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7 – 10 October 2014

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REPORT BY MR ALADDIN ALHMEDAWI FACILITATOR OF THE SECURE INFORMATION EXCHANGE SYSTEM

Thank you, Mr Vice-Chairperson for giving me the floor.

Mr Chairman, Mr Director-General, Excellencies and distinguished colleagues,

As the facilitator of the Secure Information Exchange (SIX) system I would like to express my appreciation to, H.E. Ambassador Azzarello (Vice-Chairperson of the Executive Council for the Cluster of Industry and other Article VI Issues) and Mr Stefano Dell'Áquila, for their support and encouragement. I would also like to extend my appreciation to the project team of the Technical Secretariat led by the Data Analytics, Reporting and Quality Control Section of the Declarations Branch for the excellent work that has been done to implement the SIX system.

The SIX system was announced to the States Parties during the Seventy-Sixth Meeting of the Executive Council. The goal is to establish a secure mechanism for the exchange of information between the States Parties and the Technical Secretariat using the internet as an alternative to the traditional means. Before the announcement of the system, audits were conducted to ensure the security of the system. In addition, a pilot programme for SIX was concluded successfully with the participation of several States Parties. Various aspects of the system, such as the expected benefits, were discussed during the Cluster of Industry meetings, including the last meeting on 6 October 2014. Some of the key benefits are:

1. Quicker transmission of declaration-related confidential information, such as amendments, clarifications etc., from the States Parties to the Technical Secretariat;
2. Quicker receipt of confidential information by the National Authorities;
3. Possible future uses of the SIX system to facilitate the exchange of other confidential information, such as transfer discrepancies.

I am pleased to report that some States Parties have already registered for the SIX system and have started using it for sending their declarations to the Technical Secretariat. Herewith, I would like to kindly request the States Parties who have not already done so to encourage their National Authorities to evaluate the use of the SIX system as soon as possible. The Technical Secretariat has made relevant documents available on the external server of the OPCW website to support the registration and setup procedures, including a quick start guide which outlines the registration process. The Technical Secretariat can also offer bilateral assistance to the States Parties when required.



EC-77/WP.2

page 2

For the record, I would like to request this report to be considered as an official document of this session of the Council.

Thank you,

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