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## **REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

### **OVERALL PROGRESS WITH RESPECT TO THE DESTRUCTION OF THE REMAINING CHEMICAL WEAPONS STOCKPILES**

1. In its decision entitled the “Final Extended Deadline of 29 April 2012” (C-16/DEC.11, dated 1 December 2011), the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) requested the Director-General to provide a written report at each regular session of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) on the overall progress being made by possessor States Parties in regard to the destruction of their remaining chemical weapons stockpiles; the Council further requested that these reports be based on the independent information that is received by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) from the Organisation’s inspectors, who undertake verification in accordance with section D of Part IV(A) of the Verification Annex to the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Verification Annex”), and that they include information on the progress achieved to meet the planned completion date(s) and a statement as to the effectiveness of any specific measures that have been undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes.
2. The information included in this report relates to the cut-off date of 31 August 2012.

#### **Libya**

##### Progress achieved to meet the planned completion date

3. Libya has declared 26.345 metric tonnes (MTs) of Category 1 chemical weapons (a blister chemical agent).
4. As at 31 August 2012, the Secretariat had verified the destruction by Libya of 13.476 MTs, or 51.15%, of the total amount of Category 1 chemical weapons this State Party has declared. No withdrawals pursuant to Article VI of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) and subparagraph 2(d) of Part VI of the Verification Annex have taken place in this State Party. Libya also completed the reloading of mustard and two chemical weapons precursors at the Ruwagha Chemical Reloading System at the end of April 2009, as part of the preparatory stage for their destruction.



5. No destruction of chemical weapons has taken place in Libya in the period under review.
6. In addition to the information provided on the progress with respect to the destruction of Category 1 chemical weapons, as required by decision C-16/DEC.11, this report includes information on the remaining Category 2 and 3 chemical weapons stockpiles in Libya. Thus, as at 31 August 2012, Libya had destroyed 555.71 MTs, or 39.64%, of its Category 2 chemical weapons. Libya had previously destroyed all its Category 3 chemical weapons, but in November 2011 submitted a declaration of additional Category 3 items, which were yet to be destroyed at the cut-off date for this report.
7. In accordance with the “Detailed Plan for the Destruction of Chemical Weapons Remaining After the Final Extended Deadline of 29 April 2012 (as per C-16/DEC.11, dated 1 December 2011)” submitted by Libya (EC-68/NAT.4, dated 18 April 2012), the destruction of the remaining Category 1 chemical weapons is planned to be completed by December 2013, while that of Category 2 chemical weapons is scheduled for completion by December 2016. It is planned that the destruction of Category 3 chemical weapons will be completed by May 2013.

The effectiveness of any specific measures that have been undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes

8. In its latest report submitted pursuant to the above-mentioned decision of the Conference regarding the final extended deadline of 29 April 2012 (C-16/DEC.11), Libya has informed the Secretariat that it “is making every effort to accelerate the completion of destruction operations of its remaining stockpiles of chemical weapons” (EC-70/NAT.2, dated 3 September 2012). In this context, Libya has reported that it has prepared and maintained for use the sulfur mustard neutralisation and hydrolysis system at Ruwagha so that the resumption of operations at this site is solely dependent on “meeting necessary logistical requirements, which are being coordinated with the Technical Secretariat as part of consultations to identify the needs for the resumption of work at a later stage”.
9. In addition, Libya has stated that it has explored various technologies for the destruction of the chemical weapons recently discovered in Libya and that, “[h]aving identified the Static Detonation Chamber as the most suitable option, the Libyan authorities are exploring means to secure the funds necessary for the procurement of this technology”.
10. With respect to the facility to be built in Rabta, Libya continues “consultations and coordination with the local councils there with a view to reassessing the environmental impact on the region and reviewing the arrangements to establish the Destruction Facility”.
11. Finally, Libya has informed the Secretariat that “the Libyan National Authority will continue to inform the Technical Secretariat and the Executive Council of all actions it takes with regard to the destruction programme of the remaining chemical weapons in Libya”.

12. The Secretariat and the Libyan authorities continue their bilateral consultations on preparing for the resumption of destruction activities. These consultations have been constructive.

## Russian Federation

### Progress achieved to meet the planned completion date

13. The Russian Federation has declared 39,966.586 MTs of Category 1 chemical weapons (nerve and blister chemical agents).
14. As at 31 August 2012, the Secretariat had verified the destruction by the Russian Federation of 26,630.914 MTs, or 66.63%, of the total amount of Category 1 chemical weapons declared by this State Party. This includes 0.026 MTs of chemical-warfare agents withdrawn from Category 1 chemical weapons stocks pursuant to Article VI of the Convention and subparagraph 2(d) of Part VI of the Verification Annex for purposes not prohibited under the Convention.<sup>1</sup>
15. Four chemical weapons destruction facilities—in Leonidovka, Maradykovsky, Pochev, and Shchuchye—are currently operating in the Russian Federation. Between 1 July 2012 and the cut-off date for this report, 990.833 MTs of Vx, viscous soman, and soman have been verified as destroyed in the Russian Federation. In the period under review, the Secretariat carried out an initial visit to the Kizner destruction facility, in order to familiarise itself with the facility and the destruction technology to be used and to gather additional information for the development of the facility agreement and plan for verification for this facility.
16. In accordance with the detailed plan by the Russian Federation for the destruction of remaining chemical weapons (EC-68/P/NAT.1, dated 11 April 2012), the destruction of the remaining Category 1 chemical weapons is planned to be completed by December 2015.

### The effectiveness of any specific measures that have been undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes

17. The Russian Federation has informed in its report on the progress it has made towards the complete destruction of its remaining stockpiles of chemical weapons (EC-70/P/NAT.1, dated 7 September 2012) that, in order to accelerate the destruction of its Category 1 chemical weapons, it has adopted the concept of gradually bringing destruction facilities into operation. The Russian Federation explained that this approach means that “at a facility which is equipped with an engineering and support infrastructure, technical solutions are implemented gradually (one at a time) and process capacities designed for the destruction of a particular type of chemical weapons are built. At the same time, where chemical weapons destruction operations have already started, construction continues of the next process flow lines for the destruction of the remaining types of stockpiles, thus increasing capacities”.

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<sup>1</sup> The Russian Federation has also destroyed all of its Category 2 (10.616 MTs) and Category 3 chemical weapons.

18. Finally, the Russian Federation has stated that “the measures for chemical weapons destruction and the financial means for implementing these measures, provided for in the national programme for 2012, ensure that the rate of chemical weapons destruction increases”.
19. The Secretariat considers that the measures taken by the Russian Federation to meet the planned completion date are satisfactory.

### **United States of America**

#### Progress achieved to meet the planned completion date

20. The United States of America has declared 27,769.108 MTs of Category 1 chemical weapons (nerve and blister chemical agents, as well as binary weapons components).
21. As at 31 August 2012, the Secretariat had verified the destruction by the United States of America of 24,923.671 MTs, or 89.75%, of the total amount of Category 1 chemical weapons declared by this State Party. This includes 2.682 MTs of chemical-warfare agents withdrawn from Category 1 chemical weapons stocks pursuant to Article VI of the Convention and subparagraph 2(d) of Part VI of the Verification Annex for purposes not prohibited under the Convention.<sup>2</sup>
22. No destruction of chemical weapons has taken place in the United States of America in the reporting period.
23. In accordance with the detailed plan by the United States of America for the destruction of remaining chemical weapons (EC-68/NAT.2, dated 13 April 2012), the destruction of the remaining Category 1 chemical weapons is planned to be completed by September 2023.

#### The effectiveness of any specific measures that have been undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes

24. The United States of America has notified the Secretariat in a recently submitted progress report (EC-70/NAT.1, dated 27 August 2012) that it has completed 53% of the construction work for the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant and has also initiated systemisation at this facility, which is three percent complete. This State Party has also informed the Secretariat that it has completed 96% of the construction work for the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant and that systemisation at this facility is 24% complete. The United States of America plans to begin destruction operations at Pueblo in the fourth quarter of 2015 and at Blue Grass in the third quarter of 2020.
25. In its report on the progress achieved towards complete destruction of remaining stockpiles, the United States has stated that “it continues to act on opportunities to accelerate the completion of destruction”, including by the use of new technologies, performance incentives to accelerate the schedule, and the transfer of experienced

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<sup>2</sup> The United States of America has also destroyed all of its Category 2 (0.010 MTs) and Category 3 chemical weapons.

personnel to facilitate the transition from construction to destruction operations at the new facilities.

26. Finally, the United States has informed the Secretariat that “no problems have been encountered that require addressing since the last report. The United States Government continues to place the highest priority on safety of workers, communities, and the environment.”
27. The Secretariat considers that the progress made by the United States of America in the construction work of the destruction facilities located at Blue Grass and Pueblo is satisfactory.

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