

**REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL****OVERALL PROGRESS WITH RESPECT TO THE DESTRUCTION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS ABANDONED BY JAPAN IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

1. In its decision entitled the “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), the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) requested the Director-General to provide a report at each regular session of the Council on the overall progress of the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons (ACWs).
2. To date, over 50,000 items of ACWs have been recovered from over 90 locations within China. This figure includes the items that have already been destroyed. However, it does not include the estimated 300,000 to 400,000 items buried at Haerbaling, Jilin Province, which have yet to be recovered, nor does it include items at other locations that also have yet to be recovered and declared.
3. As at the end of the reporting period on 31 August 2015, the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) had verified the destruction of 38,148 of the 38,784 items of ACWs abandoned by Japan on the territory of China that were reported as destroyed. 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 facilities (MDFs) in Shijiazhuang and Wuhan, along with destruction trials at Haerbaling, and includes all of the items transferred from surrounding locations to the MDFs for destruction as at the date mentioned above.
4. According to information provided in their national papers and the destruction plan jointly submitted to the Council by China and Japan, the MDF that was located at Wuhan is in the process of dismantling and packaging. The Secretariat has verified all items of ACWs destroyed at Wuhan. The MDF will be redeployed to Harbin to facilitate the destruction of ACW items in Northern China.
5. Regarding the Shijiazhuang MDF site, the consolidation at the Shijiazhuang Trust Warehouse of 594 ACW items previously stored at Tianjin took place in May and June. The national papers submitted by Japan and China report the destruction of 144 items of ACWs at Shijiazhuang, with 609 items planned to be destroyed by the end of 2015. The Secretariat is planning to conduct a destruction inspection in Shijiazhuang in the near future.



6. During the reporting period, test destruction operations resumed at the Haerbaling Test Destruction Facility (TDF) following the winter suspension period. During the testing phase from 14 April to 30 July 2015, trial destruction operations resulted in the destruction of 938 ACWs. To date this site has destroyed 994 items of ACWs; the Secretariat will confirm destruction of these items when operations resume in Haerbaling. Owing to the fact that Haerbaling is the largest burial site of ACWs in China, the destruction operations will have a major impact on the overall progress in the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China.
7. During the intersessional period, China and Japan carried out a number of bilateral investigations and excavation and recovery operations at various locations. Following these activities, a number of items were confirmed as ACWs, while other suspect items require further identification activities. Amended declarations reflecting the results of these operations will be submitted to the Secretariat in due course.
8. The 23rd trilateral meeting is scheduled to be conducted in Beijing in the second half of October 2015. These meetings between China, Japan, and the Secretariat are held on a biannual basis and are important occasions for ensuring transparency, discussing technical and practical issues, and implementing the projects in accordance with the appropriate verification measures.
9. Finally, the destruction of the chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China is scheduled to continue based on 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. The Secretariat remains in close coordination with both China and Japan on the implementation of the Council decision (EC-67/DEC.6).