

**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWENTY-THIRD SESSION
OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES
19 AND 20 NOVEMBER 2018**

This revised annotated provisional agenda¹ has been prepared by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) to guide and assist Member States in their substantive preparations for the Twenty-Third Session of the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”). It lists the items of business for the session in the sequence in which they appear in the provisional agenda set out for it (see paragraph 4 below) (C-23/1, dated 11 July 2018).

1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session

The Conference at its Twenty-Second Session decided to hold its Twenty-Third Session on 19 and 20 November 2018 (paragraph 25.1 of C-22/5*, dated 1 December 2017). The Twenty-Third Session will open on 19 November 2018 at 10:00 in the King Willem Alexander Theater in the World Forum. The Chairperson of the Conference for its Twenty-Second Session, Ambassador Abdelouahab Bellouki of Morocco, will open the Twenty-Third Session.

2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Election of the Chairperson

Paragraph 15 of Article VIII of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) provides, inter alia, that the Conference shall elect its Chairperson at the beginning of each regular session, and that the Chairperson shall hold office until a new Chairperson is elected at the next regular session.

3. AGENDA ITEM THREE – Election of Vice-Chairpersons and other officers

According to Rule 34 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the Conference shall elect 10 Vice-Chairpersons of the Conference, the Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole, and such other officers as it may decide to elect, having due regard to equitable geographical representation. Rule 35 states that such officers of the Conference shall hold office until their successors are elected at its next regular session.

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This document is issued for information purposes only and does not supersede in any way the provisional agenda for the Twenty-Third Session of the Conference of the States Parties, or prejudice the outcome of its deliberations.



4. AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Adoption of the agenda

According to Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, any request for the inclusion in the agenda of supplementary items must be received not later than 30 days before the date set for the opening of any regular session. Because the Director-General had received no such request by 20 October 2018, the Conference is **requested**, subject to the recommendation of the General Committee, to approve the following agenda, which was circulated in C-23/1.

AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session

AGENDA ITEM TWO – Election of the Chairperson

AGENDA ITEM THREE – Election of Vice-Chairpersons and other officers

AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Adoption of the agenda

AGENDA ITEM FIVE – Organisation of work and establishment of subsidiary bodies

AGENDA ITEM SIX – Appointment of the Credentials Committee

AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Statement by the Director-General

AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – Status of implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention

AGENDA ITEM NINE – Annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in 2017

AGENDA ITEM TEN – Annual Report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities for the period from 15 July 2017 to 12 July 2018

AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Election of Member States to membership in the Executive Council

AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2019, submitted by the Executive Council, and all items pertaining to this Budget

AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Scale of assessments for 2019

AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – External Auditor's report on the audited Financial Statements of the OPCW and the Provident Fund for 2017

AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – Administrative and financial matters

AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities

AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Ensuring the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention

AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN – The OPCW Programme for Africa

AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN – Engagement with the chemical industry and the scientific community

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY – Reports of subsidiary bodies

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-ONE – Follow-up to the Third Review Conference²

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-TWO – Any other business

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-THREE – Adoption of the report of the Conference of the States Parties

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FOUR – Closure

5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – Organisation of work and establishment of subsidiary bodies

The Conference is **requested** to consider such recommendations as the General Committee may make to it in accordance with Rule 43(b) of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, and to take such action as it deems appropriate.

6. AGENDA ITEM SIX – Appointment of the Credentials Committee

Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference provides that a Credentials Committee shall be appointed at the beginning of each session of the Conference; that it shall consist of 10 members, who shall be appointed by the Conference on the proposal of its Chairperson; that it shall elect its own officers; and that it shall examine the credentials of all representatives and report without delay to the Conference.

7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Statement by the Director-General

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

8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – Status of implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention

Subitem 8(a): Progress report on the implementation of the plan of action regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations

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Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

8.1 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Fourteenth Session regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations (C-14/DEC.12, dated 4 December 2009), the Conference is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Director-General on the “Overview of the Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2018” (EC-89/DG.9 C-23/DG.8, dated 24 August 2018); a report by the Director-General on the “Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2018: Article VII – Initial Measures” (EC-89/DG.7 C-23/DG.6, dated 24 August 2018); and a report by the Director-General on the “Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2018: Additional Measures for States Parties that Possess Industrial Facilities Which Are Declarable Under the Convention” (EC-89/DG.8 C-23/DG.7, dated 24 August 2018).

Subitem 8(b): Implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Technical Secretariat in 2017

8.2 The Conference is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Secretariat in 2017 (EC-87/DG.12 C-23/DG.1, dated 12 February 2018).

Subitem 8(c): Implementation of the Conference of the States Parties and Executive Council decisions on destruction-related issues

8.3 Pursuant to a decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (subparagraph 3(f) of C-16/DEC.11, dated 1 December 2011), the Conference is requested to undertake an annual review of the implementation of this decision at a specially designated meeting (or meetings) of the Conference.

8.4 Pursuant to the provisions of the same subparagraph of the above-mentioned decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session, “[e]ach possessor State concerned is to provide an annual report to the Conference of the States Parties, and provide an annual briefing at a closed meeting of the Conference of the States Parties, on the progress in the destruction of its remaining stockpiles of chemical weapons and identifying progress made since the last briefing in order to meet the planned completion date. These reports, and briefings, are to also include:

- (i) Reporting on any specific measures undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes.
- (ii) Information on the projected schedule for destruction activities to meet the planned completion date”.

8.5 Further to the same decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (subparagraph 3(g) of C-16/DEC.11), “[t]he Director-General is to provide an annual written report to the Conference of the States Parties on the overall destruction progress by the possessor States concerned that is based on the independent information that is received by the Technical Secretariat from the Organisation’s inspectors undertaking verification in accordance with Part IV(A) D of the Verification Annex and that is to include information on:

- (i) The progress achieved to meet the planned completion date(s).
- (ii) The effectiveness of any specific measures that have been undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes”.

Subitem 8(d): Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use

8.6 The Conference at its Fourth Special Session adopted a decision entitled “Addressing the Threat from Chemical Weapons Use” (C-SS-4/DEC.3, dated 27 June 2018). In paragraph 20 of the decision, the Conference decided that the Director-General, if requested by a State Party investigating a possible chemical weapons use on its territory, can provide technical expertise to identify those who were perpetrators, organisers, or sponsors or otherwise involved in the use of chemicals as weapons, and further decided that, in this context, the Director-General may enlist support as appropriate from outside experts with relevant qualifications and professional experience, and invited the Director-General to submit to the Conference at its next regular session specific proposals to establish such independent, impartial, expert arrangements. The Secretariat circulated a Note by the Director-General entitled “Report Pursuant to Paragraph 20 of Decision C-SS-4/DEC.3 (dated 27 June 2018) on Addressing the Threat from Chemical Weapons Use” (C-23/DG.17, dated 15 November 2018).

8.7 Pursuant to paragraph 21 of C-SS-4/DEC.3, the Director-General was invited to submit to the Conference at its next regular session proposals to enhance the capacity and tools of the Secretariat to strengthen implementation of the verification regime of the Convention; options for further assistance that the Secretariat may provide to the States Parties to enable them to implement their obligations under the Convention, to enhance chemical security, and to enable international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention; and other proposals to strengthen the capability of the Secretariat. The Secretariat circulated a Note by the Director-General entitled “Report on Proposals and Options Pursuant to Paragraph 21 of Decision C-SS-4/DEC.3, dated 27 June 2018, on Addressing the Threat from Chemical Weapons Use” (C-23/DG.16 RC-4/DG.4, dated 15 November 2018).

9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – Annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in 2017

The Conference is **requested** to consider and approve the draft report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2017 (EC-88/3 C-23/CRP.1, dated 12 July 2018 and Corr.1, dated 24 July 2018), which was considered and forwarded to it by the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) at its Eighty-Eighth Session.

10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – Annual report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities for the period from 15 July 2017 to 12 July 2018

The Conference is **requested** to note the report of the Council on the performance of its activities for the period from 15 July 2017 to 12 July 2018, its Attachment entitled “Note by the Technical Secretariat: The Destruction of Chemical Weapons Abandoned by Japan in the People’s Republic of China”, and its Annex entitled “Actions Taken by the Conference of the States Parties at Its Twenty-Second Session

in Response to Recommendations Made by the Executive Council” (EC-89/4 C-23/2, dated 11 October 2018). The report will be introduced by the Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Jana Reinišová of the Czech Republic, who will also brief the Conference on any developments that have taken place since the cut-off date for the report.

11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Election of Member States to membership in the Executive Council

In accordance with paragraph 23 of Article VIII of the Convention and with Rule 83 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the Conference is **requested** to elect 21 members to serve on the Council for a term of two years, starting on 12 May 2019. To ensure that the Council is constituted in accordance with paragraph 23 of Article VIII, the regional distribution of the elective places to be filled is to be as follows:

Africa:	five elective places
Asia:	six elective places
Eastern Europe:	two elective places
Latin America and the Caribbean:	three elective places
Western Europe and other States:	five elective places

12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2019, submitted by the Executive Council, and all items pertaining to this Budget

12.1 The Council, at its Sixty-First Meeting, could not achieve consensus on the adoption of the draft decision entitled “Submission of the Draft Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2019 and All Items Pertaining to this Budget” (EC-M-61/DEC/CRP.1, dated 31 October 2018). Following a vote on the matter under Rule 36 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, the Council adopted the decision (paragraph 3.2 of EC-M-61/3, dated 5 November 2018), submitting, inter alia, the Draft Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2019 (EC-89/CRP.1/Rev.2, dated 12 October 2018 and Corr.1, dated 16 October 2018) and the associated draft decision (EC-89/DEC/CRP.9, dated 12 October 2018) to the Conference at its Twenty-Third Session for further consideration.

12.2 The Conference is **requested**, pursuant to Regulation 3.6(a) of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, to consider and adopt a draft decision on the OPCW Draft Programme and Budget for 2019 (C-23/DEC/CRP.8, dated 9 November 2018).

13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Scale of assessments for 2019

The Conference is **requested** to adopt, pursuant to Regulation 3.6(b) of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, a draft decision on the scale of assessments to be paid by States Parties for the financial year 2019 (C-23/DEC/CRP.9, dated 9 November 2018).

14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – External Auditor’s report on the audited Financial Statements of the OPCW and the Provident Fund for 2017

At its Eighty-Ninth Session, the Council noted the Financial Statements of the OPCW and the report of the External Auditor for the year ending 31 December 2017 (EC-89/DG.3 C-23/DG.4, dated 7 August 2018). In accordance with Regulation 13.10 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, the report is being forwarded to the Conference, which is **requested** to note it.

15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – Administrative and financial matters

Subitem 15(a): Cash surplus for 2016

15.1 The Council, at its Sixty-First Meeting, could not achieve consensus on the adoption of the draft decision entitled “Submission of the Draft Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2019 and All Items Pertaining to this Budget” (EC-M-61/DEC/CRP.1). Following a vote on the matter under Rule 36 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, the Council adopted the decision (paragraph 3.2 of EC-M-61/3), submitting, inter alia, the draft decision entitled “Cash Surplus for 2016” (EC-89/DEC/CRP.6, dated 12 October 2018) to the Conference at its Twenty-Third Session for further consideration.

15.2 The Conference is **requested** to consider and adopt a draft decision on the cash surplus for 2016 (C-23/DEC/CRP.10, dated 9 November 2018).

Subitem 15(b): Establishment of a special fund for cybersecurity, business continuity, and physical infrastructure security

15.3 The Council, at its Sixty-First Meeting, could not achieve consensus on the adoption of the draft decision entitled “Submission of the Draft Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2019 and All Items Pertaining to this Budget” (EC-M-61/DEC/CRP.1). Following a vote on the matter under Rule 36 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, the Council adopted the decision (paragraph 3.2 of EC-M-61/3) submitting, inter alia, the Note by the Director-General entitled “Request for the Establishment of a Special Fund for Cybersecurity, Business Continuity, and Physical Infrastructure Security, and Transfer of a Portion of the 2016 Cash Surplus for this Purpose” (EC-89/DG.32, dated 12 October 2018) and the associated draft decision (EC-89/DEC/CRP.7, dated 12 October 2018) to the Conference at its Twenty-Third Session for further consideration.

15.4 The Conference is **requested** to consider and adopt a draft decision on the matter (C-23/DEC/CRP.11, dated 9 November 2018).

Subitem 15(c): Establishment of a special fund for IT infrastructure to support the implementation of C-SS-4/DEC.3

15.5 The Council, at its Sixty-First Meeting, could not achieve consensus on the adoption of the draft decision entitled “Submission of the Draft Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2019 and All Items Pertaining to this Budget” (EC-M-61/DEC/CRP.1). Following a vote on the matter under Rule 36 of the Rules of Procedure of the

Council, the Council adopted the decision (paragraph 3.2 of EC-M-61/3), submitting inter alia, the Note by the Director-General entitled “Request for the Establishment of a Special Fund for IT Infrastructure to Support the Implementation of Decision C-SS-4/DEC.3, and Transfer of a Portion of the 2016 Cash Surplus for this Purpose” (EC-89/DG.33, dated 12 October 2018) and the associated draft decision (EC-89/DEC/CRP.8, dated 12 October 2018) to the Conference at its Twenty-Third Session for further consideration.

- 15.6 The Conference is **requested** to consider and adopt a draft decision on the matter (C-23/DEC/CRP.12, dated 9 November 2018).

Subitem 15(d): Submission of the 2018 Financial Statements to the External Auditor

- 15.7 At its Eighty-Ninth Session, the Council adopted a decision on the submission of the 2018 OPCW Financial Statements to the External Auditor (Financial Rule 11.1.02) (EC-89/DEC.1, dated 11 October 2018) and transmitted it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Third Session. The Conference is **requested** to consider and adopt a draft decision on the matter (C-23/DEC/CRP.3, dated 8 November 2018).

Subitem 15(e): Special Fund for OPCW Special Missions

- 15.8 At its Eighty-Ninth Session and in accordance with a decision by the Conference at its Twentieth Session (C-20/DEC.11, dated 3 December 2015), the Council considered and adopted a decision to extend the Special Fund for OPCW Special Missions for a period of one further year (EC-89/DEC.2, dated 11 October 2018), and transmitted it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Third Session. The Conference is **requested** to consider and adopt a draft decision on the matter (C-23/DEC/CRP.5, dated 8 November 2018).

Subitem 15(f): Status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions

- 15.9 At its Eleventh Session, the Conference adopted a decision (C-11/DEC.5, dated 7 December 2006) on a mechanism to encourage States Parties that are in arrears to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions through the use of multi-year payment plans, requesting the Secretariat to submit a report to it each year, through the Council, on the status of implementation of agreed multi-year payment plans as at the end of the quarter that falls immediately before the session of the Council that precedes the session of the Conference.
- 15.10 The Conference is **requested** to consider and note the report that the Council, at its Eighty-Ninth Session, considered and forwarded to it pursuant to the above-mentioned decision (EC-89/DG.6 C-23/DG.5, dated 23 August 2018).
- 15.11 Also pursuant to C-11/DEC.5, the Council at its Eighty-Ninth Session recommended that the Conference at its Twenty-Third Session approve the multi-year payment plan submitted by El Salvador to regularise the payment of its outstanding annual contributions (EC-89/DEC.3, dated 11 October 2018). The Conference is **requested** to consider and approve the plan (C-23/DEC/CRP.4, dated 8 November 2018).

Subitem 15(g): Charter of the Office of Internal Oversight

- 15.12 At its Eighty-Ninth Session, the Council noted a Note by the Director-General on the Charter of the Office of Internal Oversight (EC-89/DG.26, dated 28 September 2018). The Director-General transmitted the Charter, along with his own comments and any other comments made by the Council, to the Conference for consideration and approval at its Twenty-Third Session (C-23/DEC/CRP.2, dated 30 October 2018).

Subitem 15(h): Amendments to the Staff Regulations of the OPCW

- 15.13 The Council at its Eighty-Ninth Session noted a Note by the Director-General on proposed amendments to the Staff Regulations of the OPCW (EC-89/DG.19, dated 14 September 2018), considered and adopted a corresponding decision on the matter (EC-89/DEC.4, dated 11 October 2018), and transmitted it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Third Session. The Conference is **requested** to consider and adopt a draft decision on the matter (C-23/DEC/CRP.1, dated 18 October 2018).

Subitem 15(i): Cash situation and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 31 August 2018

- 15.14 At its Eighty-Ninth Session, the Council considered and forwarded to the Conference at its Twenty-Third Session a Note by the Director-General on the cash situation and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 31 August 2018 (EC-89/DG.23 C-23/DG.13, dated 21 September 2018). The Conference is requested to note this Note.

Subitem 15(j): Transfers of funds during 2017

- 15.15 In accordance with Regulation 4.5 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, all transfers between Budget programmes shall be reported to the Conference. The Conference is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General on this matter (EC-87/DG.13 C-23/DG.2, dated 15 February 2018).

Subitem 15(k): Report of the Office of Internal Oversight for 2017

- 15.16 In accordance with Regulation 12.5 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, the Council at its Eighty-Eighth Session considered and forwarded to the Conference the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017, and the accompanying Note by the Director-General (EC-88/DG.6 C-23/DG.3, dated 16 May 2018). The Conference is **requested** to note this report.

16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities

- 16.1 The Conference at its Sixteenth Session adopted a decision regarding components of an agreed framework for the full implementation of Article XI of the Convention (C-16/DEC.10, dated 1 December 2011), and requested the Secretariat to report to the Conference at each annual session on the progress of concrete measures undertaken in implementing the decision, and on the status of implementation of Article XI.

16.2 The Conference is **requested** to note a report by the Director-General on the progress made and review of the status of implementation of Article XI of the Convention for the period from 26 August 2017 to 25 August 2018 (EC-89/DG.20 C-23/DG.11, dated 14 September 2018).

16.3 The Conference at its Twenty-Second Session took note of the report by the facilitator in regard to the second “Review and Evaluation Workshop of the Components of an Agreed Framework for the Full Implementation of Article XI”. “The Conference agreed that such a workshop was important for the promotion of the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of the provisions of Article XI. Consistent with decision EC-86/DEC.4 (dated 11 October 2017), the Conference encouraged the widest and active participation of States Parties at the workshop on Article XI to take place in 2018. States Parties, in coordination with the Secretariat, will agree on the content and date of the workshop to promote implementation of Article XI, including recommendations on concrete measures. The Conference requested the facilitator to report on developments in this regard to the Conference at its next session” (paragraph 17.3 of C-22/5*).

17. AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Ensuring the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention

17.1 The Council at its Twenty-Third Meeting adopted an action plan for the universality of the Convention (EC-M-23/DEC.3, dated 24 October 2003). The plan requested the Director-General, inter alia, to submit to the Conference at its regular sessions an annual report on the implementation of the action plan, and to keep the Council regularly informed, so that the Conference and the Council may review progress and monitor its implementation effectively.

17.2 The Conference is **requested** to note the annual report by the Director-General on the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention during the period from 16 August 2017 to 15 August 2018 (EC-89/DG.12 C-23/DG.9, dated 3 September 2018), and to take any further steps it might consider necessary.

18. AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN – The OPCW Programme for Africa

The Conference is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General on the Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention (EC-89/DG.14 C-23/DG.10, dated 5 September 2018).

19. AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN – Engagement with the chemical industry and the scientific community

The Conference is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General on engaging the chemical industry associations (C-23/DG.14, dated 13 November 2018).

20. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY – Reports of subsidiary bodies

Committee of the Whole

- 20.1 The Committee of the Whole is expected to report on the results of its consideration of those agenda items that the Conference refers to it at the recommendation of the General Committee.

General Committee

- 20.2 The Conference is **requested** to note the reports that the General Committee will prepare in accordance with Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, and to take such action as it deems appropriate.

Confidentiality Commission

- 20.3 The Conference is **requested** to note the report of the Twentieth Meeting of the Commission for the Settlement of Disputes Related to Confidentiality (CC-20/1, dated 8 May 2018).
- 20.4 The Conference is **requested** to elect 20 members of the Confidentiality Commission for a term of two years, starting from 1 May 2019. In accordance with Rule 2(b) of the Operating Procedures of the Confidentiality Commission (C-III/DEC.10/Rev.2, dated 4 December 2013), the States Parties belonging to each of the five regions specified in paragraph 23 of Article VIII of the Convention shall select four candidates from among the persons nominated by the States Parties in their region, to serve in a personal capacity. The same Rule also states that the States Parties in each of the regional groups shall do their utmost, through a process of consultation, to reach consensus on their selection; that a list of 20 candidates reflecting the selection of the regional groups shall be submitted to the Conference; and that the decision on appointment shall be taken by the Conference as a matter of substance, in accordance with paragraph 18 of Article VIII of the Convention. Rule 3 of the aforementioned operating procedures stipulates that members shall take up their appointment for a period of two years, starting from 1 May in the year immediately following the session of the Conference at which they were appointed, and that anyone who has completed three consecutive terms as a member of the Confidentiality Commission shall not be eligible for immediate reappointment.

Credentials Committee

- 20.5 The Conference is **requested** to consider and approve the report of the Credentials Committee on the credentials of representatives to the Twenty-Third Session of the Conference (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

Committee on Relations with the Host Country

- 20.6 At its Eleventh Session, the Conference adopted a decision establishing a Committee on Relations with the Host Country (hereinafter “the Host Country Committee”) (C-11/DEC.9, dated 7 December 2006). Pursuant to this decision, the Conference is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Host Country Committee on the performance of its activities (EC-87/HCC/1 C-23/HCC/1, dated 5 March 2018). The Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Jana Reinišová of the

Czech Republic, will report to the Conference on the status of the work of the Host Country Committee.

Advisory Board on Education and Outreach

20.7 The Conference is **requested** to consider and note a Note by the Director-General reporting on the activities of the Advisory Board on Education and Outreach covering the period from 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018 (EC-89/DG.22 C-23/DG.12, dated 20 September 2018).

21. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-ONE – Follow-up to the Third Review Conference

In paragraph 9.17 of its report (RC-3/3*, dated 19 April 2013), the Third Review Conference expressed its intention to keep the declarations contained in paragraphs 9.3 to 9.16 of that document under review at each regular session of the Conference. Subsequently, the agendas of the Council from its Seventy-Third through Eighty-Ninth Sessions have included an item on the follow-up to the Third Review Conference. Starting from the Eightieth Session of the Council, it was decided to introduce a new procedure whereby updates are provided to the Council by way of an addendum to the matrix that encompasses only new activities and developments during the reporting period. A full version of the matrix is produced only once a year, the most recent being document EC-89/S/2 (dated 19 September 2018). The Conference is **requested** to note the activities in furtherance of its review of the declarations contained in paragraphs 9.3 to 9.16 of RC-3/3*.

22. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-TWO – Any other business

23. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-THREE – Adoption of the report of the Conference of the States Parties

24. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FOUR – Closure