



Seventy-Ninth Session
7 – 10 July 2015

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ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SEVENTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 7 – 10 JULY 2015

This revised annotated agenda¹ has been prepared by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) to guide and assist members of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) in their substantive preparations for its Seventy-Ninth Session. It lists the items of business for the session in the sequence in which they appear in the provisional agenda set for it (see agenda item two below).

1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session

The Seventy-Ninth Session of the Council will be opened in The Hague by the Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Francesco Azzarello of Italy, at 10:00 on 7 July 2015.

2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Adoption of the agenda

The Council is **requested** to consider and adopt the following agenda, which has been circulated under cover of EC-79/2, dated 5 June 2015:

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Opening statement by the Director-General
4. Reports by the Vice-Chairpersons on the activities conducted under their respective clusters of issues
5. General debate
6. Status of implementation of the Convention:
 - (a) Reports by the Director-General on destruction-related issues
 - (b) Implementation of the Conference of the States Parties and Executive Council decisions on destruction-related issues

¹ This document is issued for information purposes only and does not supersede in any way the provisional agenda for the Seventy-Ninth Session of the Executive Council, or prejudice the outcome of its deliberations.



- (c) Other verification-related issues
 - (d) Destruction-related plans and facility agreements
 - (e) Verification Implementation Report for 2014
 - (f) OPCW Fact Finding on the allegations of use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic
 - (g) Timely submission of declarations under Article VI
 - (h) Article VII: briefings by the facilitator and by the Technical Secretariat
 - (i) The content of the assistance-and-protection data bank and its use
 - (j) Article X: briefings by the facilitator and by the Technical Secretariat
 - (k) Article XI: briefings by the facilitator and by the Technical Secretariat
 - (l) Report by the Director-General on the Technical Secretariat's readiness to conduct a challenge inspection or an investigation of alleged use
7. Follow-up process to the Third Review Conference²
8. Draft annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2014
9. Education and outreach
- (a) Briefing by the Technical Secretariat on ongoing and planned awareness-raising, education and outreach activities
 - (b) Establishment of an Advisory Board on Education and Outreach
10. Reports of the Office of Internal Oversight
- (a) Implementation in 2014 of the recommendations contained in the 2013 annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight
 - (b) Annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2014
11. Administrative and financial matters:
- (a) Status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor
 - (b) Report of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters

- (c) Report on the status of implementation of the enterprise-resource-planning system
 - (d) Composition of the Technical Secretariat
 - (e) Report by the Director-General on the implementation of the tenure policy in 2014
12. Establishment of an OPCW Day
 13. Agreement on the privileges and immunities of the OPCW
 14. Credentials of representatives of the members of the Executive Council
 15. Provisional agenda for the Twentieth Session of the Conference of the States Parties
 16. Dates for regular sessions of the Executive Council in 2016
 17. Any other business
 18. Adoption of the report
 19. Closure

3. AGENDA ITEM THREE – Opening statement by the Director-General

The Council is **requested** to note the opening statement by the Director-General (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

4. AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Reports by the Vice-Chairpersons on the activities conducted under their respective clusters of issues

The Vice-Chairpersons and coordinators for clusters of issues will report to the Council on informal consultations held during the intersessional period: Ambassador Māris Klišāns of Latvia on chemical weapons issues, Ambassador Jong-hyun Choe of the Republic of Korea on chemical-industry and other Article VI issues, Ambassador Willys Delvalle of Panama on administrative and financial issues, and Ambassador Rose Makena Muchiri of Kenya on legal, organisational, and other issues.

5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – General debate

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

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

- 6.1 Further to a decision by the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11, dated 1 December 2011), the Council is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Director-General on the overall progress of destruction activities by possessor States Parties (this document

will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

- 6.2 Further to a decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012), the Council is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Director-General on the overall progress of the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

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

- 6.3 The Secretariat is expected to brief the Council on its destruction-related verification activities.
- 6.4 The States Parties concerned are expected to brief the Council on their destruction-related activities.
- 6.5 The Council is **requested** to consider and note the report of the visit by the Chairperson of the Council and representatives of the Council to the Pueblo Chemical Agent Destruction Pilot Plant and Explosive Destruction System in Colorado, the United States of America, from 22 to 27 March 2015 (EC-79/1, dated 1 June 2015).
- 6.6 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Council is **requested** to consider and note a national paper by the Russian Federation on the progress made on the completion of the destruction of its chemical weapons, including information on measures to accelerate such progress, and identifying progress made since the last briefing in order to meet the planned completion date. This report is also to include reporting on any specific measures undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programme (EC-79/P/NAT.4, dated 10 June 2015).
- 6.7 Further to the same decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Council is **requested** to consider and note a national paper by the United States of America on the progress made on the completion of the destruction of its chemical weapons, including information on measures to accelerate such progress, and identifying progress made since the last briefing in order to meet the planned completion date. This report is also to include reporting on any specific measures undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programme (EC-79/NAT.2, dated 11 June 2015).
- 6.8 Further to the same decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Council is **requested** to consider and note a national paper by Libya on the progress made on the completion of the destruction of its chemical weapons, including information on measures to accelerate such progress, and identifying progress made since the last briefing in order to meet the planned completion date. This report is also to include reporting on any specific measures undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programme (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

- 6.9 The Council is **requested** to consider and note a national paper by Libya entitled “Concept plan for the destruction of the remaining Category 2 chemical weapons in Libya” (EC-79/NAT.1, dated 1 June 2015).
- 6.10 The Council is **requested** to note the twentieth monthly report by the Director-General reporting on progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme (EC-79/DG.8, dated 22 May 2015) and the twenty-first monthly progress report by the Director-General on the matter (EC-79/DG.15, dated 23 June 2015).
- 6.11 The Council is **requested** to note the eighteenth monthly report by the Syrian Arab Republic on the activities related to the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons and their production facilities as at the cut-off date of 15 May 2015 (EC-79/P/NAT.2, dated 15 May 2015) and the nineteenth monthly report, as at the cut-off date of 15 June 2015 (EC-79/P/NAT.3, dated 15 June 2015).
- 6.12 Further to its consideration of this issue at its previous session, the Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Secretariat on the retention of samples of Syrian chemical weapons (EC-77/S/3, dated 12 September 2014) and to consider and adopt a draft decision on the matter (EC-77/DEC/CRP.2, dated 12 September 2014).
- 6.13 Further to a decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6), a national paper by China (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations) and a national paper by Japan (EC-79/NAT.3, dated 17 June 2015) on the overall progress of the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China have been circulated to the members of the Council.
- 6.14 The Council is **requested** to consider and note the report of the visit by the Chairperson of the Council and representatives of the Council to the Haerbaling abandoned chemical weapons destruction site, Jilin Province, China, from 8 to 12 June 2015 (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

Subitem 6(c): Other verification-related issues

- 6.15 The Secretariat is expected to brief the Council on its other verification-related activities.
- 6.16 The Secretariat is also expected to provide a follow-up briefing on the activities of the Declaration Assessment Team (DAT).
- 6.17 The Council is **requested** to note a status report on the activities of the DAT (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).
- 6.18 The Secretariat is also expected to brief the Council on the destruction of the chemical weapons production facilities in the Syrian Arab Republic.

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

- 6.19 The Council is **requested** to consider and approve the facility agreement with the Islamic Republic of Pakistan regarding on-site inspections at a Schedule 1 single small-scale facility (EC-79/DEC/CRP.1, and EC-79/R/DEC/CRP.1, both dated 4 May 2015).
- 6.20 The Secretariat has submitted to the Council 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-79/S/7, dated 26 June 2015).
- 6.21 Proposed amendments to the aforementioned facility agreement have been submitted separately to the Council, which is **requested** to consider and approve them (EC-79/DEC/CRP.5, dated 26 June 2015). Related amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of chemical weapons at the Rabta Toxic Chemicals Destruction Facility, Libya, are treated in paragraph 6.22 below.
- 6.22 The Council is **requested** to consider and approve amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of chemical weapons at the Rabta Toxic Chemicals Destruction Facility, Libya (EC-79/DEC/CRP.6, dated 26 June 2015).

Subitem 6(e): Verification Implementation Report for 2014

- 6.23 The Council is **requested** to consider and note the Verification Implementation Report (VIR) for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2014 (EC-79/HP/DG.1, dated 1 May 2015). The Council is also **requested** to note the comments and views received on the 2014 VIR (EC-79/HP/DG.2, dated 16 June 2015), as well as the Chairperson's summary of the informal consultations on it (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

Subitem 6(f): OPCW Fact Finding on the allegations of use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic

- 6.24 The Director-General is expected to provide an update in regard to the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria.

Subitem 6(g): Timely submission of declarations under Article VI

- 6.25 Further to a decision by the Council at its Fifty-First Session (EC-51/DEC.1, dated 27 November 2007), the Council is **requested** to note a status report by the Director-General on the timely submission by States Parties of declarations under Article VI of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter "the Convention") for the period from 1 January to 31 May 2015 (EC-79/DG.13, dated 11 June 2015).
- 6.26 Further to the decision of the Council at its Sixty-Sixth Session on the policy guidelines for determining the number of Article VI inspections (EC-66/DEC.10, dated 7 October 2011), the Council is **requested** to note a report by the Director-General on the results of the implementation of these policy guidelines (EC-79/DG.4, dated 7 April 2015).

Subitem 6(h): Article VII: briefings by the facilitator and by the Technical Secretariat

- 6.27 The facilitator for this issue, Mr Sébastien Braha of France, is expected to report on the consultations carried out during the intersessional period.
- 6.28 The Secretariat will make a presentation on the status of implementation of Article VII.

Subitem 6(i): The content of the assistance-and-protection data bank and its use

- 6.29 The Council is **requested** to consider and note a Note by the Secretariat on the content of the assistance-and-protection data bank and its use (EC-79/S/5, dated 17 June 2015).

Subitem 6(j): Article X: briefings by the facilitator and by the Technical Secretariat

- 6.30 The facilitator for this issue, Mr Szymon Bocheński of Poland, is expected to report on the consultations carried out during the intersessional period.
- 6.31 The Secretariat will make a presentation on the status of implementation of Article X.

Subitem 6(k): Article XI: briefings by the facilitator and by the Technical Secretariat

- 6.32 The facilitator for this issue, Mrs Abeer S. Khaleefah of Iraq, is expected to report on the consultations carried out during the intersessional period.
- 6.33 The Secretariat will make a presentation on the programme of activities for 2015 related to Article XI.

Subitem 6(l): Report by the Director-General on the Technical Secretariat's readiness to conduct a challenge inspection or an investigation of alleged use

- 6.34 The Council is **requested** to consider and note 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-79/DG.12, dated 3 June 2015).

7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Follow-up process to the Third Review Conference

At its Seventy-Third Session, the Council requested the Director-General to submit to each regular session of the Council the updated version of the “Matrix of Actionable Items Identified at the Third Review Conference” (paragraph 13.1 of EC-73/6, dated 19 July 2013), which the Council is **requested** to consider and note (EC-79/S/3, dated 11 June 2015).

8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – Draft annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2014

The Council is **requested** to consider 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 2014” (EC-79/CRP.1, dated 12 May 2015), and to forward it to the Conference for consideration at its Twentieth Session.

9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – Education and outreach

Subitem 9(a): Briefing by the Technical Secretariat on ongoing and planned awareness-raising, education and outreach activities

9.1 The Secretariat is expected to provide a briefing to the Council on ongoing and planned awareness-raising, education and outreach activities.

9.2 The Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Secretariat on ongoing and planned awareness-raising, education and outreach activities (EC-79/S/2, dated 10 June 2015).

Subitem 9(b): Establishment of an Advisory Board on Education and Outreach

9.3 The Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General on the establishment of an Advisory Board on Education and Outreach (EC-79/DG.11, dated 29 May 2015), to consider and adopt a draft decision on the matter (EC-79/DEC/CRP.4, dated 29 May 2015), and to transmit it to the Conference for approval at its Twentieth Session.

10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – Reports of the Office of Internal Oversight

Subitem 10 (a) Implementation in 2014 of the recommendations contained in the 2013 annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight

10.1 The Council is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Director-General on the implementation in 2014 of the recommendations contained in the 2013 annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight (OIO) (EC-79/DG.2, dated 25 March 2015).

10.2 The facilitator for this issue, Mr Eric Smith of the United States of America, is expected to report on consultations held during the intersessional period.

Subitem 10 (b) Annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2014

10.3 The Council is **requested** to consider and note the annual report of the OIO for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2014 (EC-79/DG.3 C-20/DG.3, dated 3 April 2015), which the Director-General has submitted to it, along with his comments. The Council is also **requested** to make any comments it deems appropriate on the report. In accordance with Financial Regulation 12.5, the Director-General will transmit the report to the Conference at its Twentieth Session, together with his own comments and any that the Council may deem appropriate.

10.4 The facilitator for this issue, Mr Eric Smith of the United States of America, is expected to report on consultations held during the intersessional period.

11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Administrative and financial matters

Subitem 11(a): Status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor

11.1 Further to its consideration of this issue at its previous session, the Council is **requested** to consider and note a Note by the Secretariat on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor (EC-78/S/2, dated 23 January 2015).

11.2 The facilitator for this issue, Mr Eric Smith of the United States of America, is expected to report on the consultations held during the intersessional period.

Subitem 11(b): Report of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters

11.3 The Council is **requested** to consider and note the report of the Thirty-Eighth Session of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters (ABAF), which took place from 1 to 3 June 2015 (ABAF-38/1, dated 3 June 2015), and a Note by the Director-General containing comments on the report of the ABAF at that session (EC-79/DG.14, dated 22 June 2015).

11.4 The Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Secretariat on a nomination for membership of the ABAF (EC-79/S/4, dated 12 June 2015) and to appoint Mr Milan Kerber of the Czech Republic to a third term with the ABAF, retroactive to the date of the letter of nomination for Mr Kerber (28 April 2015).

11.5 The Council is also **requested** to note a Note by the Secretariat on a nomination for membership of the ABAF (EC-79/S/6, dated 24 June 2015) and to appoint Mrs Katrina Leonard-Johnston of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, retroactive to the date of the letter of nomination for Mrs Leonard-Johnston (17 June 2015).

Subitem 11(c): Report on the status of implementation of the enterprise-resource-planning system

11.6 Further to the decision by the Conference at its Nineteenth Session on the implementation of an enterprise-resource-planning (ERP) system and the establishment of a special fund for this purpose (C-19/DEC.7, dated 3 December 2014), the Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General reporting on the status of implementation of the ERP system (EC-79/DG.9, dated 1 June 2015).

Subitem 11(d): Composition of the Technical Secretariat

- 11.7 The Council is **requested** to note the Director-General's annual report on the composition of the Secretariat (EC-79/DG.6, dated 19 May 2015).

Subitem 11(e): Report by the Director-General on the implementation of the tenure policy in 2014

- 11.8 The Council is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the tenure policy in 2014 (EC-79/DG.5, dated 4 May 2015).

12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Establishment of an OPCW Day

- 12.1 The Secretariat circulated a Note by the Director-General on a proposal for the establishment of an OPCW Day (EC-79/S/1, dated 22 May 2015).

- 12.2 The Council is **requested** to consider and adopt a draft decision on the matter (EC-79/DEC/CRP.3, dated 22 May 2015) and to transmit it to the Conference for approval at its Twentieth Session.

13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Agreement on the privileges and immunities of the OPCW

The Council is **requested** to consider and conclude an agreement between the OPCW and Hungary on the privileges and immunities of the OPCW (EC-79/DEC/CRP.2, dated 21 May 2015).

14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Credentials of representatives of the members of the Executive Council

The Council is **requested** to consider and approve a report by the Director-General on the credentials of representatives of members of the Council, which covers the credentials of the newly elected members of the Council (EC-79/DG.7/Rev.1, dated 26 June 2015).

15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – Provisional agenda for the Twentieth Session of the Conference of the States Parties

The Council is **requested** to draw up the provisional agenda for the Twentieth Session of the Conference (EC-79/DG.10, dated 28 May 2015).

16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Dates for regular sessions of the Executive Council in 2016

The Council is **requested** to consider dates for its regular sessions in 2016.

17. **AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Any other business**
18. **AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN – Adoption of the report**
19. **AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN – Closure**

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