Working Capital Fund and the use of

balances of the Working Capital Fund, together with budget surpluses of a few years, if required, for the Council's consideration at its next session and for approval by the Conference at its Nineteenth Session.

### **Personnel matters**

#### Amendment to Interim Staff Rule 4.1.05 on retirement

- 2.120 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session noted a proposed amendment of Interim Staff Rule 4.1.05 (EC-76/DG.12, dated 16 June 2014) and the views that the extension of the mandatory age of separation from 62 to 65 should be extended to all staff members, and agreed to consider further this issue at its next meeting, with a view to adopting a decision to amend the relevant rule.

#### Amendment of Staff Regulation 4.4 regarding the rehiring of inspectors

- 2.121 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session requested the Director-General to submit a background paper at the next meeting of the Council, with a view to the further consideration of the draft decision contained in EC-74/DEC/CRP.4 (dated 9 October 2013) on proposed amendments to Staff Regulation 4.4 regarding the rehiring of inspectors.
- 2.122 The Council at its Thirty-Fifth Meeting noted the background Note from the Secretariat in S/1137/2013 (dated 8 November 2013), including supporting statistics. The Council requested the Chairperson of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters (ABAF) to consult with the other members of the ABAF with regard to the financial implications of this initiative and to report back to the next regular session of the Council, with a view to taking a decision at that meeting. The Secretariat was also requested to inform the Council at its next regular session whether there would be, or would not be, any additional financial implications with the implementation of the proposed initiative.
- 2.123 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session noted the background Note from the Secretariat contained in EC-76/S/5 (dated 2 July 2014), regarding the financial and other implications of rehiring inspectors. Noting also the report of ABAF at its Thirty-Sixth Session (ABAF-36/1, dated 5 June 2014) and the views expressed by the Director-General in his opening statement (EC-76/DG.18, dated 8 July 2014), the Council agreed to consider further this issue at its next session, with a view to examining the possibility of its consideration at the Nineteenth Session of the Conference.

#### Composition of the Technical Secretariat

- 2.124 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session noted a report by the Director-General on the composition of the Secretariat (EC-76/DG.9, dated 4 June 2014).

Implementation of the policy on tenure

- 2.125 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session considered and noted a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the tenure policy in 2013 (EC-76/DG.7, dated 3 June 2014).

Implementation in 2013 of an amendment to the Staff Regulations regarding downward classification of posts

- 2.126 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session noted a report by the Director-General on the implementation in 2013 of an amendment to the Staff Regulations regarding downward classification of posts (EC-74/DG.10, dated 28 August 2013).

Adjustment to the Director-General's gross salary

- 2.127 In accordance with a decision of the Conference at its First Special Session (C-SS-1/DEC.4, dated 25 July 2002) stipulating that the terms of appointment of the Director-General shall be subject to adjustments by the Council to keep the terms in line with those of other executive heads within the United Nations system, the Council adopted a decision adjusting the Director-General's gross salary (EC-75/DEC.7, dated 6 March 2014).

**3. OTHER DECISIONS AND ACTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

**Appointment of the Director-General**

- 3.1 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session approved by acclamation a decision entitled "Recommendation to the Conference of the States Parties at its Eighteenth Session on the Renewal of the Appointment of the Director-General" (EC-74/DEC.3, dated 10 October 2013).

**Reports on the implementation of the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight and of the External Auditor**

- 3.2 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session noted the Financial Statements of the OPCW and the report of the External Auditor for the year ending 31 December 2012 (EC-74/DG.3 C-18/DG.5, dated 30 July 2013) and forwarded them to the Conference for consideration at its Eighteenth Session. The Council at this same session also received a presentation by the External Auditor, Mr Christian Ahrendt (EC-74/3, dated 8 October 2013).
- 3.3 The Council at its Seventy-Fifth Session noted a Note by the Secretariat on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor (EC-75/S/5, dated 15 January 2014). The Council requested that the ABAF review this document, and that the Council consider in a future session any recommendations that the ABAF may have in connection with this review.
- 3.4 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session noted a report by the Director-General on the implementation in 2013 of the recommendations contained in the 2012 annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight (OIO) (EC-76/DG.1, dated 17 March 2014).

### **Status report on the Verification Information System**

- 3.5 The Council at its Seventy-Fifth Session noted a status report on the Verification Information System (EC-75/S/4, dated 15 January 2014).

## **4. REPORTS TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

### **Reports of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters**

- 4.1 The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session considered and noted the report of the Thirty-Fifth Session of the ABAF, which took place from 2 to 4 September 2013 (ABAF-35/1, dated 4 September 2013), and a Note by the Director-General containing comments on the report of the ABAF at that session (EC-74/DG.16, dated 1 October 2013).
- 4.2 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session noted the report of the Thirty-Sixth Session of the ABAF, which took place from 2 to 5 June 2014 (ABAF-36/1), and a Note by the Director-General containing comments on the report of the ABAF at that session (EC-76/DG.13, dated 24 June 2014), noted the recommendations contained therein, and agreed to consider them at the next regular session of the Council.

### **Appointments to the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters**

- 4.3 The Council at its Seventy-Fifth Session noted a Note by the Secretariat on a nomination for membership of the ABAF (EC-75/S/6, dated 18 February 2014) and approved the nomination of Mr Alok Vardhan Chaturvedi of India to the ABAF, to replace Mr Subhash Chandra Garg, retroactive to the date of his nomination (8 January 2014).
- 4.4 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session noted a Note by the Secretariat on a nomination for membership of the ABAF (EC-76/S/1, dated 3 June 2014) and approved the nomination of Mr Teddy Bongezile Ceke of South Africa to a second term with the ABAF, retroactive to the date of his letter of nomination (26 May 2014).
- 4.5 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session also noted a Note by the Secretariat on a nomination for membership of the ABAF (EC-76/S/7, dated 7 July 2014), and approved the nomination of Mr Nikolay V. Lozinskiy of the Russian Federation, to replace Mr Vladimir A. Iosifov, retroactive to the date of his letter of nomination (2 July 2014).

### **Report of the Scientific Advisory Board**

- 4.6 The report of the Twentieth Session of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) (SAB-20/1, dated 14 June 2013) was circulated to the members of the Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session, as was a Note by the Director-General entitled "The Impact of Developments in Science and Technology in the Context of the Chemical Weapons Convention" (EC-74/DG.1, dated 24 July 2013).

### **Report of the Office of Internal Oversight for 2013**

- 4.7 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session considered and noted the annual report of the OIO for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013, which the Director-General had submitted to it, along with his comments (EC-76/DG.2 C-19/DG.3, dated 27 March 2014), in accordance with Regulation 12.5 of the OPCW Financial Regulations. The Council transmitted this report, and the Director-General's covering Note, to the Conference for consideration at its Nineteenth Session.

### **Report by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country**

- 4.8 At its Eleventh Session, the Conference adopted a decision establishing a Committee on Relations with the Host Country (hereinafter "the Host Country Committee") (C-11/DEC.9, dated 7 December 2006). The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session considered and noted a report by the Host Country Committee on the performance of its activities from February to September 2013, and submitted it to the Conference for consideration at its Eighteenth Session (EC-74/HCC/1 C-18/HCC/2, dated 30 September 2013). The Council at this same session decided that the Host Country Committee should continue to meet on a regular basis, with a view to resolving any issues that may arise in the context of the OPCW Headquarters Agreement, and also decided to keep this item on its agenda.
- 4.9 The Council at its Seventy-Fifth Session considered and noted a report by the Host Country Committee on the performance of its activities in the intersessional period (EC-75/HCC/1/Rev.1 C-19/HCC/1/Rev.1, dated 6 March 2014).

## **5. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION OR ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES AT ITS NINETEENTH SESSION<sup>1</sup>**

### **Draft report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2013**

- 5.1 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session considered the "Draft Report of the OPCW on the Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction in 2013" (EC-76/5 C-19/CRP.1), and forwarded it to the Conference for consideration at its Nineteenth Session.

### **Report of the Office of Internal Oversight for 2013**

- 5.2 The Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session considered and noted the annual report of the OIO for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013 which the Director-General had submitted to it, along with his comments (EC-76/DG.2 C-19/DG.3), in accordance with Regulation 12.5 of the OPCW Financial Regulations. The Council transmitted this report, and the Director-General's covering Note, to the Conference for consideration at its Nineteenth Session.

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<sup>1</sup> This section includes only those matters that were forwarded by the Council to the Nineteenth Session of the Conference within the period covered by this report, that is, from 20 July 2013 to 11 July 2014.

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Annex:

Actions Taken by the Conference of the States Parties at its Eighteenth Session in Response to Recommendations Made by the Executive Council

**Attachment**

**NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT<sup>2</sup>**

**THE DESTRUCTION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS ABANDONED BY JAPAN IN  
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

1. Decision (EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012)

The decision entitled “The Deadline of 29 April 2012 and Future Destruction of the Chemical Weapons Abandoned by Japan in the People’s Republic of China” (EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012), in which it reads in O.P.8, “Recommends the Conference of States Parties to take note of annual reports of the Council concerning the progress made for the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons from a viewpoint of facilitating the destruction;...”

2. Progress made for the Destruction of Abandoned Chemical Weapons

To date, approximately 50,000 items of abandoned chemical weapons (hereinafter referred to as "ACWs") have been recovered at over 90 locations within China. This figure includes those items which have already been destroyed. However, it does not include the estimated 300,000 to 400,000 items buried at Haerbaling, which have yet to be recovered, nor does it include items at other locations which have also yet to be recovered and declared. (Quoted from EC-76/DG.17)

As at 4 July 2013, the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) had verified the destruction of 37,020 chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China. This figure accounts for all items of ACWs that were declared at Nanjing, items transferred to Nanjing for destruction from surrounding locations, and items destroyed at the mobile destruction facility (MDF) in Shijiazhuang, Hebei Province, as at the date mentioned above. (Quoted from EC-76/DG.17)

The second stage of operations in the Shijiazhuang MDF concluded on 9 July 2013. It is planned that the ACWs stored in the vicinity of Shijiazhuang will be transferred to the MDF at this location for destruction. Upon completion of destruction operations in the MDF in Shijiazhuang, it is planned to redeploy the destruction equipment to Harbin, Heilongjiang Province. (EC-74/DG.19)

According to information provided in their national papers, as well as the destruction plan jointly submitted to the Council by China and Japan, the MDF initially deployed in Nanjing has been redeployed to Wuhan, with the installation of the MDF being completed in January 2014. During the reporting period, the construction of the access road, storage buildings, and other ground works were completed. Furthermore, before destruction operations begin in Wuhan, items of ACWs from nine temporary trust

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<sup>2</sup> Attached pursuant to paragraph 11.2 of the Report of the Executive Council at its Seventy-Seventh Session (EC-77/4, dated 10 October 2014).

storehouses will be consolidated at the Wuhan site for purposes of destruction. (EC-76/DG.17)

During the first half of the reporting period, maintenance activities were carried out in preparation for the third phase of destruction operations at the Shijiazhuang MDF. Prior to destruction recommencing, it is planned that the items of ACWs stored at six locations in the vicinity of Shijiazhuang will be transferred to the MDF at this location for destruction. Further to this, the items recently recovered in Tianjin will also be transferred to Shijiazhuang in a later phase for purposes of destruction. Upon completion of destruction operations at the MDF in Shijiazhuang, it is planned to redeploy the destruction equipment to Harbin, Heilongjiang Province, for destruction of items at and in the vicinity of that location. (EC-76/DG.17)

In accordance with a decision taken by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6), China and Japan jointly invited the Council to visit the Haerbaling ACW destruction site, Jilin Province. The visit took place between 9 and 13 September 2013 and allowed for better understanding of the challenges involved in the process of the destruction of ACWs, the progress achieved and the way forward, the importance of bilateral cooperation, and the emphasis placed by China and Japan on safety and environmental protection. (EC-75/DG.8)

China and Japan continue to make progress towards preparations for the commencement of destruction operations at the Haerbaling destruction site, Jilin Province. The manufacture of the two destruction units was completed in 2012 and major parts of the destruction equipment arrived in China in mid-March 2013. Preparations for the construction of the destruction facilities started in September 2013 and are ongoing. Owing to the fact that Haerbaling is the largest burial site, the start of destruction operations will have a major impact in regard to the overall process of destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China. (Quoted from EC-76/DG.17)

Finally, the destruction of the chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China is scheduled to continue on the basis of the agreed destruction plan, in accordance with which Japan and China regularly report to the Council (EC-67/NAT.11, dated 15 February 2012). The plan includes time frames for the destruction of ACWs by Japan, with appropriate cooperation from China. (EC-76/DG.17)

### 3. Activities of the Council

The Council considered and approved a report on the performance of its activities in the period from 16 July 2012 to 19 July 2013 (EC-74/4 C-18/2, dated 9 October 2013), and submitted it to the Conference for consideration at its Eighteenth Session. A note by the Secretariat entitled “the Destruction of Chemical Weapons Abandoned by Japan in the People’s Republic of China” was attached to the above-mentioned report. (Quoted from EC-74/5)



While welcoming close cooperation between the 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. (Quoted from EC-74/5)

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 noted the report of the visit by a delegation of the Council to the Haerbaling abandoned chemical weapons site, jointly invited by China and Japan, from 9 to 13 September 2013 (EC-74/2, dated 3 October 2013, and Corr.1, dated 9 October 2013) and expressed its appreciation for the first-hand information on the destruction-related progress and the bilateral cooperation of the relevant States Parties obtained through the visit. (Quoted from EC-74/5)

While welcoming close cooperation between the 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. (Quoted from EC-75/2)

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 appreciated the first hand information on the destruction related progress and the bilateral cooperation of the relevant States Parties obtained through the visit by the delegation of the Council to Haerbaling abandoned chemical weapons site, jointly invited by China and Japan, from 9 to 13 September 2013. (Quoted from EC-75/2)

Bearing in mind the destruction progress was less than expected in the destruction plan attached to the relevant decision (EC-67/DEC.6), while welcoming close cooperation between relevant States Parties, the Council considered and decided to remain seized of the matter, and urged the relevant States Parties to continue to make the fullest possible efforts to complete destruction of abandoned chemical weapons as soon as possible in accordance with the Council decision (EC-67/DEC.6) in a faithful manner. Both States Parties reaffirmed their effective commitment to the abovementioned decision. (Quoted from EC-76/6)

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 appreciated the first hand information on the destruction related progress and the bilateral cooperation of the relevant States Parties obtained through the visit by the delegation of the Council to Haerbaling abandoned chemical weapons site, jointly invited by China and Japan, from 9 to 13 September 2013. (Quoted from EC-76/6)

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-74/DG.19\*, dated 7 October 2013). (Quoted from EC-74/5)

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-75/DG.8, dated 28 February 2014). (Quoted from EC-75/2)

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-76/DG.17, dated 7 July 2014). (Quoted from EC-76/6)

4. Reference documents

(a) National papers

- (i) China (EC-74/NAT.4, dated 26 September 2013; EC-75/NAT.2, dated 12 February 2014; EC-76/NAT.6, dated 2 July 2014); and
- (ii) Japan (EC-74/NAT.1, dated 10 September 2013; EC-75/NAT.4, dated 20 February 2014; EC-76/NAT.3, dated 13 June 2014).

(b) Reports by the Director-General (EC-74/DG.19\*, dated 7 October 2013; EC-75/DG.8, dated 28 February 2014; EC-76/DG.17, dated 7 July 2014)

(c) Report of the Executive Council on the Performance of its Activities in the Period from 16 July 2012 to 19 July 2013 (EC-74/4 C-18/2, dated 9 October 2013)

## Annex

### **ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES AT ITS EIGHTEENTH SESSION IN RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL<sup>3</sup>**

#### **Implementation of the Executive Council decisions on destruction-related issues**

1. The Conference recalled the “Framework for Elimination of Syrian Chemical Weapons” agreed upon by the Russian Federation and the United States of America on 14 September 2013 (EC-M-33/NAT.1, dated 17 September 2013).
2. The Conference noted the decisions of the Council, pursuant to paragraph 8 of Article IV and paragraph 10 of Article V of the Convention, with respect to the order of destruction and procedures for stringent verification of the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons (EC-M-33/DEC.1, EC-M-34/DEC.1, and EC-M-35/DEC.2), and recognised that these decisions were taken due to the extraordinary character of the situation posed by Syrian chemical weapons and do not create any precedent for the future.
3. The Conference recalled the letter of the Director-General dated 3 October 2013 transmitting United Nations Security Council resolution 2118 (2013), dated 27 September 2013, with respect to the elimination of the Syrian Arab Republic’s chemical weapons programme.
4. The Conference noted the reports by the Director-General on progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme (EC-M-34/DG.1 and EC-M-35/DG.1), in which he reported that the Syrian authorities had extended the necessary cooperation to the OPCW team in the conduct of its activities.
5. The Conference welcomed the establishment of a special trust fund for the financial resources needed for the activities related to the complete destruction of the Syrian chemical weapons outside the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic, and invited all States Parties in a position to do so to provide voluntary contributions for this purpose.

#### **Progress report on the implementation of the plan of action regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations**

6. Further to a decision by the Conference at its Fourteenth Session regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations (C-14/DEC.12), the Conference considered and noted a Note by the Director-General on the “Overview of the Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2013” (EC-74/DG.7 C-18/DG.9 and Corr.1); a report by the Director-General on the “Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2013: Article VII – Initial Measures” (EC-74/DG.8 C-18/DG.10, Corr.1,

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<sup>3</sup> This section includes only those matters that were forwarded by the Council to the Eighteenth Session of the Conference within the period covered by this report, that is, from 20 July 2013 to 11 July 2014.

and Corr.2); and a report by the Director-General on the “Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2013: Additional Measures for States Parties that Possess Industrial Facilities Which Are Declarable Under the Convention” (EC-74/DG.9 C-18/DG.11, Corr.1, and Corr.2).

### **Status of implementation of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons**

7. The Conference noted a report by the Director-General on the status of implementation of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons (EC-74/DG.12 C-18/DG.13).
8. The Conference underlined its encouragement for the States Parties to facilitate and make materials and equipment-related assistance available to other States Parties to assist and support the victims of chemical weapons and to make contribution to the voluntary fund regarding the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons, in order to enhance the humanitarian aims of the Network.

### **Fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities**

9. The Conference noted a report by the Director-General entitled “Progress Made and Review of the Status of the Implementation of Article XI of the Chemical Weapons Convention” (EC-74/DG.13 C-18/DG.14).
10. The Conference emphasised the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of Article XI. The Conference noted the progress made in the implementation of the decision on Article XI of the Convention (C-16/DEC.10), which identified components of an agreed framework for the full implementation of this Article, as well as statements and comments made by the States Parties on the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of Article XI.
11. The Conference welcomed the fact that the Third Review Conference reaffirmed that the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of, inter alia, Article XI is essential for the realisation of the object and purpose of the Convention, and also called for adequate funding for all key programmes, including the OPCW’s international cooperation and assistance programmes, through the regular budget and voluntary funding.
12. The Conference received an oral report by the facilitator, Mr Tariq Karim of Pakistan, on the activities held during the intersessional period and welcomed proposals made by delegations that were aimed at further enhancing the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of the provisions of Article XI. The Conference also noted that the facilitator had received an additional proposal to further develop and enhance actions for the advancement of the objectives of Article XI, which he intended to present to the delegations during the informal consultations to be held soon.

### **Ensuring the universality of the Convention**

13. The Conference noted the annual report by the Director-General on the implementation of the action plan for universality of the Convention during the period from 16 August 2012 to 15 September 2013 (EC-74/DG.11 C-18/DG.12 and Add.1).
14. The Conference recalled the accession in 2013 of two new States Parties, Somalia and the Syrian Arab Republic. The Conference reaffirmed the unqualified commitment of the OPCW to achieve the universality of the Convention and urgently called upon all of the States not Party to join the Convention without delay and precondition; in particular those whose non-adherence is a cause for serious concern. It also recalled that States that remain outside the Convention would not be able to take advantage of the benefits that it offers to States Parties.

### **Annual report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities in the period from 16 July 2012 to 19 July 2013**

15. The Conference noted the report of the Council on the performance of its activities in the period from 16 July 2012 to 19 July 2013 (EC-74/4 C-18/2). The report was introduced by the Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Olexander Horin of Ukraine, who also briefed the Conference on the developments that had taken place since the cut-off date for the report.
16. The Conference also noted a note by the Secretariat on “The Destruction of Chemical Weapons Abandoned by Japan in the People’s Republic of China” attached to EC-74/4 C-18/2, pursuant to paragraph 11.2 of the report of the Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session (EC-74/5, dated 11 October 2013).

### **Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2014, submitted by the Executive Council, and all items pertaining to this Budget**

17. Further to the consideration of this issue at the Seventy-Fourth Session and Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Council, and in accordance with subparagraph 21(a) of Article VIII of the Convention, as well as pursuant to Financial Regulation 3.6(a), the Conference considered and adopted the Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2014, which the Council had submitted to it (C-18/DEC.6, dated 4 December 2013).
18. The Medium-Term Plan for the period from 2013 to 2015 (EC-70/S/1/Rev.1 C-17/S/1/Rev.1) was circulated to the Member States, along with the Draft Programme and Budget for 2014.

### **External Auditor’s report on the audited financial statements of the OPCW for 2012**

19. The Conference noted the Financial Statements of the OPCW and the report of the External Auditor for the year ending 31 December 2012 (EC-74/DG.3 C-18/DG.5), forwarded to it by the Council in accordance with Regulation 13.10 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules.

**OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 30 June 2013; and the cash situation and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 31 August 2013**

20. The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session considered and forwarded to the Conference a report by the Director-General on OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 30 June 2013 (EC-74/DG.2 C-18/DG.4 and Corr.1). The Conference noted this report.
21. Further to a decision by the Conference at its Seventeenth Session (subparagraph 3(r) of C-17/DEC.4, dated 27 November 2012), the Conference noted a Note by the Director-General on the cash situation and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 31 August 2013 (EC-74/DG.14 C-18/DG.15).

**Status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions**

22. Pursuant to a decision by the Conference at its Eleventh Session (C-11/DEC.5), the Conference considered and noted a report on the status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans (EC-74/DG.5 C-18/DG.7).

**Recommendation for write-offs of irrecoverable accounts receivable and of losses of assets**

23. The Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session considered a Note by the Director-General containing proposals for write-offs of irrecoverable accounts receivable and of losses of assets and recommended that the Conference at its Eighteenth Session approve these write-offs, totalling EUR 125,467.94 (EC-74/DG.4 C-18/DG.6). The Conference adopted a decision approving the said proposals (C-18/DEC.8, dated 4 December 2013).

**Appointment of the Director-General**

24. In accordance with the recommendation of the Council at its Seventy-Fourth Session (EC-74/DEC.3), the Conference considered and adopted a decision renewing the appointment of Mr Ahmet Üzümcü as Director-General of the Secretariat (C-18/DEC.9, dated 4 December 2013).
25. The Chairperson and the coordinators of all regional groups warmly welcomed Mr Üzümcü's reappointment, and wished him every success during the period of his second mandate.

**The OPCW Programme for Africa**

26. The Conference noted the Note by the Director-General on the Africa Programme (EC-74/DG.6 C-18/DG.8).

**Committee on Relations with the Host Country**

27. The Conference considered and noted the report by the Host Country Committee on the performance of its activities for the period from February to September 2013 (EC-74/HCC/1 C-18/HCC/2).
28. The Conference decided that the Host Country Committee should continue to meet with a view to resolving any issues that may arise in the context of the OPCW Headquarters Agreement, and also decided to keep this item on its agenda.

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