



**OPCW**

**Conference of the States Parties**

Nineteenth Session  
1 – 5 December 2014

C-19/5  
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**REPORT OF THE NINETEENTH SESSION  
OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES  
1 – 5 DECEMBER 2014**

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

- 1.1 The Nineteenth Session of the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) was opened at 10:00 on 1 December 2014 by the Chairperson of the Conference for its Eighteenth Session, Ambassador Dr Sa’ad Abdul Majeed Ibrahim Al-Ali of Iraq.
- 1.2 The Conference **received** a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, delivered by his special representative, Ms Angela Kane, United Nations High Representative for Disarmament Affairs.
- 1.3 The Conference was also addressed by H.E. Mr Bert Koenders, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, on behalf of the Host Country.
- 1.4 The following 132 States Parties participated in the Nineteenth Session: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, the Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, the Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.



- 1.5 In accordance with Rule 29 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the following signatory States participated in this session of the Conference as observers: Israel and Myanmar.
- 1.6 In accordance with Rules 31 and 32 of these Rules of Procedure, and pursuant to a decision of the Conference on the matter (C-19/DEC.1, dated 1 December 2014), six international organisations, specialised agencies, and other international bodies attended the Nineteenth Session.
- 1.7 In accordance with the recommendations of the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Third Review Conference”) (RC-3/3\*, dated 19 April 2013), and pursuant to a decision of the Conference on the matter (C-19/DEC.2, dated 1 December 2014), the Conference **invited** representatives of the global chemical industry and scientific community to address the Conference during the plenary of its Nineteenth Session.
- 1.8 In accordance with Rule 33 of these Rules of Procedure, the Conference **adopted** a decision on attendance by 63 non-governmental organisations at the Nineteenth Session (C-19/DEC.3, dated 1 December 2014).

## **2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Election of the Chairperson**

In accordance with Rules 34 and 35 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference, by acclamation, **elected** as its Chairperson Ambassador Vesela Mrden Korać of Croatia, who shall hold office until her successor is elected at the next regular session of the Conference.

## **3. AGENDA ITEM THREE – Election of Vice-Chairpersons and other officers**

- 3.1 In accordance with Rules 34 and 35 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference **elected** representatives of the following 10 States Parties as Vice-Chairpersons of the Conference, to hold office until their successors are elected at its next regular session: Colombia, Cuba, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, the Netherlands, Poland, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Tunisia, and the United States of America.
- 3.2 Also in accordance with Rules 34 and 35 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference **elected**, as Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole, Ambassador Sheikh Mohammed Belal of Bangladesh, who shall hold office until a new Chairperson is elected at the next regular session of the Conference.

## **4. AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Adoption of the agenda**

- 4.1 The provisional agenda for the Nineteenth Session was circulated under cover of C-19/1, dated 11 July 2014.
- 4.2 The Conference **approved** the following agenda for its Nineteenth Session:

AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session

AGENDA ITEM TWO – Election of the Chairperson

AGENDA ITEM THREE – Election of Vice-Chairpersons and other officers

AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Adoption of the agenda

AGENDA ITEM FIVE – Organisation of work and establishment of subsidiary bodies

AGENDA ITEM SIX – Appointment of the Credentials Committee

AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Statement by the Director-General

AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – General debate

AGENDA ITEM NINE – Status of implementation of the Convention

AGENDA ITEM TEN – Annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2013

AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Annual report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities for the period from 20 July 2013 to 11 July 2014

AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Election of Member States to membership in the Executive Council

AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2015, submitted by the Executive Council, and all items pertaining to this Budget

AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Scale of assessments for 2015

AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – External Auditor's report on the audited Financial Statements of the OPCW and the Provident Fund for 2013

AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Appointment of the External Auditor

AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Administrative and financial matters

AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN – Fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities

AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN – Ensuring the universality of the Convention

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY – The OPCW Programme for Africa

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-ONE – Reports of subsidiary bodies

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-TWO – Follow-up to the Third Review Conference

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-THREE – Any other business

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FOUR – Adoption of the report of the Conference of the States Parties

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FIVE – Closure

**5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – Organisation of work and establishment of subsidiary bodies**

The Conference **considered** and **adopted** the recommendations of the General Committee that were reported to it in accordance with Rule 43(b) of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference.

**6. AGENDA ITEM SIX – Appointment of the Credentials Committee**

In accordance with Rule 27 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference, on the recommendation of its Chairperson, **appointed** the following 10 members of the Credentials Committee to hold office until new members are appointed at the next regular session of the Conference: Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cameroon, Germany, Iraq, Poland, Portugal, the Russian Federation, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

**7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Statement by the Director-General**

The Conference **noted** the opening statement by the Director-General (C-19/DG.16, dated 1 December 2014).

**8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – General debate**

8.1 The following delegations made statements during the general debate: Iran (Islamic Republic of) (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and China), Italy (on behalf of the European Union), South Africa (on behalf of the African Group), the Russian Federation, Uganda, the Syrian Arab Republic, Viet Nam, Qatar, Iraq, Malaysia, Brazil, Australia, Yemen, Sweden, Singapore, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Arab Emirates, Iran (Islamic Republic of) (in its national capacity), Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Panama, Ukraine, Turkey, Canada, Chile, New Zealand, Pakistan, France, Japan, Kenya, Algeria, Peru, Portugal, Luxembourg, China, Argentina, Spain, Tunisia, Norway, Croatia, Switzerland, Cuba, the Netherlands, Belarus, Denmark, Finland, Nigeria, Poland, Thailand, Guatemala, the Republic of Korea, Cyprus, Mexico, the Czech Republic, Germany, Indonesia, Uruguay, Sri Lanka, India, Slovakia, Cameroon, Kazakhstan, the Philippines, Ireland, Sudan, the United States of America, and Senegal.

8.2 The following international organisation made a statement during the general debate: the International Committee of the Red Cross.

8.3 The following representatives from the chemical industry and the scientific community made a statement during the general debate: the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry and the International Council of Chemical Associations.

8.4 In accordance with paragraph 2 of C-19/DEC.3, the following non-governmental organisations gave presentations at the plenary meeting that was held following the

general debate: China Controlled Chemicals Association; Verification Research, Training and Information Centre; Institute for Security Studies; Bradford Disarmament Research Centre; Arg IQ – Argentina Calidad de Información; Green Cross Switzerland; Instituto de Relações Internacionais; Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro and Harvard Sussex Program; Pakistan House; MEF University; Colorado Citizens’ Advisory Commission for Chemical Demilitarization; Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses; Green Cross International; and Chemical Weapons Working Group.

**9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – Status of implementation of the Convention**

**Subitem 9(a): Progress report on the implementation of the plan of action regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations**

- 9.1 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 Conference **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Director-General on the “Overview of the Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2014” (EC-77/DG.5 C-19/DG.6, dated 13 May 2014; Corr.1, dated 9 October 2014; and Corr.2, dated 25 November 2014); a report by the Director-General on the “Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2014: Article VII – Initial Measures” (EC-77/DG.6 C-19/DG.7, dated 13 May 2014 and Corr.1, dated 9 October 2014); and a report by the Director-General entitled “Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2014: Additional Measures for States Parties that Possess Industrial Facilities Which Are Declarable Under the Convention” (EC-77/DG.7 C-19/DG.8, dated 13 May 2014 and Corr.1, dated 9 October 2014).

**Subitem 9(b): Implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Technical Secretariat in 2013**

- 9.2 The Conference **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) in 2013 (EC-75/DG.9 C-19/DG.2, dated 28 February 2014).

**Subitem 9(c): Implementation of the Conference of the States Parties and Executive Council decisions on destruction-related issues**

- 9.3 The Conference **noted** that, at its Sixteenth Session, it had adopted a decision on the final extended deadline of 29 April 2012 (C-16/DEC.11, dated 1 December 2011). The Conference **expressed its concern** regarding the Director-General’s statement in his report to the Sixty-Eighth Session of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”), provided in accordance with paragraph 2 of C-16/DEC.11, that “three possessor States Parties, namely Libya, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America, have been unable to fully meet the final extended deadline of 29 April 2012 for the destruction of their chemical weapons stockpiles” (EC-68/DG.9, dated 1 May 2012). The Conference **noted further** that the measures that had been identified in paragraph 3 of its decision (C-16/DEC.11) were now being implemented.

- 9.4 The Conference **further noted** the statements and comments made by States Parties on the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons by possessor States, recalling the relevant Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) obligations and relevant decisions by the Conference and the Council. The Conference **recalled** that the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons by possessor States Parties should continue in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and its Annex on Implementation and Verification (hereinafter “the Verification Annex”) and with the application of the measures contained in decision C-16/DEC.11.
- 9.5 Further to the same decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (subparagraph 3(g) of C-16/DEC.11), the Director-General provided an annual written report (C-19/DG.15, dated 28 November 2014) to the Conference on the overall destruction progress by the possessor States concerned, based on the independent information received by the Secretariat from the Organisation’s inspectors undertaking verification in accordance with Part IV(A) D of the Verification Annex, which included information on:
- (a) The progress achieved to meet the planned completion date(s); and
  - (b) The effectiveness of any specific measures that have been undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes.
- 9.6 The Conference **noted** the information provided by the Council, namely that: the Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session noted with regret the information provided by the delegation of the Russian Federation that, despite measures undertaken to meet the planned completion date of December 2015 for its destruction activities, destruction will continue after 2015 at the Kizner facility; the Council requested the Russian Federation to provide an update to the detailed destruction plan (EC-68/P/NAT.1, dated 3 April 2012) as soon as possible and no later than the Nineteenth Session of the Conference; following this request, the Council, at its Seventy-Seventh Session, was provided with an update by the Russian Federation of its detailed destruction plan, which included the amended planned completion date by which the destruction of its remaining chemical weapons is to be completed (EC-68/P/NAT.1/Add.1, dated 6 October 2014); the Council considered and noted this update at its Seventy-Seventh Session.
- 9.7 Further to the decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Russian Federation provided an annual report (C-19/P/NAT.1, dated 14 November 2014), and an annual briefing, on the progress in the destruction of its remaining stockpiles of chemical weapons, including on any specific measures undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes, as well as on the update to the detailed destruction plan, and information on the projected schedule for destruction activities to meet the amended planned completion date, which were **considered** and **noted** by the Conference, along with comments on the issue as mentioned above. The Conference **noted** the confirmation provided by the delegation of the Russian Federation that the necessary measures continue to be undertaken in order to meet the planned completion date of 31 December 2020 for its destruction activities, as submitted to the Council at its Sixty-Eighth and Seventy-Seventh Sessions in accordance with subparagraph 3(c) of C-16/DEC.11.

- 9.8 Further to the same decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the United States of America provided an annual report (C-19/NAT.3, dated 7 November 2014), and an annual briefing, on the progress in the destruction of its remaining stockpiles of chemical weapons, including on any specific measures undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes and information on the projected schedule for destruction activities to meet the planned completion date, which were **considered** and **noted** by the Conference, along with comments on the issue as mentioned above. The Conference **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 C-16/DEC.11.
- 9.9 Further to the same decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), Libya provided an annual report (C-19/NAT.2, dated 11 November 2014), and an annual briefing, on the progress in the destruction of its remaining stockpiles of chemical weapons, including on any specific measures undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes and information on the projected schedule for destruction activities to meet the planned completion date, which were **considered** and **noted** by the Conference, along with comments on the issue as mentioned above. The Conference **noted** the confirmation provided by the delegation of Libya that the necessary measures continue to be undertaken in order to meet the planned completion date of December 2016 for its destruction activities, as submitted to the Council at its Sixty-Eighth Session in accordance with subparagraph 3(c) of C-16/DEC.11.
- 9.10 Pursuant to the above-mentioned decision at its Sixteenth Session (subparagraph 3(f) of C-16/DEC.11), the Conference **undertook** an annual review of the implementation of this decision at a specially designated meeting of the Conference. In furtherance of the implementation of subparagraphs 3(d), 3(f) and 3(h) of its decision C-16/DEC.11, the Conference **encouraged** the possessor States Parties concerned to include confirmation in the required reporting to the Council and the Conference that they remain on schedule to complete destruction activities by their planned completion date.
- 9.11 The Conference **welcomed** 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, dated 15 February 2012), and **encouraged** continued cooperation between China and Japan in the implementation of EC-67/DEC.6.
- 9.12 Bearing in mind the destruction progress was less than expected in the destruction plan attached to the relevant decision (EC-67/DEC.6), the Conference **expressed** its determination to remain seized of the matter, and **urged** the relevant States Parties to continue to make the fullest possible effort to complete destruction of abandoned chemical weapons as soon as possible in accordance with the Council's decision (EC-67/DEC.6) in a faithful manner and to address challenges including ensuring the safety of people and protecting the environment. Both States Parties reaffirmed their effective commitment to the abovementioned decision.

9.13 The Conference **welcomed** the review of the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons conducted by the Third Review Conference and the report of the Third Review Conference (RC-3/3\*), which reaffirmed the role of the Council, the Conference and the Review Conference with regard to the abandoned chemical weapons destruction related issues as defined in the provisions of the Convention and in the Council's decision (EC-67/DEC.6).

9.14 The following delegations spoke on issues related to Syria: Algeria, China, Cuba, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Malta, the Russian Federation, South Africa, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Sweden, the United States of America,

**10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – Annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2013**

The Conference **considered** and **approved** the report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2013 (C-19/4, dated 3 December 2014).

**11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Annual report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities for the period from 20 July 2013 to 11 July 2014**

11.1 The Conference **noted** the report of the Council on the performance of its activities for the period from 20 July 2013 to 11 July 2014, its Attachment, entitled “Note by the Technical Secretariat: The Destruction of Chemical Weapons Abandoned by Japan in the People's Republic of China”, and its Annex, entitled “Actions Taken by the Conference of the States Parties at its Eighteenth Session in Response to Recommendations Made by the Executive Council” (EC-77/3 C-19/2, dated 9 October 2014). The report was introduced by the Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Álvaro Moerzinger of Uruguay, who also briefed the Conference on any developments that had taken place since the cut-off date for the report.

11.2 The Conference **also noted** the note by the Secretariat on “The Destruction of Chemical Weapons Abandoned by Japan in the People's Republic of China” attached to EC-77/3 C-19/2, pursuant to paragraph 11.2 of the report of the Council at its Seventy-Seventh Session (EC-77/4, dated 10 October 2014).

**12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Election of Member States to membership in the Executive Council**

In accordance with paragraph 23 of Article VIII of the Convention and with Rule 83 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the Conference **elected** 21 members to serve on the Council for a term of two years, starting on 12 May 2015. To ensure that the Council is constituted in accordance with paragraph 23 of Article VIII, the regional distribution of the elective places to be filled is to be as follows:

Africa:	Cameroon, Kenya, Morocco, Senegal, Sudan
Asia:	China, India, Iraq, Japan, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia
Eastern Europe:	Armenia, Latvia
Latin America and the Caribbean:	Argentina, Brazil, Mexico
Western Europe and Other States:	France, Germany, Italy, United Kingdom of



Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United  
States of America

**13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2015, submitted by the Executive Council, and all items pertaining to this Budget**

13.1 In accordance with subparagraph 21(a) of Article VIII of the Convention, and pursuant to Financial Regulation 3.6(a), the Conference **considered** and **adopted** the Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2015, which the Council had submitted to it (C-19/DEC.4, dated 3 December 2014).

13.2 The Medium-Term Plan for the period from 2015 to 2019 (EC-77/S/1/ C-19/S/1, dated 23 April 2014) was circulated to the Member States, along with the Draft Programme and Budget for 2015.

**14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Scale of assessments for 2015**

In accordance with Financial Regulation 3.6(b), the Conference **adopted** a decision on the scale of assessments to be paid by States Parties for the financial year 2015 (C-19/DEC.5, dated 3 December 2014).

**15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – External Auditor’s report on the audited Financial Statements of the OPCW and the Provident Fund for 2013**

The Conference **noted** the Financial Statements of the OPCW and the report of the External Auditor for the year ending 31 December 2013 (EC-77/DG.1 C-19/DG.4, dated 14 July 2014), forwarded to it by the Council in accordance with Regulation 13.10 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules.

**16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Appointment of the External Auditor**

16.1 At its Seventy-Seventh Session, the Council noted a Note by the Director-General containing the summary of nominations for the External Auditor of the OPCW (EC-77/DG.12, dated 8 September 2014), and the observations of the Vice-Chairperson for administrative and financial issues, Ambassador Masaru Tsuji of Japan. The Council agreed that the Chairperson would nominate a panel of ambassadors who will evaluate the three candidates for the position of External Auditor of the OPCW, availing itself of technical support if required, in order to enable the Council to make a recommendation to the Conference at its Nineteenth Session (paragraph 8.22 of EC-77/4).

16.2 At the Forty-Sixth Meeting of the Council, the Chairperson reported to the Council on the work of the panel of ambassadors and on the panel’s decision. The Council took note of the report and recommended to the Conference at its Nineteenth Session that it appoint the Comptroller and Auditor General of the National Audit Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as External Auditor of the OPCW, for the period from 2015 to 2017 (paragraph 5.2 of EC-M-46/3, dated 19 November 2014).

16.3 The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the appointment of the External Auditor of the OPCW (C-19/DEC.6, dated 3 December 2014).

**17. AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Administrative and financial matters**

**Subitem 17 (a): Implementation of an enterprise-resource-planning system and establishment of a special fund for this purpose**

- 17.1 At its Seventy-Seventh Session, the Council noted a Note by the Director-General on the Enterprise-Resource-Planning (ERP) Strategy of the OPCW (EC-77/DG.15, dated 12 September 2014), and considered and adopted a decision on the implementation of an ERP system and on the establishment of a special fund for this purpose (EC-77/DEC.1, dated 9 October 2014) and transmitted it to the Conference for approval at its Nineteenth Session (paragraph 8.4 of EC-77/4).
- 17.2 The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the matter (C-19/DEC.7, dated 3 December 2014).

**Subitem 17 (b): Reduction of the Working Capital Fund**

- 17.3 At its Seventy-Seventh Session, the Council noted a Note by the Director-General recommending the reduction of the Working Capital Fund (WCF) and the use of the remaining balance for ERP implementation (EC-77/DG.17, dated 12 September 2014), and considered and adopted a decision on the matter (EC-77/DEC.2, dated 9 October 2014) and transmitted it to the Conference for approval at its Nineteenth Session (paragraph 8.5 of EC-77/4).
- 17.4 The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the matter (C-19/DEC.8, dated 3 December 2014).

**Subitem 17 (c): Withholding of the distribution of the cash surplus for 2012**

- 17.5 At its Seventy-Seventh Session, the Council noted a Note by the Director-General on the request for withholding of the distribution of the cash surplus for 2012 (EC-77/DG.16, dated 12 September 2014), with a view to transferring it to an ERP special fund, and considered and adopted a decision on the matter (EC-77/DEC.3, dated 9 October 2014) and transmitted it to the Conference for approval at its Nineteenth Session.
- 17.6 The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the matter (C-19/DEC.9, dated 3 December 2014).

**Subitem 17(d): The cash situation and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 31 August 2014**

- 17.7 At its Seventy-Seventh Session, the Council considered and forwarded to the Conference at its Nineteenth Session a Note by the Director-General on the cash situation and the use of the WCF for the financial year to 31 August 2014 (EC-77/DG.14 C-19/DG.10, dated 10 September 2014). The Conference **noted** this Note.

**Subitem 17(e): Status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions**

17.8 At its Eleventh Session, the Conference adopted a decision (C-11/DEC.5, dated 7 December 2006) on a mechanism to encourage States Parties that are in arrears to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions through the use of multi-year payment plans, requesting the Secretariat to submit a report to it each year, through the Council, on the status of implementation of agreed multi-year payment plans as at the end of the quarter that falls immediately before the session of the Council that precedes the session of the Conference.

17.9 Pursuant to a decision by the Conference at its Eleventh Session (C-11/DEC.5), the Conference **considered** and **noted** the report on the status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans (EC-77/DG.8 C-19/DG.9, dated 1 September 2014).

**Subitem 17(f): Recommendation for write-offs of irrecoverable accounts receivable and of losses of assets**

17.10 The Council at its Seventy-Seventh Session 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 Nineteenth Session approve these write-offs, totalling EUR 18,002.95 (EC-77/DG.2 C-19/DG.5, dated 30 July 2014) (paragraph 8.18 of EC-77/4). The Conference **adopted** a decision approving the said proposals (C-19/DEC.10, dated 3 December 2014).

**Subitem 17(g): Transfers of funds between programmes in 2013**

17.11 In accordance with Regulation 4.5 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, all transfers between Budget programmes shall be reported to the Conference. The Conference **noted** a Note by the Director-General on this matter (EC-75/DG.4 C-19/DG.1, dated 13 February 2014).

**Subitem 17(h): Report of the Office of Internal Oversight for 2013**

17.12 In accordance with Regulation 12.5 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, the Council at its Seventy-Sixth Session considered and forwarded to the Conference the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013, and the accompanying Note by the Director-General (EC-76/DG.2 C-19/DG.3, dated 27 March 2014). The Conference **noted** this report.

**Subitem 17(i): Proposal for the rehiring of inspectors**

17.13 Further to its consideration of a Note by the Secretariat on the rehiring of former inspectors (EC-76/S/5, dated 2 July 2014 and Add.1, dated 26 September 2014), the Council at its Forty-Sixth Meeting considered a draft decision on this subject, and agreed to consider this issue further, with a view to examining the possibility of its consideration by the Conference at its Nineteenth Session (EC-74/DEC/CRP.4/Rev.5, dated 28 November 2014).

17.14 The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the matter (C-19/DEC.11, dated 4 December 2014).

**18. AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN – Fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities**

18.1 The Conference at its Sixteenth Session adopted a decision regarding components of an agreed framework for the full implementation of Article XI of the Convention (C-16/DEC.10, dated 1 December 2011), and requested the Secretariat to report to the Conference at each annual session on the progress of concrete measures undertaken in implementing the decision, and on the status of implementation of Article XI.

18.2 The Conference **noted** a report by the Director-General on the progress made and review of the status of implementation of Article XI of the Convention for the period from 31 August 2013 to 26 August 2014 (EC-77/DG.20 C-19/DG.12, dated 18 September 2014).

18.3 The Conference **received** an oral report by the facilitator, Mrs Abeer S. Khaleefah of Iraq, on activities held during the intersessional period. She informed the Conference of the proposals presented by the former facilitator, Mr Tariq Karim of Pakistan, as well as delegations that are aimed at further enhancing the full, effective, and non-discriminatory provisions of Article XI, and that diverse views were expressed during the informal consultations held on 25 November 2014. The Conference **encouraged** delegations to continue discussions and consultations in this regard, with a view to achieving concrete outcomes that could also be drawn from other proposals by States Parties and the Secretariat.

**19. AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN – Ensuring the universality of the Convention**

19.1 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.

19.2 The Conference **noted** the annual report by the Director-General on the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention during the period from 16 September 2013 to 15 August 2014 (EC-77/DG.18 C-19/DG.11, dated 15 September 2014).

19.3 The Conference **received** an oral report by the facilitator, H.E. Ambassador Dziunik Aghajanian of Armenia, on the activities held during the intersessional period.

**20. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY – The OPCW Programme for Africa**

The Conference **noted** a Note by the Director-General on the Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention (EC-77/DG.21 C-19/DG.13, dated 23 September 2014).

## 21. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-ONE – Reports of subsidiary bodies

### Committee of the Whole

- 21.1 The Conference **noted** that, during this session of the Conference, no items had been allocated to the Committee of the Whole.

### General Committee

- 21.2 The Conference **noted** the reports of the General Committee, and took appropriate action as required.

### Confidentiality Commission

- 21.3 The Conference **noted** the report of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Commission for the Settlement of Disputes Related to Confidentiality (hereinafter “the Confidentiality Commission”) (CC-16/1, dated 23 May 2014).
- 21.4 In accordance with paragraph 23 of the Confidentiality Annex to the Convention and Rule 2(b) of the Operating Procedures of the Confidentiality Commission (C-III/DEC.10/Rev.2, dated 4 December 2013), the Conference **elected** the following 20 members of the Confidentiality Commission for a term of two years, beginning on 1 May 2015:

Africa	Mr Désiré Jean Claude Owono Menguele (Cameroon) Dr Ahmed Muftah Ruhuma Naili (Libya) Mr Wagane Faye (Senegal) Mr Yasir Abdalla Abdelsalam Ahmed (Sudan)
Asia	Dr Zhang Ze (China) Mr Ere Haru (Japan) Mr Alok Chaturvedi (India) Professor Djamchid Momtaz of Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Eastern Europe	Ms Lachezara Stoeva (Bulgaria) Mr Štěpán Kochanek (Czech Republic) Ambassador Nineta Bărbulescu (Romania) Mr Denis Zhuykov (Russian Federation)
Latin America and the Caribbean	Minister Sergio O. Pérez Gunella (Argentina) Colonel Ramiro E. Calderón (Bolivia, Plurinational State of) Mr Camilo Sanhueza (Chile) Ambassador Gastón Lasarte (Uruguay)
Western European and Other States	Professor Dieter Umbach (Germany) Professor Ioannis Seimenis (Greece) Mr Irvin Høyland (Norway) Mr Lucas Osborn (United States of America)

### Credentials Committee

- 21.5 The report of the Credentials Committee was presented by its Chairperson, Ambassador Odette Melono, Permanent Representative of Cameroon to the OPCW. The Chairperson reported orally that, following the close of the Credentials

Committee meeting, original credentials had been received from Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Indonesia, Iraq, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Qatar, Senegal, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, and Uganda. Copies of credentials had been received from Togo and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). The Conference **noted** this additional information and **approved** the report.

### **Committee on Relations with the Host Country**

- 21.6 The Conference **considered** and **noted** a report by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country (hereinafter “the Host Country Committee”) on the performance of its activities, for the period from September 2013 to February 2014 (EC-75/HCC/1/Rev.1 C-19/HCC/1/Rev.1, dated 6 March 2014). The Chairperson of the Council reported to the Conference on the status of the work by the Host Country Committee (C-19/HCC/2, dated 4 December 2014).

### **22. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-TWO – Follow-up to the Third Review Conference**

In paragraph 9.17 of its report (RC-3/3\*), the Third Review Conference expressed its intention to keep the declarations contained in paragraphs 9.3 to 9.16 of that document under review at each regular session of the Conference. Subsequently, the agenda of the Council at its Seventy-Third, Seventy-Fourth, Seventy-Fifth, Seventy-Sixth, and Seventy-Seventh Sessions included an item on the follow-up to the Third Review Conference. The Secretariat supported the Council in this respect by providing a “Matrix of Actionable Items Identified at the Third Review Conference,” to the Council at its Seventy-Third Session (EC-73/S/2, dated 4 June 2013), the latest update of which was provided to the Council at its Seventy-Seventh Session (EC-77/S/4, dated 23 September 2014). The Conference **noted** the activities in furtherance of its review of the declarations contained in paragraphs 9.3 to 9.16 of the report of the Third Review Conference.

### **23. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-THREE – Any other business**

- 23.1 The Conference **welcomed** the establishment of the OPCW-The Hague Award. In this context it **recognised** VERIFIN and Dr Robert Mathews, the awardees for 2014. The Conference **welcomed** and **appreciated** the request made by Dr Robert Mathews that the cash prize of EUR 45,000 be transferred directly to the OPCW’s Voluntary Trust Fund for the International Support Network for the Victims of Chemical Weapons.
- 23.2 A statement on Syria (C-19/NAT.6, dated 4 December 2014) was made by the delegation of Italy on behalf of 56 States Parties to the Convention. The following delegations spoke in response: Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic, China, and Cuba.
- 23.3 The Conference **welcomed** the initiative for a text of ethical guidelines for chemical professionals related to the Convention and **invited** the Secretariat to inform the Council of its efforts for the advancement of the initiative and its objectives in close collaboration with relevant professional and chemical industry organisations. The Conference **encouraged** States Parties to discuss the matter further.

**24. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FOUR – Adoption of the report of the Conference of the States Parties**

The Conference **considered** and **adopted** the report of its Nineteenth Session.

**25. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FIVE – Closure**

The Chairperson closed the session at 11:15 on 5 December 2014.

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