



109th Session
8 – 11 July 2025

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ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 109TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 8 – 11 JULY 2025

This revised 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 109th 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).

1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session

The 109th Session of the Council will be opened in The Hague by the Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Thomas Schieb of Germany, at 10:00 on 8 July 2025.

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-109/1/Rev.2 (dated 4 July 2025):

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

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This document is issued for information purposes only and does not supersede in any way the provisional agenda for the 109th Session of the Executive Council, or prejudice the outcome of its deliberations.



- (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. OPCW Central Analytical Database
- 8. Countering chemical terrorism
- 9. Scientific Advisory Board
- 10. Emerging technologies
- 11. Draft annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in 2024
- 12. Reports of the Office of Internal Oversight:
 - (a) Status of implementation of the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight in 2024
 - (b) Annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight for the period 1 January to 31 December 2024
- 13. Administrative and financial matters:
 - (a) Nominations for membership of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters
 - (b) Report of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters
 - (c) Rules of Procedure of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters
 - (d) Transfers of funds during 2024
 - (e) Report on the status of implementation of the enterprise resource planning system
 - (f) Composition of the Technical Secretariat

- (g) Implementation of the tenure policy
- (h) Amendment to Interim Staff Rule 8.1.01(c) on the Staff Representative Body
- 14. The OPCW Programme for Africa
- 15. Follow-up to the Review Conferences²
- 16. Credentials of representatives of the members of the Executive Council
- 17. Provisional agenda for the Thirtieth Session of the Conference of the States Parties
- 18. Draft report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities
- 19. Dates for the regular sessions of the Executive Council in 2026
- 20. Appointment of the Director-General
- 21. Any other business
- 22. Adoption of the report
- 23. 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 Hadi Farajvand of the Islamic Republic of Iran on chemical weapons issues; Ambassador Mohamed Basri of Morocco on chemical industry and other Article VI issues; Ambassador Margareta Kassangana of Poland on administrative and financial issues; and Ambassador Jorge Carvajal of Chile on legal, organisational, and other issues.

5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – General debate

With respect to the general debate, delegations are invited to consult the “Practical Information for Delegates” on the iMeet portal (<https://catalyst.opcw.org/sites/imeet>).

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

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 with respect to the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons (EC-109/DG.21, dated 30 June 2025).

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 (the presentation has been posted on the external server of the OPCW).
- 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 (EC-109/NAT.6, dated 10 June 2025) and a national paper by Japan (EC-109/NAT.7, dated 10 June 2025) 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-109/DG.2, dated 24 March 2025; EC-109/DG.3, dated 24 April 2025; EC-109/DG.9, dated 23 May 2025; and EC-109/DG.19, dated 24 June 2025).
- 6.7 The Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General entitled “Report on the Work of the Declaration Assessment Team” (EC-109/HP/DG.1, dated 2 July 2025).
- 6.8 The Secretariat circulated a Note by the Secretariat entitled “Estimated Costs of OPCW Mandated Activities to Resolve the Remaining Issues Surrounding the Syrian Chemical Weapons Programme” (S/2397/2025, dated 29 April 2025).
- 6.9 The Secretariat provided a briefing to States Parties on 23 May 2025 on its activities related to the Syrian Arab Republic.

Subitem 6(d): Other verification-related issues

- 6.10 The Secretariat is expected to provide an update to the Council on its other verification-related activities (the presentation has been posted on the external server of the OPCW).
- 6.11 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 thirteenth year of implementation of these policy guidelines (EC-109/DG.1, dated 20 March 2025).

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

- 6.12 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) (EC-109/DG.23, dated 7 July 2025).
- 6.13 The Council received requests to obtain clarification from the Sudan in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article IX of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention), from Mauritania (EC-109/NAT.2, dated 4 June 2025), Chad (EC-109/NAT.3, dated 11 June 2025), and Benin (EC-109/NAT.5, dated 16 June 2025). In addition, Guinea-Bissau submitted a communication in support of the requests for clarification that were submitted by Chad and Mauritania (EC-109/NAT.4, dated 13 June 2025).
- 6.14 The requests from Mauritania, Chad, and Benin were forwarded by the Chairperson, on behalf of the Council, and through the Director-General, to the Sudan in accordance with subparagraph 4(a) of Article IX of the Convention, as well as the communication by Guinea-Bissau (EC-109/S/13, dated 17 June 2025).
- 6.15 The Council received clarifications from the Sudan pursuant to subparagraph 4(b) of Article IX of the Convention. In accordance with subparagraph 4(c) of Article IX of the Convention, the members of the Council were informed of the contents of the clarifications by the Sudan and the clarifications were forwarded to the respective requesting State Parties (EC-109/3, dated 23 June 2025).
- 6.16 The Council is **requested** to note the requests from Mauritania, Chad, and Benin, as well as the clarifications provided by the Sudan.

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

- 6.17 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 Convention for the period 1 January to 31 May 2025 (EC-109/DG.14, dated 23 June 2025).

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

- 6.18 The Secretariat will make a presentation on the status of implementation of Article VII (the presentation has been posted on the external server of the OPCW).

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

- 6.19 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-109/S/12, dated 5 June 2025).

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

- 6.20 The Secretariat will make a presentation on the status of implementation of Article X (the presentation has been posted on the external server of the OPCW).

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

- 6.21 The Secretariat will make a presentation on the programme of activities for 2025 in relation to Article XI (the presentation has been posted on the external server of the OPCW).

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

- 6.22 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 (EC-109/DG.22, dated 7 July 2025).

7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – OPCW Central Analytical Database

- 7.1 The Council is **requested** to consider a Note by the Director-General on lists of newly validated data on scheduled chemicals for approval by the Council for inclusion in the OPCW Central Analytical Database (OCAD) (EC-109/DG.4, dated 6 May 2025) and to adopt a draft decision on the matter (EC-109/DEC/CRP.1, dated 6 May 2025).
- 7.2 The Council is **requested** to consider a Note by the Director-General on lists of newly validated data on non-scheduled chemicals relevant to the Convention for approval by the Council for inclusion in the OCAD (EC-109/DG.6, dated 6 May 2025) and to adopt a draft decision on the matter (EC-109/DEC/CRP.3, dated 6 May 2025).
- 7.3 The Council is **requested** to consider a Note by the Director-General on lists of approved data recommended for removal from the OCAD (EC-109/DG.5, dated 6 May 2025) and to adopt a draft decision on the matter (EC-109/DEC/CRP.2 dated 6 May 2025).

8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – 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.

9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – Scientific Advisory Board

9.1 The report of the Thirty-Ninth Session of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) (SAB-39/1, dated 4 April 2025) has been circulated to the members of the Council.

9.2 The Council is **requested** to note the response by the Director-General to the report of the Thirty-Ninth Session of the SAB (EC-109/DG.12, dated 10 June 2025).

10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – Emerging technologies

10.1 The Secretariat circulated a Note entitled “Global Conference on the Role of Artificial Intelligence in Advancing the Implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention: A Path Forward” (S/2360/2025, dated 29 January 2025).

10.2 The Secretariat is expected to brief the Council on the status of work of the Temporary Working Group on Artificial Intelligence of the SAB.

10.3 The Council is **requested** to consider the matter.

11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Draft annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in 2024

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 2024” (EC-109/CRP.2, dated 30 June 2025), and to submit it to the Conference for consideration at its Thirtieth Session.

12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Reports of the Office of Internal Oversight

Subitem 12(a): Status of implementation of the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight in 2024

12.1 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 2024 (EC-109/DG.7, dated 28 May 2025).

Subitem 12(b): Annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight for the period 1 January to 31 December 2024

12.2 The Council is **requested** to consider and note the annual report of the OIO for the period 1 January to 31 December 2024 (EC-109/DG.10* C-30/DG.3, dated 28 May 2025), 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 Thirtieth Session, together with his own comments and any that the Council may deem appropriate.

13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Administrative and financial matters

Subitem 13(a): Nominations for membership of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters

- 13.1 The Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Secretariat on a nomination for membership of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters (ABAF) (EC-109/S/14, dated 7 July 2025), and to appoint Mr Richard Martin-Nielsen of Canada for a first term with the ABAF, as of the date of his appointment by the Council.

Subitem 13(b): Report of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters

- 13.2 The Council is **requested** to consider and note the report of the Fifty-Eighth Session of the ABAF, which took place from 3 to 6 June 2025 (ABAF-58/1, dated 5 June 2025), and a Note by the Director-General containing comments on the report of the ABAF at that session (EC-109/DG.20, dated 25 June 2025).

Subitem 13(c): Rules of Procedure of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters

- 13.3 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.
- 13.4 The latest revision to the above-mentioned draft decision (EC-92/DEC/CRP.1/Rev.7, dated 10 July 2024), co-sponsored by Bulgaria, Canada, the Czech Republic, Germany, Japan, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America, was circulated to the members of the Council.

Subitem 13(d): Transfers of funds during 2024

- 13.5 The Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General on transfers of funds during 2024 (EC-109/DG.8 C-30/DG.2, dated 16 May 2025).

Subitem 13(e): Report on the status of implementation of the enterprise resource planning system

- 13.6 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-109/DG.13, dated 18 June 2025).

Subitem 13(f): Composition of the Technical Secretariat

- 13.7 The Council is **requested** to note the Director-General's annual report on the composition of the Secretariat (EC-109/DG.16, dated 23 June 2025).

Subitem 13(g): Implementation of the tenure policy

- 13.8 The Council is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the tenure policy in 2024 (EC-109/DG.18 C-30/DG.5, dated 23 June 2025).

Subitem 13(h): Amendment to Interim Staff Rule 8.1.01(c) on the Staff Representative Body

- 13.9 The Secretariat circulated a note on a proposed amendment to Interim Staff Rule 8.1.01(c) on the Staff Representative Body (EC-109/DG.11, dated 4 June 2025).
- 13.10 The Council is **requested** to consider and adopt a draft decision on the matter (EC-109/DEC/CRP.4, dated 4 June 2025).

14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – 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-109/DG.15 C-30/DG.4, dated 23 June 2025).

15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – 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).

16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – 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).

17. AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Provisional agenda for the Thirtieth Session of the Conference of the States Parties

The Council is **requested** to draw up the provisional agenda for the Thirtieth Session of the Conference (EC-109/DG.17/Rev.1, dated 26 June 2025).

18. AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN – 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 12 May 2024 to 11 May 2025 (EC-109/CRP.1, dated

12 June 2025; and Corr.1, dated 4 July 2025), and to submit it to the Conference for consideration at its Thirtieth Session.

19. AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN – Dates for the regular sessions of the Executive Council in 2026

The Council is **requested** to consider dates for its regular sessions in 2026.

20. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY – Appointment of the Director-General

- 20.1 In accordance with subparagraph 21(d) and paragraph 43 of Article VIII of the Convention, the Director-General of the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons shall be appointed by the Conference upon the recommendation of the Council for a term of four years, renewable for one further term, but not thereafter.
- 20.2 At its Twenty-Sixth Session, the Conference considered and adopted a decision renewing the appointment of the present Director-General for one further term of four years beginning on 25 July 2022 and ending on 24 July 2026 (C-26/DEC.9, dated 30 November 2021).
- 20.3 At the 108th Session of the Council, the Chairperson of the Council issued a Note entitled “Road Map for the Process of the Appointment of the Next Director-General in 2025” (EC-108/2, dated 7 February 2025).
- 20.4 At the same session, pursuant to Rule 48 of its Rules of Procedure, and considering that the Thirtieth Session will be the last regular session of the Conference before the expiry of the term of the present Director-General, the Council adopted a decision on the process for the appointment of the Director-General (EC-108/DEC.5, dated 6 March 2025).
- 20.5 In accordance with paragraph 2 of EC-108/DEC.5, on 10 March 2025 the Chairperson invited, on the Council’s behalf, States Parties to present their nominations of candidates by no later than 16 May 2025.
- 20.6 The Secretariat circulated to the members of the Council notes on the nomination of candidates for the appointment to the position of Director-General by Bosnia and Herzegovina (EC-109/S/1, dated 10 March 2025); Ecuador (EC-109/S/2, dated 11 March 2025); Switzerland (EC-109/S/3, dated 17 March 2025); Hungary (EC-109/S/4, dated 18 March 2025); Estonia (EC-109/S/5, dated 25 March 2025); Costa Rica (EC-109/S/6, dated 2 April 2025); Ghana (EC-109/S/7, dated 8 April 2025); Romania (EC-109/S/8, dated 29 April 2025); Botswana (EC-109/S/9, dated 7 May 2025); Tunisia (EC-109/S/10, dated 15 May 2025); and Nigeria (EC-109/S/11, dated 15 May 2025).
- 20.7 The Chairperson of the Council issued a note entitled “Report on the Current Status of the Process of the Appointment of the next Director-General and Programme of Work for the Informal Sitting of the Executive Council on 7 July 2025” (EC-109/2, dated 26 June 2025).

- 20.8 On 7 July 2025, the candidates are expected to make in-person presentations during an informal sitting of the Council attended by Council members and interested States Parties.
21. **AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-ONE – Any other business**
22. **AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-TWO – Adoption of the report**
23. **AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-THREE – Closure**

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