



OPCW

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NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**UPDATED MATRIX ON ACTIONABLE ITEMS
IDENTIFIED AT THE THIRD REVIEW CONFERENCE**

Following the request by the Seventy-Third Session of the Executive Council (paragraph 13.1 of EC-73/6, dated 19 July 2013), the Director-General hereby submits the update to the Matrix document based on the report of the Third Review Conference¹ (RC-3/3*, dated 19 April 2013). The cut-off date for this document was 13 January 2020. In line with the decision of the Executive Council at its Ninety-First Session the last full version of the Matrix was issued before the Ninety-Second Session of the Council (EC-92/S/5, dated 25 September 2019).

Annex (English only): Matrix of Actionable Items Identified at the Third Review Conference

¹ Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention



Annex

MATRIX OF ACTIONABLE ITEMS IDENTIFIED AT THE THIRD REVIEW CONFERENCE

RC-3/3* Ref.	Task	Cluster¹/ Facilitation	Follow-up/Updates	History of Recommendations²
9.17	Intention to keep [...] declarations (mentioned in paras 9.3 to 9.16) under review at each regular session of the Conference of the States Parties	n/a	Council and Conference to review; States Parties to take action as required; Secretariat to take action as required; Para 14 of EC-92/5, dated 11 October 2019 and para 23 of C-24/5, dated 29 November 2019; S/1794/2019, dated 10 September 2019; S/1802/2019, dated 11 October 2019; S/1811/2019, dated 18 November 2019; S/1816/2019, dated 13 December 2019.	
Part A: Political Declaration				
Part B: Review of the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention as Provided for in Paragraph 22 of Article VIII, Taking into Account Any Relevant Scientific and Technological Developments				
Ensuring the Universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention				
9.39(c)	Requested the Secretariat and the Director-General to make full use of all available opportunities and resources, including new mechanisms such as special envoys, as and when considered appropriate by the Director-General, to pursue this goal at all levels, including in close cooperation with other international, regional, and subregional organisations	Cluster IV (universality facilitation)	During the period from 9 August 2019 to 13 January 2020, the Secretariat maintained contact with States not Party. In addition, the Secretariat sent letters in October inviting representatives of the four remaining States not Party to participate as observers in the Twenty-Fourth Session of the Conference of the States Parties.	Paras 9.16 and 9.18 of RC-2/4; C-16/DEC.16 (EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.5 of Annex 1)

¹

Cluster I: Chemical Weapons Issues; Cluster II: Chemical Industry and Other Article VI Issues; Cluster III: Administrative and Financial Issues; Cluster IV: Legal, Organisational, and Other Issues.

²

The reference to "Regular and Outstanding Issues on the Agenda of the Executive Council" (EC-93/INF.1, dated 11 February 2020) is included if the issue is already on the agenda of the Executive Council.

RC-3/3* Ref.	Task	Cluster / Facilitation	Follow-up/Updates	History of Recommendations ²
9.44(b)	Requested the Secretariat to deploy continued efforts in support of those States Parties and to keep the Council informed of progress in the preparation and submission of Article III initial declarations	Cluster I	EC-92/HP/DG.2, dated 27 September 2019.	Para 9.23 of RC-2/4
Destruction of Chemical Weapons, Including Implementation of the Conference of the States Parties and Executive Council Decisions on Destruction-Related Issues				
9.62(b)	Requested the Conference and the Council to continue to keep under review and oversee the completion of destruction of chemical weapons stockpiles and, in this regard, underlined the importance of continuing to receive the Director-General's confirmation that the necessary measures are being undertaken by the possessor States concerned to meet the planned completion dates for their destruction activities	Cluster I	Conference and Council to continue to take action; Secretariat to continue to take action EC-92/DG.6, dated 23 August 2019; EC-92/DG.22, dated 24 September 2019; EC-92/ DG.25, dated 27 September 2019; EC-93/DG.1, dated 23 October 2019; EC-93/DG.3, dated 25 November 2019; EC-93/DG.5, dated 24 December 2019; Paras 9.3 to 9.5 of C-24/5, and C-24/DG.18, dated 21 November 2019;	C-16/DEC.11; EC-M-33/DEC.1, dated 27 September 2013; EC-M-34/DEC.1, dated 15 November 2013; EC-M-42/DEC.1, dated 17 June 2014; EC-M-51/DEC.1, dated 24 February 2016; EC-M-52/DEC.1, dated 20 July 2016; EC-M-52/DEC.2, dated 27 July 2016; EC-M-53/DEC.1, dated 26 August 2016; EC-M-53/DEC.2, dated 26 August 2016; EC-84/DEC.2, dated 8 March 2017

RC-3/3* Ref.	Task	Cluster / Facilitation	Follow-up/Updates	History of Recommendations²
9.62(c)	Encouraged the Director-General to continue consulting with the possessor States concerned in order to continue improving the reporting that is required from the States Parties concerned [...] and requested that future reporting by the possessor States concerned, on the basis of C-16/DEC.11, continue to contain information on the progress achieved to meet the planned completion date by which the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons is to be completed	Cluster I	Secretariat to continue to take action; Possessor States Parties to continue to take action EC-92/DG.18, dated 17 September 2019; EC-92/P/NAT.2, dated 22 August 2019; EC-92/P/NAT.3, dated 18 September 2019; EC-92/NAT.1, dated 27 September 2019; C-24/NAT.1, dated 11 November 2019; EC-93/P/NAT.1, dated 17 October 2019; EC-93/P/NAT.2, dated 19 November 2019; EC-93/P/NAT.3, dated 19 December 2019.	C-16/DEC.11
9.62(d)	Requested the Director-General to continue to provide a written report to the Council and the Conference as per their relevant decisions	Cluster I	EC-92/DG.6; EC-92/ DG.25; EC-92/DG.22; EC-93/DG.1; C-24/DG.18; EC-93/DG.3; Paras 9.3 to 9.5 of C-24/5; EC-93/DG.5	C-16/DEC.11; EC-M-33/DEC.1, dated 27 September 2013; EC-M-34/DEC.1, dated 15 November 2013; EC-84/DEC.2, dated 8 March 2017
9.62(f)	Urged the relevant States Parties to continue to make the fullest possible efforts to complete destruction of abandoned chemical weapons as soon as possible in accordance with the Council decision (EC-67/DEC.6) and encouraged continued cooperation between relevant States Parties to that effect	Cluster I	Relevant States Parties to continue to take action; EC-92/NAT.3, dated 4 October 2019; EC-92/NAT.2, dated 2 October 2019; EC-92/DG.29, dated 4 October 2019; Paras 7.9 to 7.13 of EC-92/5; Paras. 9.9 to 9.9.13 of C-24/5.	Para 9.37 of RC-2/4, dated 18 April 2008; (Section I.2 of Annex 1 of EC-93/INF.1); EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012
Verification Activities of the OPCW				
9.71	Recognised the continued need for the OPCW to have up-to-date verification technologies at its disposal, and encouraged the Secretariat to continue to work with States Parties that wish to familiarise themselves with approved verification equipment	Verification Activities of the OPCW Clusters II and IV	The Secretariat has issued two Notes inviting the National Authorities of States Parties to familiarise themselves with the newly procured items of approved equipment (S/1787/2019, dated 26 August 2019; S/1808/2019, dated 29 October 2019).	C-I/DEC.71*, dated 30 November 2010

RC-3/3* Ref.	Task	Cluster / Facilitation	Follow-up/Updates	History of Recommendations²
9.79(a)	Requested the Secretariat to assist National Authorities, upon request, in building up and improving their capacity to fulfil their obligations under the verification regime, including in fulfilling their declaration obligations	Clusters II and IV (Industry Cluster and Article VII facilitations)	Training courses on fulfilling declarations and inspections obligations under Article VI continued to be provided in 2019. Two courses, one regional (GRULAC) and another in The Hague, featured the introduction of the Electronic Declarations Information System (EDIS) as the new electronic declaration tool. Declaration exercises were successfully conducted using EDIS and in the form of a role playing exercise.	Para 9.45 of RC-2/4; (EC-93/INF.1, Section II.5 of Annex 2 and IV.3 of Annex 1)
9.79(b)	Encouraged States Parties' National Authorities in a position to do so, to submit declarations in an electronic form, and further requested the Secretariat to continue providing States Parties with appropriate training and assistance to enable them to submit declarations in an electronic form	Clusters II and IV (Industry Cluster and Article VII facilitations)	The beta version of the new EDIS went live in November 2019. This system will replace EDNA. Sessions on the introduction of EDIS were provided in the regional and annual (global) meetings of the National Authorities, as well as at the Article VI (declarations and inspections) training courses (as mentioned in 9.79(a)), the Sixth Annual Meeting of the Representatives of Chemical Industry and National Authorities, and other events.	Paras 9.46 and 9.67(b) of RC-2/4; (EC-93/INF.1, Section II.5 of Annex 2 and IV.3 of Annex 1)
9.79(d)	Encouraged the Secretariat to maintain and further develop, update, and improve its practices in regard to its capability to perform sampling and analysis under the different scenarios envisaged in the Convention [...] and in this context to maintain its efforts to keep updated the OPCW Central Analytical Database and to continue to submit proposed updates in this regard to the Council for its approval	Cluster IV	The Executive Council approved two decisions on lists of newly validated data on Non-Scheduled and Scheduled chemicals for inclusion in the OPCW Central Analytical Database (EC-91/DEC.1 and; EC-91/DEC.2).	Paras 9.49 and 9.67(c) of RC-2/4

RC-3/3* Ref.	Task	Cluster / Facilitation	Follow-up/Updates	History of Recommendations²
9.79(e)	Encouraged the Secretariat through the National Authorities to continue to strengthen relations with respective national chemical industry. The Secretariat is also encouraged to strengthen its relationship with regional and international chemical industry associations	Clusters II and IV (Industry Cluster and Article XI facilitations)	<p>A meeting of the Chemical Industry Coordination Group was held on 10 September 2019. The Secretariat also established working-level contacts with the International Chemical Trade Association. The Note by the Director-General on engaging the chemical industry associations (C-24/DG.17, dated 4 November 2019) provides a detailed report on cooperation with chemical industry associations.</p> <p>The Annual Meeting of the Representatives of Chemical Industry and National Authorities continued to provide a unique forum for direct interaction between these two key stakeholders implementing the Convention. Participants highlighted the need for an online platform for information sharing and exchange among the stakeholders. A Secretariat Note to report on the five years of this Annual Meeting (2014-2018) was issued (S/1793/2019, dated 17 September 2019), highlighting the achievements this forum has made, and laid the ground for future engagement.</p> <p>All main programmes under Article XI (integrated chemicals management, enhancement of laboratory capabilities, and chemical knowledge promotion and exchange) continue to benefit from the involvement of external experts from major international chemical associations such as the ACC, CEFIC, ICCA, ICTA as well as national chemical associations from WEOG, Eastern Europe, Asia and GRULAC, and international societies such as the ACS.</p>	Subpara 9.116(h) of RC-2/4; (EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.1 of Annex 1)
9.79(f)	Encouraged the Director-General to continue to render specialised advice to the policy-making organs and States Parties in the areas of science and technology relevant to the Convention on the basis of advice from the SAB ³	Clusters I and II (chemical weapons and Industry Cluster facilitations)	<p>The SAB Temporary Working Group on Investigative Science and Technology held its Fourth Meeting from 18 to 20 September 2019 (SAB-29/WP.1, dated 25 November 2019) and also met in Helsinki from 18 to 20 November to finalise and agree on the final report. The report is under consideration by SAB members.</p>	Subpara 21(h) of Article VIII of the Convention; (EC-93/INF.1, Section II.1(ii) of Annex 2)

RC-3/3* Ref.	Task	Cluster / Facilitation	Follow-up/Updates	History of Recommendations ²
Activities Not Prohibited Under the Chemical Weapons Convention				
9.84	While noting that some States Parties have not yet submitted their initial declarations, recognised the need for a tailor-made assistance approach to improve the status of submission of declarations	Cluster IV (Article VII facilitation)	During the Twenty-Second Internship Programme for Legal Drafters in August 2019, practical suggestions to move forward the pending initial declaration were discussed with the concerned State Party participants. A similar bilateral engagement was made with the same State Party during the event organised by the Inter-Parliamentary Union for parliaments of the Pacific region in Wellington, New Zealand, in September 2019.	(EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.3 of Annex 1)
9.93	Encouraged the cluster on chemical-industry and other Article VI issues to consult on the ways to reconcile such discrepancies	Cluster II (Industry Cluster facilitation)	The 8 July 2019 meeting of the Industry Cluster received a presentation regarding the possible use of distributed ledger technology (DLT or blockchain) as a means to improve transfer discrepancies.	Para 9.71 of RC-2/4; (EC-93/INF.1, Section II.2(ii) of Annex 2)
9.95(a)	Called upon those States Parties that have not yet submitted their initial declarations to do so as soon as possible	Cluster IV (Article VII facilitation)	The Secretariat continued to approach the only State Party from which the Initial declaration is pending via bilateral contacts during in-house events, via emails, and other means.	(EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.3 of Annex 1)
9.95(b)	Called upon States Parties that have not yet implemented the decision on guidelines regarding low-concentration limits for declarations of Schedule 2A and 2A* chemicals to take necessary measures to expedite its implementation	Cluster II (Industry Cluster facilitation)	The ninth survey on the implementation of decision C-14/DEC.4: Guidelines Regarding Low-Concentration Limits for Declarations of Schedule 2A and 2A* Chemicals (S/1790/2019, dated 30 August 2019) was conducted in 2019.	C-14/DEC.4, dated 2 December 2009; (EC-93/INF.1, Section II.2 of Annex 2)
9.95(c)	Urged States Parties to ensure that declarations are submitted in a timely, complete, and accurate manner, consistent with the provisions of the Convention, making use of the Secretariat's resources as appropriate	Clusters II and IV (Industry Cluster and Article VII facilitations)	Secretariat continues to engage States Parties and provide tailor-made assistance, including by sending kind reminders on timely submissions to States Parties electronically	(EC-93/INF.1, Section II.5 of Annex 2 and IV.3 of Annex 1)
9.95(d)	Encouraged the Secretariat to continue to provide technical assistance to States Parties for the receipt of OPCW inspections, and other technical questions that may arise in the implementation of provisions related to activities not prohibited under the Convention	Cluster IV (Article VII facilitation)	As reported under 9.79 (a)(b) and (e), Article VI training courses on declarations and inspections obligations continued to be provided; relevant discussions were held in 2019 with representatives of the chemical industry and National Authorities to improve the inspection procedures.	Para 9.59 of RC-2/4; (EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.3 of Annex 1)
9.95(f)	Encouraged the Secretariat, in close cooperation with States Parties, to continue to make efforts to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the verification system	Cluster II (Industry Cluster facilitation)	In 2019, the Secretariat organised an inter-divisional project team to review current Article VI verification efforts with the goal to identify further improvements in effectiveness and efficiency. Progress is reported to the Industry Cluster.	Para 9.57 of RC-2/4; (EC-93/INF.1, Sections II.5 and II.6 of Annex 2)

RC-3/3* Ref.	Task	Cluster / Facilitation	Follow-up/Updates	History of Recommendations²
9.95(h)	In view of advances in science and technology, the development of the chemical industry, and the growth in the trade of chemicals, encouraged the Secretariat to continue to strengthen its relations with regional and international chemical industry associations	Clusters II and IV (Industry Cluster and Article XI facilitations)	See item 9.79(e) above	Subpara. 9.116(h) of RC-2/4; (EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.1 of Annex 1)
National Implementation Measures				
9.103(a)	Called upon all States Parties to adopt, in accordance with constitutional processes, the necessary measures to fully implement their obligations under the Convention in line with the commitment reflected in paragraph 9.99	Cluster IV (Article VII facilitation)	Two internship programmes for legal drafters were held in 2019, in which five States Parties from Asia (four from the Pacific) participated. Two sub-regional stakeholder forums were held in 2019 in Africa and GRULAC, at which States Parties discussed how cooperation within the region could support States Parties that are taking all necessary measures.	Para 9.74 of RC-2/4; C-14/DEC.12, dated 4 December 2009; (EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.3 of Annex 1)
9.103(b)	Encouraged the States Parties which are yet to fulfil their obligations under Article VII to engage with the Secretariat on the steps that need to be undertaken for the national implementation of the Convention	Cluster IV (Article VII facilitation)	As reported under 9.103(a).	(EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.3 of Annex 1)

RC-3/3* Ref.	Task	Cluster / Facilitation	Follow-up/Updates	History of Recommendations²
9.103(c)	Encouraged the Secretariat to explore innovative methods of providing assistance on tailor-made approaches as a potential means to further advance the implementation of Article VII	Cluster IV (Article VII facilitation)	<p>The National Authority mentorship and partnership programme continued in 2019. Four exchange visits took place between the United Kingdom and the Gambia, Togo and Morocco, India and Afghanistan, and France and Cote d'Ivoire. The programme promoted bilateral cooperation and networking between States Parties that are at an advanced stage in their implementation of the Convention, and those States Parties that seek to make improvements in this regard.</p> <p>A National Legal Workshop was held for the Syrian Arab Republic in November 2019. Five delegates from different Syrian Government ministries developed a draft bill for implementing obligations under the Convention, as well as an action plan outlining next steps.</p> <p>A global stakeholder forum on legislation was held in 2019 based on the four regional and sub-regional forums held in 2016 and 2017 for the Africa, Asia, and GRULAC regions. At the end of the event, participants committed to undertake specific actions to move the legislative adoption process forward and developed key messages to convey to high-level decision-makers on the importance of national implementation of the Convention.</p>	C-14/DEC.12; (EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.3 of Annex 1)
9.103(d)	Called upon all States Parties to keep the effectiveness of national implementation measures under review so as to ensure at all times that the provisions of the Convention are implemented within their territory or in any other place under their respective jurisdiction	Cluster IV (Article VII facilitation)	States Parties to take action; Secretariat to continue to assist; Secretariat activities: Other activities as set out in 9.103(a), (b), and (c) above. Regular reporting on and evaluation of activities continued. Other activities undertaken as set out in 9.103(a) and (c) above.	(EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.3 of Annex 1)

RC-3/3* Ref.	Task	Cluster / Facilitation	Follow-up/Updates	History of Recommendations²
9.103(e)	Encouraged the Secretariat, in concert with the SAB temporary working group on education and outreach, to assist States Parties, upon request, in implementing education and outreach activities, including by disseminating materials, conducting workshops and regional meetings	Cluster IV (Article VII facilitation)	On the margins of the Eighth ABEO session, which took place between 20 and 22 August 2019, Professor Hernandez Rizzardini conducted a one-day training course on e-learning for Secretariat staff on 26 August 2019. Also at its Eighth session, the ABEO decided to project the whiteboard video, entitled 'Did you know – OPCW?', produced by ABEO member Craig Cormick, at the Twenty-Fourth Session of the Conference of State Parties. At its Twenty-Fourth Session, the Conference considered and noted a Note by the Director-General reporting on the activities of the ABEO covering the period from 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 (EC-92-DG.23 C-24/DG.16, dated 24 September 2019). ABEO member Professor Alastair Hay briefed State Parties.	(EC-92/INF.1, Section IV.3 of Annex 1)
9.103(f)	Encouraged the Secretariat to develop, within existing resources, activities that will enhance South-South, regional, and subregional cooperation, as well as special programmes towards the full implementation of Article VII	Cluster IV (Article VII facilitation)	As in 9.103 (a) and (c), sub-regional stakeholder forums (two events were held in Africa and GRULAC in 2019) and National Authority mentorship and partnership programme events (exchanges of visits between Togo and Morocco, and India and Afghanistan) provided excellent opportunities to cultivate South-South and sub-regional cooperation.	EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.3 of Annex 1)
9.103(g)	Encouraged States Parties and the Secretariat to continue to consult in order to enhance further the utility and effectiveness of all implementation support programmes, and requested the Secretariat to evaluate these programmes and report to the Council	Cluster IV (Article VII facilitation)	The ICA Division has been reviewing its programme implementation practices, looking toward full-cycle programme management in line with the RBM principles. Impact assessments of some of the programmes such as the Article VI training courses and the Associate Programme are underway.	Para 9.79 of RC-2/4; (EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.3 of Annex 1)

RC-3/3* Ref.	Task	Cluster / Facilitation	Follow-up/Updates	History of Recommendations²
9.103(h)	Requested the Secretariat to continue to submit its annual report on the implementation of Article VII to the Conference. The Secretariat is further requested to include an assessment in this report, for consideration by the policy-making organs, containing a comprehensive and objective analysis of the current status of national implementation	Cluster IV (Article VII facilitation)	The Annual Report on the implementation of Article VII (EC-92/DG.9 C-24/DG.10, dated 26 August 2019 and Corr.1, dated 28 November 2019; EC-92/DG.7 C-24/DG.8, dated 26 August 2019 and Corr.1, dated 28 November 2019; EC-92/DG.9, dated 26 August 2019 and Corr.1, dated 28 November 2019; Para 9.1 of C-24/5) reported that 85% of States Parties (165) submitted reports on legislation covering initial measures in full (62%, 119 States Parties), and in part (21%, 41 States Parties). Seventy-four (74) States Parties have yet to adopt comprehensive implementing legislation. Two (2) States Parties have yet to report on the establishment or designation of the National Authority.	Paras 9.79 and 9.80(c) of RC-2/4; C-14/DEC.12; (EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.3 of Annex 1)
Assistance and Protection Against Chemical Weapons				
9.118(j)	Encouraged States Parties to contribute to the voluntary fund regarding the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons in order to enhance the humanitarian aims of the network	Cluster I (Article X facilitation)	The Secretariat continued to assist hospitals via a preparedness course to confront an influx of contaminated patients from a chemical incident. The inaugural HosPrep course was held in Turkey in October 2018, with follow-up courses in Kenya, Bangladesh, and Malaysia in 2019.	(EC-93/INF.1, Section I.4 of Annex 1)
Economic and Technological Development				
9.126	Encouraged the promotion of a safety and security culture regarding chemical facilities and of transportation of toxic chemicals	Cluster IV (Article XI facilitation)	The Secretariat continues to include the topic of safety and security culture in transportation in its integrated chemicals management and chemical safety and security management events. Based on the progress made in 2019, Indicative Guidelines for Chemical Safety and Security in Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises to Foster the Peaceful Uses of Chemistry have been initiated. The Wuppertal Course on Loss Prevention and Safety Promotion in the Chemical Process Industries for Member States from the Africa, Asia, and GRULAC regions celebrated its 10-year anniversary and continues to be financed by the Federal Republic of Germany. The topic is a main feature of the series of events on promoting good practices of the Responsible Care programme for the chemical industry. Specific issues, such as the safety and security of handling and storing chemicals, are addressed in	(EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.1 of Annex 1)

RC-3/3* Ref.	Task	Cluster / Facilitation	Follow-up/Updates	History of Recommendations ²
9.131(c)	Encouraged the Council to continue the ongoing facilitation process in order to deliberate and explore, as appropriate, additional measures within an agreed framework to ensure the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of Article XI	Cluster IV (Article XI facilitation)	various training courses, including a course for GRULAC offered by Argentina, Policy and Diplomacy for Scientists, Green Chemistry, and other capacity-building programmes.	Para 9.114 of RC-2/4; (EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.1 of Annex 1)
9.131(d)	Requested the Secretariat to prepare and submit, on a regular basis, concrete programmes and actions relevant for States Parties related to the implementation of Article XI, as well as to report to the Conference on the progress made in the implementation of the decision on the components of an agreed framework for the full implementation of Article XI (C-16/DEC.10, dated 1 December 2011)	Cluster IV (Article XI facilitation)	Informal Consultations on the Full Implementation of Article XI, Review & Evaluation Workshop of the Components of an Agreed Framework for the Full Implementation of Article XI (C-16/DEC.10, dated 1 December 2011).	(EC-29/INF.1, Section IV.1 of Annex 1)
9.131(f)	Recommended that all OPCW programmes relating to Article XI should be improved through evaluation of their effectiveness, with a view to ensuring that they are responsive to the needs of beneficiary States Parties, in order to optimise resource use and effectiveness. This should involve consultations between States Parties and the Secretariat, aimed at achieving a clear understanding of the competencies available, the needs of States Parties, and the requirements of the Convention	Cluster IV (Article XI facilitation)	Evaluations continue to be performed for each Secretariat programme relating to Article XI. The Secretariat shared the results of the needs and impact assessments related to Article XI through various channels, including presentations during informal consultations, Executive Council Meetings, National Authority Meetings, and capacity-building programmes, as well as the Status Implementation Report of Article XI. The Secretariat will continue to submit voluntary questionnaires on needs assessment for chemical safety and security, and will encourage States Parties to answer them as fully as possible. The answers will further guide the Secretariat in developing a tailored capacity-building programme.	(EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.1 of Annex 1)

RC-3/3* Ref.	Task	Cluster¹ / Facilitation	Follow-up/Updates	History of Recommendations²
9.131(g)	Encouraged the Secretariat and States Parties to consider augmenting programmes to assist States Parties, upon request, in maintaining and developing their analytical skills and laboratory capabilities in support of National Authorities	Cluster IV (Article XI facilitation)	The Secretariat encouraged States Parties to utilise the experience of prior participants of the OPCW Laboratory Training Course to support the implementation of the Convention and implement good laboratory practices. In addition, the Secretariat encouraged States Parties to participate in the OPCW Proficiency Test (PT) and OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Testing. Numerous activities are run under the Analytical Skills Development Course (ASDC) programme, including generic ASDC and Analytical Chemistry Course (ACC) as well as tailored PT and customs courses to boost the capacity of analytical chemistry laboratories and facilitate their participation in PT, Convention Chemical Analysis Competency Test (CCA/CCT), etc. Ad-hoc actions, including those run under voluntary contributions are targeting the capacity development of specific laboratories and specific regions (GRULAC and Africa) on a targeted basis. Finally, the laboratories twinning programme provides a useful tool for developing long-term partnerships that will benefit laboratories seeking OPCW designation.	(EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.1 of Annex 1)

RC-3/3* Ref.	Task	Cluster / Facilitation	Follow-up/Updates	History of Recommendations ²
9.131(h)	Requested the Secretariat to continue facilitating and promoting the provision, upon request, of expert advice on the peaceful uses of chemistry to and among States Parties, including supporting cooperation projects among States Parties	Cluster IV (Article XI facilitation)	<p>The workshops and expert group meetings on green chemistry serve as a platform for experts to convene and review developments in the field of green and sustainable chemistry for the benefit chemical safety and security, as well as the objectives of the OPCW. This platform serves as an additional advisory tool on a specific scientific topic and complements the work of the SAB.</p> <p>The twinning programme provides a tool to support cooperation between States Parties, namely those that require assistance to develop their laboratories and those that are willing to provide that support. Please also see 9.79 (e).</p>	(EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.1 of Annex 1)
9.131(i)	Encouraged the Secretariat to coordinate its activities with those of other relevant international and regional organisations as appropriate, in order to build on existing competencies, develop synergies, and avoid duplication of efforts	Cluster IV (Article XI facilitation)	<p>Over the reporting period, the Secretariat has been coordinating its activities with, among others, the United Nations Security Resolution 1540 Group of Experts, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) to support the international cooperation programme and collaborate on developing indicative guidelines on chemical safety and security management; the OPCW has also worked with the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) initiative on Chemical Accident Prevention and Preparedness.</p>	Subpara 9.116(g) of RC-2/4; (EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.1 of Annex 1)
9.131(j)	Encouraged the Secretariat to continue to develop relationships and partnerships with other relevant bodies, national and international, that are working to promote the peaceful and responsible use of chemistry, including capacity building	Cluster IV (Article XI facilitation)	<p>Over the reporting period, the Secretariat partnered with chemical industry associations (see 9.79(e)); CRDF Global – Chemical Security Management; QATAR CBRN Center – Chemical Safety and Security Management; IUPAC – International Union on Pure and Applied Chemistry; IFS – International Foundation for Science; and TWAS – The World Academy of Sciences, among others.</p>	Subpara 9.116(h) of RC-2/4; (EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.1 of Annex 1)

RC-3/3* Ref.	Task	Cluster / Facilitation	Follow-up/Updates	History of Recommendations ²
9.131(k)	Encouraged the States Parties and the Secretariat to promote the OPCW's role as a platform for voluntary consultation and cooperation among States Parties in the areas of chemical safety and security, including through the exchanges of information and best practices, and to support national capacity building, upon request	Cluster IV (Article XI facilitation)	Please see 9.126 and 9.131(h).	(EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.1 of Annex 1)
9.131(l)	Encouraged the Secretariat to continue to develop relations and partnerships as appropriate with relevant regional and international organisations, as well as chemical industry associations, the private sector, academia, and civil society, in order to raise awareness of the Article XI activities of the OPCW	Cluster IV (Article XI facilitation)	Please see 9.79 (e) and 9.131 (j).	Subpara 9.116(h) of RC-2/4; (EC-92/INF.1, Section IV.1 of Annex 1)
9.131(n)	Called upon the Secretariat to continue implementing the OPCW Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention and other appropriate programmes, as well as to provide feedback on a regular basis on the activities and progress made in this regard	Cluster IV (Article XI facilitation)	The Secretariat shared progress on the Fourth Africa Programme and discussed the new development of the Fifth Africa Programme at the National Authorities Meeting in November 2019.	(EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.1 of Annex 1)
9.131(o)	Encouraged the Secretariat to maintain an alumni association of the Associate Programme and other capacity-building programmes in order to preserve lessons learned and experience gained	Cluster IV (Article XI facilitation)	The alumni network of the Associate Programme continues to grow and now has over 300 alumni in the Facebook group. The alumni network on Women in Chemistry has nearly 200 women chemist members, the Integrated Chemicals Management alumni network has over 200 alumni, and the Chemical Safety and Security management network has over 500 alumni members.	(EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.1 of Annex 1)
9.131(p)	Encouraged the Secretariat to expand the use of e-learning as one of the means for capacity-building and outreach activities	Cluster IV (Article XI facilitation)	The Secretariat has been using online based e-learning tools such as Kahoot and Mentimeter to promote chemical safety and security best practices among Member States.	(EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.1 of Annex 1)
9.131(q)	Undertake to review their existing national regulations in the field of trade in chemicals in order to render them consistent with the object and purpose of the Convention	Cluster IV (Article VII facilitation)	Two regional training-of-trainers courses for customs training academies were held in Asia and GRULAC in 2019. These projects aim to enhance national institutional capacities regulating the trade and transfer of toxic chemicals.	(EC-93/INF.1, Section IV.3 of Annex 1)

RC-3/3* Ref.	Task	Cluster / Facilitation	Follow-up/Updates	History of Recommendations ²
9.145	<p>The General Functioning of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons</p> <p>While reaffirming the autonomous and independent status of the OPCW, while bearing in mind that the OPCW is not an anti-terrorism organisation, took cognisance of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on combating terrorism and, with a view to enabling States Parties that seek international cooperation in the context of their national, regional, and subregional efforts, underscored the need to explore further cooperation on this issue and build on existing work with relevant international organisations and international bodies that deal with the potential threats of chemical terrorism</p>	<p>Cluster IV OEWG⁴ on Terrorism</p>	<p>The OPCW is one of the vice-chairs of the United Nations (UN) Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact (GCTCC) Working Group on Emerging Threats and Critical Infrastructure Protection. The OPCW is leading the Working Group's Project on "Ensuring Effective Inter-Agency Interoperability and Coordinated Communication in Case of Chemical and/or Biological Attacks." Phase III of the project was approved on 7 January 2020 by the UN Office of Counter Terrorism (OTC) for seed funding. Phase III was jointly prepared by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the World Health Organization (WHO), INTERPOL, the Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit (BWC-ISU), and the UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (ICRIJ).</p>	<p>(EC-93/INF.1, Annex 1)</p>
9.155(g)	<p>Emphasised the importance of continuing to have an open and transparent policy for recruiting staff and underlined the need for maintaining within the Secretariat chemical weapons-specific expertise and paying due consideration to geographical and gender balance</p>	<p>Cluster IV</p>	<p>The new web-based learning management module was rolled out in January 2020. It is aligned with the Secretariat's continuous learning culture and allows for augmented self-driven learning. It offers enhanced integration with the new OPCW performance management solution.</p>	

RC-3/3* Ref.	Task	Cluster / Facilitation	Follow-up/Updates	History of Recommendations²
9.155(j)	Called upon the Secretariat to continue to vigorously pursue initiatives such as International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), and encouraged the Secretariat to further improve the budgetary process of the OPCW and the implementation of RBM	Cluster III	At its Twenty-Fourth Session, the Conference of the State Parties approved the OPCW's transition from an annual to a biennial programme and budget cycle (C-24/DEC.11, dated 28 November 2019), with a view to the first biennial programme and budget covering the period of 2022 – 2023 to be prepared in 2021 for consideration and adoption by the Conference at its Twenty-Sixth Session. In order to enable the transition to a biennial programme and budget, the Director-General shall submit in 2020 proposed amendments to the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules for consideration and approval by the Executive Council, then to the Conference through the Council for its consideration and approval at its Twenty-Fifth Session,. The Secretariat is preparing to set up and implement all required internal structures, procedures, directives, and performance monitoring and capacity-building measures to allow for the preparation in 2021 of the first biennial programme and budget for the period of 2022 – 2023.	

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