

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

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 the Director-General to provide an annual written report on the overall destruction progress by the possessor States concerned that is based on the independent information that is received by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) from the inspectors undertaking verification in accordance with Part IV (A) of the Verification Annex to the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Verification Annex”). The Conference further requested that the annual report 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 covers the period from 1 November 2018 to 31 October 2019.

United States of AmericaProgress achieved to meet the planned completion date

3. The United States of America has declared 27,770 metric tonnes (MT) of Category 1 chemical weapons.
4. As at 31 October 2019, the Secretariat had verified the destruction of 25,897 MT, or 93.26%, of the total amount of the Category 1 chemical weapons declared. This includes 2.682 MT of chemical warfare agents withdrawn from Category 1 chemical weapons stocks pursuant to Article VI of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) and subparagraph 2(d) of Part VI of the Verification Annex for purposes not prohibited under the Convention. More than 2.5 million declared munitions and containers have been destroyed since the Convention entered into force for the United States of America, including 96.6% of the nerve agent stockpile, 100% of its Category 2 and 3 chemical weapons, and 100% of the binary chemical weapons.
5. The United States of America’s remaining chemical weapons destruction facilities include the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) in Colorado and the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) in Kentucky. The



technologies used at both of these facilities consist of neutralisation augmented by explosive destruction technology to supplement the destruction process and assist with the destruction of problematic munitions in a safe and efficient manner.

6. Between 1 November 2018 and 31 October 2019, the United States destroyed a total of 573.944950 MT of Category 1 chemical weapons. This comprises stockpile destruction at the PCAPP, PCAPP Explosive Destruction System (EDS), and BGCAPP Static Detonation Chamber (SDC).
7. During the reporting period, the PCAPP destroyed 565.026480 MT of chemical agent. The PCAPP EDS completed the second campaign and concluded operations in December 2018. During the intersessional period, the PCAPP EDS destroyed a total of 0.374680 MT of chemical agent. The BGCAPP SDC began destruction operations on 7 June 2019. As at 31 October 2019, the BGCAPP SDC had destroyed 1,609 chemical weapons munitions containing 8.543790 MT of sulfur mustard.
8. In its report on the progress made towards the complete destruction of remaining stockpiles of chemical weapons (C-24/NAT.1, dated 11 November 2019), the United States of America informed the Conference that the construction of the BGCAPP facility was 100% complete and that systemisation was 93.3% complete. The start of destruction operations at the BGCAPP is planned for early 2020.

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

9. The United States of America has informed the Conference that it continues to review opportunities to optimise performance at the facilities and that planning is under way to develop initiatives for more efficient destruction of the remaining stockpile without compromising safety and the environment. In addition, the United States of America reported that it was installing three SDC units to augment the PCAPP main plant and had purchased one additional SDC to augment the main plant at the BGCAPP.
10. With regard to safety and environmental concerns, the United States of America has stated 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”.
11. 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 meet the planned completion date for its destruction activities. Should the situation change, the Secretariat shall inform the policy-making organs in a timely manner, in accordance with C-16/DEC.11.