

**NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL****OVERALL PROGRESS WITH RESPECT TO THE DESTRUCTION
OF THE REMAINING CHEMICAL WEAPONS STOCKPILES****Introduction**

1. In its decision entitled the “Final Extended Deadline of 29 April 2012” (C-16/DEC.11, dated 1 December 2011), the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) requested that the Director-General provide a written report at each regular session of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) on the overall progress being made by possessor States Parties in regard to the destruction of their remaining chemical weapons stockpiles. The Council further requested that these reports be based on the independent information that is received by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) from the Organisation’s inspectors, who undertake verification in accordance with section D of Part IV(A) of the Verification Annex to the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Verification Annex”), and that they include information on the progress achieved to meet the planned completion date(s) and a statement as to the effectiveness of any specific measures that have been undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes.
2. The information included in this report relates to the cut-off date of 31 August 2015, with the exception of that pertaining to Libya, which has 18 June 2015 as the cut-off date.

LibyaProgress achieved to meet the planned completion date

3. Libya has declared 26.345 metric tonnes (MTs) of Category 1 chemical weapons (a blister chemical agent).
4. To date, the Secretariat has verified the complete destruction by Libya of the Category 1 chemical weapons declared by this State Party. No withdrawals pursuant to Article VI of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) and subparagraph 2(d) of Part VI of the Verification Annex have taken place in this State Party. Libya has also completed the destruction of all its Category 3 chemical weapons.



5. With respect to the remaining Category 2 chemical weapons stockpiles, as at 18 June 2015, Libya had destroyed 669.813 MTs, or 47.78%, of its Category 2 chemical weapons.
6. In its latest progress report (EC-80/NAT.2, dated 21 September 2015), Libya informed the Secretariat that it had completed the destruction of isopropanol on 18 June and that the measures agreed upon for the remote verification of isopropanol destruction were fully implemented during these operations. The Secretariat reviewed the documentation, including detailed videotapes, and confirmed the destruction of the isopropanol.

The effectiveness of any specific measures that have been undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes

7. Libya noted in its progress report that preparations are under way for the disposal of 19.257 MTs of pinacolyl alcohol and 18.235 MTs of dichloride ethanol. Maintenance work is required and certain parts need to be replaced prior to use. Libya reported that it is planning to start destruction operations immediately following preparation and commissioning of the incinerator in November and December of 2015.
8. Libya noted that progress is under way on obtaining the containers needed for the three remaining chemicals (phosphorus trichloride, thionyl chloride, and tributyl amine) of which the containers were found to be corroded. Following decanting into new containers, these chemical amounts will remain in storage pending identification of a method and location for their destruction.
9. In accordance with the “Detailed Plan for the Destruction of Chemical Weapons Remaining After the Final Extended Deadline of 29 April 2012 (as per C-16/DEC.11)” submitted by Libya (EC-68/NAT.4, dated 18 April 2012), the destruction of the remaining Category 2 chemical weapons is scheduled for completion by December 2016.
10. The Director-General, on the basis of the information he received from Libya, is in a position to confirm that Libya has initiated the necessary steps for the implementation of the concept plan presented in EC-79/NAT.1 (dated 1 June 2015) in order to meet the planned completion date for the destruction of its remaining chemical weapons. The Secretariat, in a timely manner, shall inform the policy-making organs of any further developments in this regard, in accordance with C-16/DEC.11 (dated 1 December 2011).

Russian Federation

Progress achieved to meet the planned completion date

11. The Russian Federation has declared 39,966.588 MTs of Category 1 chemical weapons (nerve and blister chemical warfare agents).
12. As at 31 August 2015, the Secretariat had verified the destruction by the Russian Federation of 36,343 MTs, or 90.93%, of the Category 1 chemical weapons stockpile. This includes 0.026 MTs of chemical warfare agents withdrawn from Category 1 chemical weapons stocks pursuant to Article VI of the Convention and subparagraph

2(d) of Part VI of the Verification Annex for purposes not prohibited under the Convention. In addition, the Russian Federation has destroyed all of its Category 2 and Category 3 chemical weapons.

13. In the period under review, all of the five remaining chemical weapons destruction facilities (CWDFs)—in Kizner, Leonidovka, Maradykovsky, Pochep, and Shchuchye—have been operating in the Russian Federation.
14. The facility at Leonidovka finalised the destruction of the Vx-filled 9-A-3052 aerial bomb blocks on 20 August 2015, which marked the completion of the destruction of the stockpile declared at this facility.
15. The Maradykovsky facility has continued the destruction of the last type of munition, Vx-filled aerial bomb blocks. As at 31 August 2015, only 19 munitions of the entire stockpile declared at this facility remained to be destroyed. Shchuchye continued the destruction of the soman-filled 650-mm missile warheads with only 18 munitions left to be destroyed of the whole stockpile declared at this facility. The facility at Pochep continued the destruction of its final munition type, namely, 250-kg viscous soman-filled aerial bombs. Only 1,659 (representing 14%) of these munitions were remaining to be destroyed at the end of the period under review.
16. By the end of 2015, the facilities at Maradykovsky, Pochep, and Shchuchye are scheduled to complete the destruction of all their respective declared stockpiles.
17. At Kizner, the facility has completed the destruction of sarin-filled rocket warheads, and is currently destroying sarin-filled 152-mm projectiles. The facility will continue with the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons after 31 December 2015.
18. In accordance with the Detailed Plan for the Destruction of Category 1 Chemical Weapons Remaining After the Extended Deadline of 29 April 2012 and its addendum submitted by the Russian Federation (EC-68/P/NAT.1, dated 3 April 2012 and Add.1, dated 6 October 2014), the destruction of the remaining Category 1 chemical weapons at Maradykovsky, Leonidovka, Pochep, and Shchuchye is planned to be completed by December 2015, whereas at the Kizner facility, destruction operations will be carried on until December 2020.

The effectiveness of any specific measures that have been undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes

19. In its latest report on the progress it has made towards the complete destruction of its remaining stockpiles of chemical weapons (EC-80/P/NAT.4, dated 15 September 2015), the Russian Federation informed the Secretariat that, as at 31 August 2015, the destruction of Category 1 chemical weapons stockpiles at the Maradykovsky, Leonidovka, Shchuchye, Pochep, and Kizner CWDFs corresponded to the “Detailed Plan for the Destruction of Category 1 Chemical Weapons Remaining After the Extended Deadline of 29 April 2012” (EC-68/P/NAT.1), taking into account the addendum concerning the activity at the Kizner facility from 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2020 (EC-68/P/NAT.1/Add.1). The Russian Federation noted that destruction at Kizner has reached 38% or 2,194.56 MTs, in line with the scheduled pace of Category 1 chemical weapons destruction at this facility.

20. The Director-General, on the basis of independent information that he received from the Organisation's inspectors undertaking verification in accordance with Part IV(A) of the Verification Annex, as well as the information he received from the Russian Federation, is in a position to confirm that the Russian Federation has taken the necessary measures to complete the destruction of the chemical weapons stockpiles at four facilities, namely, Leonidovka, Maradykovsky, Pochep, and Shchuchye, by the planned completion date of 31 December 2015 and at Kizner by 31 December 2020. Should the situation change, the Secretariat, in a timely manner, shall inform the policy-making organs, in accordance with C-16/DEC.11.

United States of America

Progress achieved to meet the planned completion date

21. The United States of America has declared 27,769.738 MTs of Category 1 chemical weapons (nerve and blister chemical agents, as well as binary weapons components).
22. As at 31 August 2015, the Secretariat had verified the destruction by the United States of America of 24,924.456 MTs, or 89.75%, of the total amount of Category 1 chemical weapons declared by this State Party. This includes 2.682 MTs of chemical-warfare agents withdrawn from Category 1 chemical weapons stocks pursuant to Article VI of the Convention and subparagraph 2(d) of Part VI of the Verification Annex for purposes not prohibited under the Convention. The United States of America has also destroyed all of its Category 2 (0.010 MTs) and Category 3 chemical weapons.
23. During the period under review, the United States of America continued destruction operations at the Pueblo Chemical-Agent Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) Explosive Destruction System (EDS) in Pueblo, Colorado, with 0.47 MTs of mustard agent being destroyed. This brings the total amount destroyed at this facility to 0.76 MTs. One Category 3 empty M122 155-mm projectile was destroyed at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Chemical Transfer Facility/Munitions Assessment and Processing System, Aberdeen, Maryland, during this reporting period.
24. In accordance with the detailed plan submitted by the United States of America for the destruction of remaining chemical weapons (EC-68/NAT.2, dated 13 April 2012), this State Party plans that the destruction of its remaining Category 1 chemical weapons will be completed by September 2023.

The effectiveness of any specific measures that have been undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes

25. The United States of America stated in its progress report (EC-80/NAT.1, dated 16 September 2015) that "[s]teps are being taken to mitigate impacts to planned completion dates that could result from the additional work required to optimise performance of the PCAPP".
26. The United States of America also informed the Secretariat that it "continues to anticipate and address potential issues and will use risk mitigation strategies to address and eliminate concerns as early as possible to facilitate the safe and environmentally sound destruction of the remaining United States chemical weapons

stockpile. Personnel at both facilities continue to share and apply their broad knowledge and technical experience to address emerging challenges”. The United States of America stated that it is on track to meet its planned completion date.

27. The United States of America reported that it had completed construction work at the PCAPP and that systemisation at this facility is 87% complete. The Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) in Richmond, Kentucky, has completed 98% of the construction work and systemisation has reached 36%. The BGCAPP has made progress in the construction (46%) and systemisation (18%) of the Static Detonation Chamber (BGCAPP SDC) that will be used to destroy problematic munitions. The unit has been delivered to the site and destruction operations are scheduled to begin in 2017.
28. The United States of America stated further that, while the destruction at the BGCAPP remains on schedule to start in April 2020, at the PCAPP, the previously reported date for the start of destruction operations—December 2015—may be delayed by up to six months to June 2016. This is due to additional work identified during the ongoing systemisation process at this facility. In its progress report, this State Party has informed the Secretariat that steps are being taken to mitigate this schedule delay and to start operations as soon as possible without compromising the safety of the community, the workforce, or the environment.
29. The Director-General, on the basis of information he has received from the United States of America, is in a position to confirm that this State Party has taken the necessary measures to mitigate impacts on planned completion dates that could result from the additional work required to optimise the performance of the PCAPP. Should the situation change, the Secretariat, in a timely manner, shall inform the policy-making organs, in accordance with C-16/DEC.11.