



Forty-Second Meeting  
17 and 30 June 2014

EC-M-42/3  
30 June 2014  
Original: ENGLISH

### REPORT OF THE FORTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

#### 1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the meeting

The Chairperson of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”), Ambassador Álvaro Moerzinger of Uruguay, opened its Forty-Second Meeting in The Hague at 9:51 on 17 June 2014.

#### 2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Adoption of the agenda

The Council **considered** and **adopted** the following agenda:

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme
4. Combined plans for the destruction and verification of chemical weapons production facilities in the Syrian Arab Republic
5. Facility agreements
6. Any other business
7. Adoption of the report
8. Closure

#### 3. AGENDA ITEM THREE – Progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme

- 3.1 The Director-General delivered a statement to the Council.
- 3.2 The Council **noted** a Note by the Director-General, reporting on progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme (EC-M-42/DG.1, dated 23 May 2014).
- 3.3 The Special Coordinator of the OPCW-UN Joint Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic, Ms Sigrid Kaag, addressed the Council.



- 3.4 The Council **reviewed** the current situation with respect to the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme, discussing the progress that has been made since the Seventy-Fifth Session of the Council, which was positively noted in the Council, and the further delays that have occurred, about which concerns were expressed in the Council.
- 3.5 The Council **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons (EC-M-42/DEC.1, dated 17 June 2014).

3.6 The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) briefed the Council on consultations regarding clarifications on the declaration of the Syrian Arab Republic.

**4. AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Combined plans for the destruction and verification of chemical weapons production facilities in the Syrian Arab Republic**

4.1 The Council **considered further** the combined plans for the destruction and verification of chemical weapons production facilities (CWPFs) (EC-M-40/DG.2, dated 27 March 2014), and **decided** to continue consideration at its forthcoming session.

4.2 The Council **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the destruction of twelve CWPFs in the Syrian Arab Republic that, inter alia, encourages all parties concerned to continue their consultations with a view to arriving at an agreement on the combined plans for destruction and verification, and requests 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, dated 17 June 2014).

**5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – Facility agreements**

The Council **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).

**6. AGENDA ITEM SIX – Any other business**

**7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Adoption of the report**

**Summary report of the Fact-Finding Mission**

7.1 The Council **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), noting 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.

7.2 The Council **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.

- 7.3 The Council **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.
- 7.4 The Council **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.
- 7.5 The Council **requested** that the Director-General provide, as appropriate, updates on the status of the Mission and its activities.

#### **Further developments**

- 7.6 After the substantive discussion was concluded but before the adoption of the report, members of the Council were informed by the Secretariat that on Monday, 23 June 2014, the removal of declared chemicals from the Syrian Arab Republic was completed.

#### **Adoption of the report**

- 7.7 The Council **considered** and **adopted** the report of its Forty-Second Meeting.

#### **8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – Closure**

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 11:09 on 30 June 2014.