



OPCW

Conference of the States Parties

Eighth Session
20 - 24 October 2003

C-8/DEC.15
24 October 2003
Original: ENGLISH

DECISION

**EXTENSION OF THE INTERMEDIATE AND FINAL DEADLINES FOR THE
DESTRUCTION BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OF ITS CATEGORY 1
CHEMICAL WEAPONS**

The Conference of the States Parties,

Having considered the recommendation of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) at its Twenty-Third Meeting (EC-M-23/DEC.5, dated 24 October 2003) that the Conference at its Eighth Session grant to the United States of America an extension of its intermediate and final deadlines for the destruction of its Category 1 chemical weapons;

Hereby:

1. **Decides** to grant to the United States an extension of the deadline for the destruction of 45% of its Category 1 chemical weapons stockpiles, and to set up a revised 45% intermediate deadline of 31 December 2007;
2. **Grants** the United States, in principle, an extension of the final deadline for the destruction of 100% of its Category 1 chemical weapons stockpiles, so that the 100% deadline will occur after the 45% deadline, on the understanding that nothing hereinbelow shall prejudice any of the obligations that the United States of America has under the terms of the Convention, including paragraph 28, Part IV(A), of the Verification Annex, and that:
 - (a) the Council, at each alternate regular Session, will be kept informed by the United States on the status of its plans, with supporting documentation, towards implementing this destruction obligation;
 - (b) the Director-General will periodically report to the Council on the progress made by the United States in chemical weapons destruction, in accordance with its obligations under the Convention; and
 - (c) the Chairman of the Council, in the exercise of his competencies and in cooperation with the Director-General, will periodically report to the Council on these matters.

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