



106th Session
9 – 12 July 2024

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ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 106TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 9 – 12 JULY 2024

This annotated agenda¹ has been prepared by the Technical Secretariat (the Secretariat) to guide and assist members of the Executive Council (the Council) in their substantive preparations for its 106th Session. It lists the items of business for the session in the sequence in which they appear in the provisional agenda set for it (see agenda item two below).

Delegations are invited to consult the “Practical Information for Delegates” on INDICO (<https://indico.un.org/e/EC-106>) regarding the logistical matters for the 106th Session.

1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session

The 106th Session of the Council will be opened in The Hague by the Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Andrés Terán Parral of Ecuador, at 10:00 on 9 July 2024.

2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Adoption of the agenda

The Council is **requested** to consider and adopt the following agenda, which has been circulated under cover of EC-106/1 (dated 10 June 2024):

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

¹ This document is issued for information purposes only and does not supersede in any way the provisional agenda for the 106th Session of the Executive Council, or prejudice the outcome of its deliberations.



- (c) Elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme
 - (d) Other verification-related issues
 - (e) Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use
 - (f) Timely submission of declarations under Article VI of the Chemical Weapons Convention
 - (g) Article VII: Briefings by the facilitator and by the Technical Secretariat
 - (h) The content of the Protection and Assistance Databank and its use
 - (i) Article X: Briefings by the facilitator and by the Technical Secretariat
 - (j) Article XI: Briefings by the facilitator and by the Technical Secretariat
 - (k) Report by the Director-General on the Technical Secretariat's readiness to conduct a challenge inspection or an investigation of alleged use
7. Countering chemical terrorism
8. Scientific Advisory Board
9. Draft annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in 2023
10. Reports of the Office of Internal Oversight:
- (a) Implementation in 2023 of the recommendations contained in the 2022 annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight
 - (b) Annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight for the period 1 January to 31 December 2023
11. Administrative and financial matters:
- (a) Report of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters
 - (b) Rules of Procedure of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters
 - (c) Transfers of funds during 2023
 - (d) Report on the status of implementation of the enterprise resource planning system
 - (e) Composition of the Technical Secretariat
 - (f) Implementation of the tenure policy
12. The OPCW Programme for Africa

13. Follow-up to the Review Conferences²
14. Credentials of representatives of the members of the Executive Council
15. Provisional agenda for the Twenty-Ninth Session of the Conference of the States Parties
16. Draft report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities
17. Dates for the regular sessions of the Executive Council in 2025
18. Any other business
19. Adoption of the report
20. Closure

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

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

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

The Vice-Chairpersons and coordinators for clusters of issues will report to the Council on informal consultations held during the intersessional period: Ambassador Mutlaq bin Majed Al Qahtani of Qatar on chemical weapons issues; Ambassador Salima Abdelhak of Algeria on chemical industry and other Article VI issues; Ambassador Beti Jacheva of North Macedonia on administrative and financial issues; and Ambassador Giorgio Novello of Italy on legal, organisational, and other issues.

5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – General debate

With respect to the general debate, delegations are invited to consult “Practical Information for Delegates” on INDICO.

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 Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012), the Council is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Director-General on the overall progress in the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

² Review Conference = Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

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

- 6.2 The Secretariat is expected to provide an update to the Council on its destruction-related verification activities and on Article III-related submissions.
- 6.3 The States Parties concerned are expected to brief the Council on their destruction related-activities.
- 6.4 Further to a decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6) and the destruction plan beyond the year 2022 for the chemical weapons abandoned by Japan in China (EC-101/DEC.2, dated 4 October 2022), attached as annex 3 to Council decision EC-67/DEC.6, a national paper by China (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations) and a national paper by Japan (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations) on the overall progress of the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China have been circulated to the members of the Council.

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

- 6.5 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.
- 6.6 The Council is **requested** to note reports by the Director-General reporting on progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme (EC-106/DG.2, dated 25 March 2024; EC-106/DG.5, dated 24 April 2024; and EC-106/DG.7, dated 24 May 2024).
- 6.7 The Council is **requested** to note the national papers by the Syrian Arab Republic on the activities related to the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons and their production facilities (EC-106/P/NAT.1, dated 15 March 2024; EC-106/P/NAT.2, dated 15 April 2024; and EC-106/P/NAT.3, dated 15 May 2024).
- 6.8 The Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General entitled “Report on the Work of the Declaration Assessment Team” (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).
- 6.9 The Secretariat circulated a Note by the Secretariat entitled “Report of the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria regarding Incidents of Alleged Use of Toxic Chemicals as a Weapon in Qalib Al-Thawr, Al-Salamiyah, on 9 August 2017, and Al-Balil, Souran, on 8 November 2017, in Hama Governorate, the Syrian Arab Republic” (S/2295/2024, dated 11 June 2024).
- 6.10 The Secretariat is expected to provide a briefing to States Parties in advance of the 106th Session of the Council 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.

Subitem 6(d): Other verification-related issues

- 6.11 The Secretariat is expected to provide an update to the Council on its other verification-related activities.
- 6.12 Further to the decision of the Council at its Sixty-Sixth Session on the policy guidelines for determining the number of Article VI inspections (EC-66/DEC.10, dated 7 October 2011), the Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General on the results of the twelfth year of implementation of these policy guidelines (EC-106/DG.1, dated 15 March 2024).

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

- 6.13 The Council is **requested** to note the regular report by the Director-General to the Council on progress made in the implementation of the decision of the Conference of the States Parties (the Conference) entitled “Addressing the Threat from Chemical Weapons Use” (C-SS-4/DEC.3, dated 27 June 2018) (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

Subitem 6(f): Timely submission of declarations under Article VI of the Chemical Weapons Convention

- 6.14 Further to a decision by the Council at its Fifty-First Session (EC-51/DEC.1, dated 27 November 2007), the Council is **requested** to note a status report by the Director-General on the timely submission by States Parties of declarations under Article VI of the Chemical Weapons Convention for the period 1 January to 31 May 2024 (EC-106/DG.11, dated 17 June 2024).

Subitem 6(g): Article VII: Briefings by the facilitator and by the Technical Secretariat

- 6.15 The Secretariat will make a presentation on the status of implementation of Article VII.

Subitem 6(h): The content of the Protection and Assistance Databank and its use

- 6.16 The Council is **requested** to consider and note a Note by the Secretariat on the content of the Protection and Assistance Databank and its use (EC-106/S/1, dated 13 June 2024).

Subitem 6(i): Article X: Briefings by the facilitator and by the Technical Secretariat

- 6.17 The Secretariat will make a presentation on the status of implementation of Article X.

Subitem 6(j): Article XI: Briefings by the facilitator and by the Technical Secretariat

- 6.18 The Secretariat will make a presentation on the programme of activities for 2024 in relation to Article XI.

Subitem 6(k): Report by the Director-General on the Technical Secretariat's readiness to conduct a challenge inspection or an investigation of alleged use

- 6.19 The Council is **requested** to consider and note a Note by the Director-General reporting on the readiness of the Secretariat to conduct a challenge inspection or an investigation of alleged use (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Countering chemical terrorism

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

8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT - Scientific Advisory Board

- 8.1 The report of the Thirty-Eighth Session of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations) has been circulated to the members of the Council.

- 8.2 The Council is **requested** to note the response by the Director-General to the report of the Thirty-Eighth Session of the SAB (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – Draft annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in 2023

The Council is **requested** to consider the “Draft Report of the OPCW on the Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction in 2023” (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations), and to submit it to the Conference for consideration at its Twenty-Ninth Session.

10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – Reports of the Office of Internal Oversight

Subitem 10(a): Implementation in 2023 of the recommendations contained in the 2022 annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight

- 10.1 The Council is **requested** to consider and note a Note by the Director-General on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight (OIO) in 2023 (EC-106/DG.4, dated 17 April 2024).

Subitem 10(b): Annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight for the period 1 January to 31 December 2023

- 10.2 The Council is **requested** to consider and note the annual report of the OIO for the period 1 January to 31 December 2023 (EC-106/DG.6 C-29/DG.3, dated 24 April 2024), which the Director-General has submitted to it, along with his comments. The Council is also **requested** to make any comments it deems appropriate on the report. In accordance with Financial Regulation 12.5, the Director-General will transmit the report to the Conference at its Twenty-Ninth Session, together with his own comments and any that the Council may deem appropriate.

11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Administrative and financial matters

Subitem 11(a): Report of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters

11.1 The Council is **requested** to consider and note the report of the Fifty-Sixth Session of the ABAF, which took place from 4 to 7 June 2024 (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations), and a Note by the Director-General containing comments on the report of the ABAF at that session (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

Subitem 11(b): Rules of Procedure of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters

11.2 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.

11.3 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.5 (dated 13 March 2023).

11.4 At the 105th Session of the Council, the delegation of the Russian Federation submitted amendments to the above-mentioned revised draft decision (EC-105/DEC/CRP.4, dated 1 March 2024).

11.5 The Council is **requested** to take appropriate action on the matter.

Subitem 11(c): Transfers of funds during 2023

11.6 The Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General on transfers of funds during 2023 (EC-106/DG.3 C-29/DG.2, dated 15 April 2024).

Subitem 11(d): Report on the status of implementation of the enterprise resource planning system

11.7 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 is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General reporting on the status of implementation of the ERP system (EC-106/DG.10, dated 17 June 2024).

Subitem 11(e): Composition of the Technical Secretariat

11.8 The Council is **requested** to note the Director-General’s annual report on the composition of the Secretariat (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

Subitem 11(f): Implementation of the tenure policy

11.9 The Council is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the tenure policy in 2023 (EC-106/DG.8 C-29/DG.4, dated 3 June 2024).

12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – The OPCW Programme for Africa

The Council is **requested** to consider and note a Note by the Director-General on the Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention (EC-106/DG.9 C-29/DG.5, dated 17 June 2024).

13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Follow-up to the Review Conferences

A working paper entitled “Reflections by H.E. Ambassador Henk Cor van der Kwast Chairperson of the Fifth Review Conference on the Outcome of the Fifth Review Conference” was circulated under the symbol EC-103/WP.1 (dated 26 June 2023).

14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Credentials of representatives of the members of the Executive Council

The Council is **requested** to consider and approve a report by the Director-General on the credentials of representatives of members of the Council, which covers the credentials of the newly elected members of the Council (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – Provisional agenda for the Twenty-Ninth Session of the Conference of the States Parties

The Council is **requested** to draw up the provisional agenda for the Twenty-Ninth Session of the Conference (EC-106/DG.12, dated 19 June 2024).

16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Draft report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities

The Council is **requested** to consider and approve a draft report on the performance of its activities in the period from 15 July 2023 to 11 May 2024 (EC-106/CRP.1, dated 22 May 2024), and to submit it to the Conference for consideration at its Twenty-Ninth Session.

17. AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Dates for the regular sessions of the Executive Council in 2025

The Council is **requested** to consider dates for its regular sessions in 2025.

18. AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN – Any other business

The Secretariat circulated a Note by the Secretariat entitled “Artificial Intelligence and the OPCW: A Meeting with Experts” (S/2289/2024, dated 23 May 2024).

19. AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN – Adoption of the report

20. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY – Closure