



### REPORT OF THE 101ST SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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

The Chairperson of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”), Ambassador Ziad M.D. Al Atiyah of Saudi Arabia, opened its 101st Session in The Hague at 10:08 on 4 October 2022.

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

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

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Opening statement by the Director-General
4. Reports by the Vice-Chairpersons on the activities conducted under their respective clusters of issues
5. General debate
6. Status of implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention:
  - (a) Reports by the Director-General on destruction-related issues
  - (b) Implementation of the Conference of the States Parties and Executive Council decisions on destruction-related issues
  - (c) Elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme
  - (d) Other verification-related issues
  - (e) Destruction-related plans and facility agreements
  - (f) Verification Implementation Report for 2021
  - (g) Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use
  - (h) Status of implementation of Article VII



- (i) Status of implementation of Article X
  - (j) Status of implementation of Article XI
  - (k) Progress made in the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention
  - (l) Status of implementation of the Verification Information System
7. Scientific Advisory Board
  8. Countering chemical terrorism
  9. Education and outreach
  10. Administrative and financial matters:
    - (a) Rules of Procedure of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters
    - (b) Report of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters
    - (c) Amendments to the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules
    - (d) Financial Statements of the OPCW and the External Auditor's report for the year ending 31 December 2021
    - (e) Status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor
    - (f) Recommendation for write-offs of irrecoverable accounts receivable and losses of assets
    - (g) Report on the status of implementation of the enterprise resource planning system
    - (h) Mid-biennium Draft Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2023, and all items pertaining to this Budget
    - (i) Extension of the special fund for OPCW special missions
    - (j) Status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions
    - (k) Implementation of the amendment to the Staff Regulations regarding downward classification of posts during the period from 14 August 2021 to 13 August 2022
    - (l) Rehiring of inspectors
  11. Update of the Working Group on the Manner of Appointment of the External Auditor
  12. The OPCW Programme for Africa

13. Draft report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities
14. Follow-up process to the Third Review Conference<sup>1</sup>
15. Update by the Chairperson of the Open-Ended Working Group for the Preparation of the Fifth Review Conference
16. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country
17. Any other business
18. Adoption of the report
19. Closure

### 3. **AGENDA ITEM THREE – Opening statement by the Director-General**

The Council **noted** the opening statement by the Director-General (EC-101/DG.28, dated 4 October 2022).

### 4. **AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Reports by the Vice-Chairpersons on the activities conducted under their respective clusters of issues**

- 4.1 The Vice-Chairpersons and coordinators for clusters of issues reported to the Council on informal consultations held during the intersessional period: Ambassador Konstantin Dimitrov of Bulgaria on chemical weapons issues; Ambassador Eniola Olaitan Ajayi of Nigeria on chemical industry and other Article VI issues; Mr Héctor Enrique Celarié Landaverde on behalf of Ambassador Carmen María Gallardo de Hernández of El Salvador on administrative and financial issues; and Ambassador Giorgio Novello of Italy on legal, organisational, and other issues.
- 4.2 The Council **expressed appreciation** for the work done by the outgoing facilitator for the Office of Internal Oversight and External Auditor reports, Mr Nathaniel Haft of the United States of America, and **welcomed** the appointment of the new facilitator for the Office of Internal Oversight and the External Auditor reports, Ms Yoko Sakurai of Japan.

### 5. **AGENDA ITEM FIVE – General debate**

- 5.1 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: Azerbaijan (observer) (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and China), the Czech Republic (on behalf of the European Union), South Africa (on behalf of the African Group), Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia (observer), Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica (observer), Croatia (observer), Cuba (observer), the Czech Republic, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia (observer), Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand (observer), Nigeria, Norway (observer), Pakistan, Poland (observer), the Republic of Korea, Romania (observer), the Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, Sweden (observer), the Syrian Arab Republic (observer), Türkiye, Ukraine (observer), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (observer).

---

<sup>1</sup> Review Conference = Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

5.2 The following delegations exercised their right of reply: the Russian Federation, the United States of America, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

5.3 The following delegations made a point of order: Mexico and Slovakia.

**6. AGENDA ITEM SIX – Status of implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention**

**Subitem 6(a): Reports by the Director-General on destruction-related issues**

6.1 Further to a decision by the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11, dated 1 December 2011), the Council **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the overall progress with respect to the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons stockpiles (EC-101/DG.25, dated 28 September 2022).

6.2 Further to a decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012), the Council **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the overall progress of the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons (EC-101/DG.24, dated 28 September 2022).

6.3 The Council **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Director-General entitled “Schedule for Submission by Chemical Weapons Possessor States of the Reports on Their Destruction Activities After the Extended Deadline of 29 April 2012” (EC-101/DG.7, dated 25 August 2022).

**Subitem 6(b): Implementation of the Conference of the States Parties and Executive Council decisions on destruction-related issues**

6.4 The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) provided an update to the Council on its destruction-related verification activities and on Article III-related submissions made during the intersessional period (the presentations were posted on the external server of the OPCW).

6.5 The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement.

6.6 The United States of America, Japan, and China provided an update to the Council on their destruction-related activities (the presentations/statements were posted on the external server of the OPCW). The delegation of Japan made an additional statement.

6.7 The Council **noted** the statements and comments made and posted by States Parties on the destruction of the only remaining declared chemical weapons by the sole possessor State Party, recalling the relevant obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) and relevant decisions by the Conference and the Council. The Council **recalled** that the destruction of the only remaining declared chemical weapons by the sole possessor State Party should continue in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and its Annex on Implementation and Verification, and with the application of the measures contained in decision C-16/DEC.11.

- 6.8 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Council **considered** and **noted** a national paper by the United States of America on the progress achieved towards the complete destruction of its chemical weapons stockpile, including information on measures to accelerate such progress, and identifying progress made since the last briefing in order to meet the planned completion date (EC-101/NAT.1, dated 21 September 2022), along with comments on the issue as mentioned above. The Council **noted** the confirmation provided by the delegation of the United States of America that the necessary measures continue to be undertaken in order to meet the planned completion date of September 2023 for its destruction activities, as submitted to the Council at its Sixty-Eighth Session in accordance with subparagraph 3(c) of decision C-16/DEC.11.
- 6.9 Further to a decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6) and the destruction plan beyond the year 2016 for the chemical weapons abandoned by Japan in China (EC-84/NAT.6, dated 2 March 2017) attached as annex 2 to the Council's decision EC-67/DEC.6, and adopted by the Council at its Eighty-Fourth Session (paragraph 6.14 of EC-84/2, dated 9 March 2017), a national paper by China (EC-101/NAT.2, dated 19 September 2022) and a national paper by Japan (EC-101/NAT.3, dated 21 September 2022) on the overall progress of the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China were circulated to the members of the Council.
- 6.10 The Council **recalled** the provisions of the Convention that the Abandoning State Party undertakes to destroy all chemical weapons it abandoned on the territory of another State Party and shall provide all necessary financial, technical, expert, facility as well as other resources, **expressed its determination** to remain seized of the matter, and **urged** the Abandoning State Party to continue to make the fullest possible effort to complete the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China as early as possible in accordance with the Council's decision (EC-67/DEC.6) and its annex 2 in a faithful manner, and to address challenges including ensuring the safety of people and protecting the environment. The Council **reaffirmed** that the Territorial State Party shall provide appropriate cooperation.
- 6.11 The Council also **reaffirmed** the obligation of the Abandoning State Party to provide all available information including, to the extent possible, the location, type, and quantity as well as information on the abandonment in accordance with relevant provisions of the Convention, so as to facilitate the expedited destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China.
- 6.12 The Council **recalled** that the review of the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons was welcomed by the Third Review Conference and the report of the Third Review Conference (RC-3/3\*, dated 19 April 2013), which reaffirmed the role of the Council, the Conference, and the Review Conference with regard to the issues related to the abandoned chemical weapons destruction as defined in the provisions of the Convention and in the Council's decision (EC-67/DEC.6), and **welcomed** the review of this issue by the Fourth Review Conference.
- 6.13 The Council **took note** of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the overall progress of the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China, and **welcomed** that excavation, recovery, and destruction operations resumed following a pandemic-related suspension.

- 6.14 A national paper by Japan and China entitled “Destruction Plan Beyond the Year 2022 for the Chemical Weapons Abandoned by Japan in the People’s Republic of China (as per Decision EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012)” (EC-101/NAT.4\*, dated 30 September 2022) was circulated to the members of the Council. The Council **considered** and **adopted** a decision and the destruction plan jointly submitted by Japan and China (EC-101/DEC.2, dated 4 October 2022) attached as annex 3 to the Council’s decision on “The Deadline of 29 April 2012 and Future Destruction of the Chemical Weapons Abandoned by Japan in the People’s Republic of China” (EC-67/DEC.6), and **amended** the decision accordingly.
- 6.15 The Council **considered** and **noted** the report on the virtual visit by the Chairperson of the Council, the Director-General, and representatives of the Council to the Haerbaling Abandoned Chemical Weapons Destruction Site, Jilin Province, China, on 15 September 2022 (EC-101/2, dated 4 October 2022) at the joint invitation of China and Japan and **expressed appreciation** for the first-hand information on the destruction progress and the bilateral cooperation of the relevant States Parties obtained through the visit.

**Subitem 6(c): Elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme**

- 6.16 Further to its decision at its Eighty-Third Session (EC-83/DEC.5, dated 11 November 2016), the Council decided to place “Elimination of the Syrian Chemical Weapons Programme” on the agenda of all future Council sessions until the Council determines that all elements of the Syrian chemical weapons programme have been eliminated.
- 6.17 As stated in the Note by the Director-General EC-81/DG.5 (dated 25 January 2016), all of the chemicals declared by the Syrian Arab Republic that had been removed from its territory in 2014 have been destroyed. The Secretariat has also verified the destruction of all 27 chemical weapons production facilities declared by the Syrian Arab Republic (EC-89/DG.1, dated 24 July 2018).
- 6.18 The Secretariat provided a briefing to the States Parties on 28 September 2022 on its activities related to the Syrian Arab Republic, including on the activities of the Declaration Assessment Team, the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria, and the Investigation and Identification Team.
- 6.19 The Council **noted** three reports by the Director-General on progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme (EC-101/DG.2, dated 22 July 2022; EC-101/DG.4, dated 24 August 2022; and EC-101/DG.22, dated 23 September 2022).
- 6.20 The Council **noted** three national papers by the Syrian Arab Republic on the activities related to the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons and their production facilities (EC-101/P/NAT.1, dated 18 July 2022; EC-101/P/NAT.2, dated 15 August 2022; and EC-101/P/NAT.3, dated 15 September 2022).
- 6.21 The Council **noted** a Note by the Director-General entitled “Report on the Work of the Declaration Assessment Team” (EC-101/HP/DG.2, dated 28 September 2022).
- 6.22 The following delegations made statements: the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Canada, the Czech Republic (on behalf of the European Union), France, Ireland, the Islamic Republic of Iran, China, the United States of America, the Syrian Arab Republic (observer), and Cuba (observer).

**Subitem 6(d): Other verification-related issues**

- 6.23 The Secretariat provided an update to the Council on its other verification-related activities (the presentation was posted on the external server of the OPCW).

**Subitem 6(e): Destruction-related plans and facility agreements**

- 6.24 The Secretariat submitted to the Council a Note on amendments and modifications to the agreed detailed plan for verification and the facility agreement with the United States of America regarding on-site inspections at the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility, Richmond, Kentucky, the United States of America (EC-101/S/1, dated 1 September 2022).
- 6.25 The Council **considered** and **approved** the amendments to the aforementioned facility agreement with the United States of America (EC-101/DEC.3, dated 4 October 2022).
- 6.26 The Council **considered** and **approved** amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of chemical weapons at the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility, Richmond, Kentucky, the United States of America (EC-101/DEC.4, dated 4 October 2022).

**Subitem 6(f): Verification Implementation Report for 2021**

- 6.27 The Council **considered** and **noted** the Verification Implementation Report for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2021 (EC-101/HP/DG.1, dated 27 July 2022 and Add.1, dated 19 September 2022).

**Subitem 6(g): Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use**

- 6.28 The Council **noted** the regular report by the Director-General to the Council on progress made in the implementation of the decision of the Conference entitled “Addressing the Threat from Chemical Weapons Use” (C-SS-4/DEC.3, dated 27 June 2018) (EC-101/DG.26, dated 29 September 2022).
- 6.29 The following delegations made statements: Germany, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Canada, France, the United States of America, the Czech Republic (on behalf of the European Union), Slovakia, Albania, Ireland, the Netherlands, China, Italy, Finland, Ukraine (observer), and Australia (observer).
- 6.30 The following delegations exercised their right of reply: the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Germany, the United States of America, the Syrian Arab Republic (observer), Albania, and Ukraine (observer).

**Subitem 6(h): Status of implementation of Article VII**

- 6.31 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 Council **noted** 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 2022” (EC-101/DG.13\* C-27/DG.9, dated 9 September 2022, and Add.1, dated 3 October 2022); a report by the Director-General on the “Status of Implementation of Article VII of the

Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2022: Article VII – Initial Measures” (EC-101/DG.16 C-27/DG.12, dated 15 September 2022); and a report by the Director-General on the “Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2022: Additional Measures for States Parties That Possess Industrial Facilities Which are Declarable Under the Convention” (EC-101/DG.14 C-27/DG.10, dated 12 September 2022). The Council **submitted** the documents to the Conference at its Twenty-Seventh Session, along with its recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration.

**Subitem 6(i): Status of implementation of Article X**

6.32 The Council **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the “Status of Implementation of Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 30 June 2022” (EC-101/DG.11, dated 7 September 2022 and Corr.1, dated 4 October 2022).

6.33 The facilitator for this issue, Ms Giedrė Geleževičienė of Lithuania, reported on the consultations carried out during the intersessional period (the report was posted on the external server of the OPCW).

**Subitem 6(j): Status of implementation of Article XI**

6.34 The Council **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the “Progress Made and Review of the Status of the Implementation of Article XI of the Chemical Weapons Convention” (EC-101/DG.9 C-27/DG.7, dated 31 August 2022).

**Subitem 6(k): Progress made in the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention**

6.35 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.

6.36 The Council **considered** and **noted** the annual report on the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention during the period 16 August 2021 to 15 August 2022, which is being submitted to both the Council and the Conference (EC-101/DG.15 C-27/DG.11, dated 13 September 2022).

**Subitem 6(l): Status of implementation of the Verification Information System**

6.37 The Council **noted** a status report on the Verification Information System (EC-101/S/3, dated 12 September 2022).

**7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Scientific Advisory Board**

7.1 The report of the Thirty-Fifth Session of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) (SAB-35/1, dated 16 June 2022) was circulated to the members of the Council.

7.2 The Council **noted** the response by the Director-General to the report of the Thirty-Fifth Session of the SAB (EC-101/DG.21, dated 19 September 2022).



**8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – Countering chemical terrorism**

The Chairperson of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on Terrorism, Ambassador Vusimuzi Philemon Madonsela of South Africa, briefed the Council on the work of the OEWG during the intersessional period.

**9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – Education and outreach**

The Council **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Director-General on the activities of the Advisory Board on Education and Outreach covering the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 (EC-101/DG.20 C-27/DG.13, dated 19 September 2022).

**10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – Administrative and financial matters**

**Subitem 10(a): Rules of Procedure of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters**

- 10.1 A draft decision entitled “OPCW Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters – Rules of Procedure” (EC-92/DEC/CRP.1/Rev.1, dated 4 October 2019), co-sponsored by Bulgaria, Canada, the Czech Republic, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America, was submitted to the Council for consideration and adoption.
- 10.2 The latest revision to the above-mentioned draft decision was submitted by the sponsoring delegations and issued under the symbol EC-92/DEC/CRP.1/Rev.4 (dated 21 June 2022).
- 10.3 The delegation of the Russian Federation submitted amendments to the above-mentioned draft decision, the latest of which can be found in document EC-100/NAT.5 (dated 5 July 2022).
- 10.4 The following delegations made statements: the United States of America, the Russian Federation, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
- 10.5 The Council **decided** to defer the matter until its next regular session.

**Subitem 10(b): Report of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters**

- 10.6 The Council **considered** and **noted** the report of the Fifty-Third Session of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters (ABAF), which took place from 26 to 29 July 2022 (ABAF-53/1, dated 28 July 2022), and a Note by the Director-General containing comments on the report of the ABAF at that session (EC-101/DG.8, dated 31 August 2022).

**Subitem 10(c): Amendments to the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules**

- 10.7 The Secretariat circulated a Note on proposed amendments to the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules (S/2084/2022, dated 26 July 2022).
- 10.8 The Council **considered** and **adopted** a decision entitled “Amendments to the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules” (EC-101/DEC.1, dated 4 October 2022).

**Subitem 10(d): Financial Statements of the OPCW and the External Auditor's report for the year ending 31 December 2021**

- 10.9 Mr Rajvir Singh, on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, made a statement on the Financial Statements of the OPCW and the report of the External Auditor for the year ending 31 December 2021 (EC-101/DG.5 C-27/DG.5, dated 25 August 2022).
- 10.10 The following delegations made statements: the Russian Federation, Ukraine (observer), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Ireland.
- 10.11 The Russian Federation exercised its right of reply.
- 10.12 The Director-General made a statement.
- 10.13 The Council **noted** the Financial Statements of the OPCW and the report of the External Auditor for the year ending 31 December 2021, and **forwarded** them to the Conference for consideration at its Twenty-Seventh Session.

**Subitem 10(e): Status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor**

- 10.14 The Council **considered** and **noted** a report on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor (EC-101/S/4, dated 12 September 2022).
- 10.15 The facilitator for this issue, Ms Yoko Sakurai of Japan, reported to the Council on the consultations carried out during the intersessional period (the report was posted on the external server of the OPCW).

**Subitem 10(f): Recommendation for write-offs of irrecoverable accounts receivable and losses of assets**

- 10.16 The Council **considered** a Note by the Director-General on the recommendation for write-offs of irrecoverable accounts receivable and losses of assets, and **recommended** that the Conference at its Twenty-Seventh Session approve these write-offs, totalling EUR 6,802.95 (EC-101/DG.3 C-27/DG.4, dated 28 July 2022).

**Subitem 10(g): Report on the status of implementation of the enterprise resource planning system**

- 10.17 Further to the decision by the Conference at its Nineteenth Session on the implementation of an enterprise resource planning (ERP) system and the establishment of a special fund for this purpose (C-19/DEC.7, dated 3 December 2014), the Council **noted** a Note by the Director-General reporting on the status of implementation of the ERP system (EC-101/DG.18, dated 15 September 2022).

**Subitem 10(h): Mid-biennium Draft Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2023, and all items pertaining to this Budget**

- 10.18 The Council **noted** two Notes by the Director-General entitled "Financial Status of the Special Fund for Cybersecurity, Business Continuity, and Physical Infrastructure Security" (EC-101/DG.23, dated 27 September 2022) and "Financial Status of the Special Fund for IT Infrastructure to Support Implementation of Decision C-SS-4/DEC.3" (EC-101/DG.17, dated 15 September 2022).

- 10.19 Mr Frank Groome of Ireland, co-facilitator for the budget, reported to the Council on consultations carried out with his co-facilitator, Mr Jerzy Gierasimiuk of Poland, during the intersessional period.
- 10.20 The following delegations made statements: Mexico, the Russian Federation, the Czech Republic (on behalf of the European Union), China, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Canada, the United States of America, Belgium, and the Netherlands.
- 10.21 In accordance with subparagraph 32(a) of Article VIII of the Convention, the Council **considered** the Draft Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2023 (EC-101/DG.1/Rev.1, dated 22 September 2022 and Corr.1, dated 4 October 2022). The decision (EC-101/DEC.6, dated 5 October 2022), containing the recommendations of the Council, was voted on by the Council, pursuant to Rule 36 and Rule 42(b) of its Rules of Procedure. The vote led to the following results: 35 in favour (Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Türkiye, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America), two against (China and the Russian Federation), and two abstentions (Pakistan and the Sudan). In light of that result, the Council **adopted** the decision and **submitted** the Draft Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2023, together with its recommendation, to the Conference at its Twenty-Seventh Session.
- 10.22 The delegation of Algeria made a statement explaining its vote.
- Subitem 10(i): Extension of the special fund for OPCW special missions**
- 10.23 The Council **noted** a Note by the Director-General entitled “Financial Status of the Special Fund for OPCW Special Missions” (EC-101/DG.19, dated 19 September 2022).
- 10.24 The delegation of the Russian Federation made a statement.
- 10.25 The Council **considered** and **adopted** a decision entitled “Extension of the Special Fund for OPCW Special Missions” (EC-101/DEC.8, dated 6 October 2022), and **transmitted** it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Seventh Session.
- Subitem 10(j): Status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions**
- 10.26 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Eleventh Session (C-11/DEC.5, dated 7 December 2006), the Council **considered** and **forwarded** to the Conference at its Twenty-Seventh Session a Note by the Director-General reporting on the status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans (EC-101/DG.6 C-27/DG.6, dated 25 August 2022).

**Subitem 10(k): Implementation of the amendment to the Staff Regulations regarding downward classification of posts during the period from 14 August 2021 to 13 August 2022**

10.27 The Council **noted** a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the amendment to the Staff Regulations regarding downward classification of posts during the period from 14 August 2021 to 13 August 2022 (EC-101/DG.10, dated 2 September 2022).

**Subitem 10(l): Rehiring of inspectors**

10.28 At its Twenty-Fourth Session, the Conference adopted a decision on the rehiring of inspectors (C-24/DEC.10, dated 28 November 2019), and reviewed its implementation at its Twenty-Sixth Session (paragraphs 17.9 and 17.10 of C-26/5, dated 2 December 2021).

10.29 The Council **considered** and **noted** an addendum to the report by the Director-General on the implementation of the tenure policy in 2021 (EC-100/DG.8/Add.1, dated 28 September 2022).

10.30 The following delegations made statements: the Netherlands, the Russian Federation, the Czech Republic (on behalf of the European Union), Saudi Arabia, China, Brazil, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Australia (observer), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Canada.

10.31 The Council **considered** and **adopted** a decision regarding the rehiring of inspectors (EC-101/DEC.5, dated 5 October 2022) and **transmitted** it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Seventh Session.

**11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Update of the Working Group on the Manner of Appointment of the External Auditor**

11.1 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Twenty-Fifth Session (C-25/DEC.10, dated 21 April 2021), the Council at its Ninety-Seventh Session established the Working Group on the Manner of Appointment of the External Auditor.

11.2 A draft decision entitled “Manner of Appointment of the External Auditor” was issued under the symbol of EC-101/DEC.CRP.8 (dated 4 October 2022). An explanatory memorandum to this draft decision was also circulated (EC-101/WP.1, dated 3 October 2022).

11.3 In accordance with Rule 34 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, the Secretariat circulated a report by the Director-General on the financial, administrative, and programme and budget implications of the proposal (EC-101/DG.27, dated 4 October 2022).

11.4 The Chairperson of the Working Group, Ambassador Jorge Skinner-Klée Arenales of Guatemala, provided a concluding report on its activities to the Council.

11.5 The following delegations made statements: the Russian Federation and China.

11.6 The Council **considered** and **adopted** the decision (EC-101/DEC.7, dated 5 October 2022), and **transmitted** it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Seventh Session.

**12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – The OPCW Programme for Africa**

12.1 The Council **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Director-General on the Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention (EC-101/DG.12 C-27/DG.8, dated 7 September 2022).

12.2 The delegation of South Africa made a statement on behalf of the African Group.

**13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Draft report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities**

The Council **considered** and **approved** a report on the performance of its activities in the period from 13 July 2021 to 8 July 2022 (EC-101/3 C-27/2, dated 4 October 2022), and **submitted** it to the Conference for consideration at its Twenty-Seventh Session.

**14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Follow-up process to the Third Review Conference**

At its Seventy-Third Session (paragraph 13.1 of EC-73/6, dated 19 July 2013), the Council requested the Director-General to submit to each regular session of the Council the “Updated Matrix of Actionable Items Identified at the Third Review Conference”. The Council **considered** and **noted** the updated Matrix (EC-101/S/2, dated 9 September 2022).

**15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – Update by the Chairperson of the Open-Ended Working Group for the Preparation of the Fifth Review Conference**

15.1 The Council at its Ninety-Ninth Session established the Open-Ended Working Group for the Preparation of the Fifth Review Conference, which will be convened in accordance with paragraph 22 of Article VIII of the Convention (paragraph 16.2 of EC-99/2, dated 10 March 2022). The Council also established the Bureau of the Open-Ended Working Group.

15.2 The Chairperson of the Bureau of the Open-Ended Working Group, Ambassador Lauri Kuusing of Estonia, briefed the Council on its activities.

15.3 The following delegations made statements: India, China, the United States of America, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

**16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country**

The Chairperson reported to the Council on the status of the work of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country.

**17. AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Any other business**

**Convening Executive Council meetings or sessions in extraordinary circumstances**

17.1 A draft decision entitled “Allowing the Convening of Executive Council Meetings or Sessions in Extraordinary Circumstances”, was circulated to the Council at its Ninety-Eighth Session under the symbol EC-98/DEC/CRP.7 (dated 28 September 2021). An explanatory memorandum to this draft decision was circulated by Germany to the Council at the same session (EC-98/NAT.6, dated 28 September 2021).

- 17.2 In accordance with Rule 34 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, the Secretariat circulated a report by the Director-General on the financial, administrative, and programme and budget implications of the proposal (EC-98/DG.29, dated 1 October 2021).
- 17.3 The latest revision to the above-mentioned draft decision was issued under the symbol EC-98/DEC/CRP.7/Rev.2 (dated 29 June 2022), and is co-sponsored by Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Iraq, Ireland, Japan, Lithuania, Mexico, the Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Saudi Arabia, and Slovakia.
- 17.4 The following delegations made statements: Germany, Brazil, Ireland, the Russian Federation, and France.
- 17.5 The Council **decided** to defer the matter until its next regular session.

**General debate-related matters**

- 17.6 The following delegations made statements: Mexico and Slovakia.

**Syrian Arab Republic dossier at the United Nations Security Council**

- 17.7 The delegation of the Russian Federation made a statement.
- 17.8 The Director-General made a statement.

**Executive Council modalities**

- 17.9 The following delegations made statements: the Russian Federation and Pakistan.

**18. AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN – Adoption of the report**

The Council **considered** and **adopted** the report of its 101st Session.

**19. AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN – Closure**

The Chairperson closed the session at 17:09 on 6 October 2022.