



Seventy-Fourth Session
8 – 11 October 2013

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REPORT OF THE SEVENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session

- 1.1 The Chairperson of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”), Ambassador Olexander Horin of Ukraine, opened its Seventy-Fourth Session in The Hague at 10:21 on 8 October 2013.
- 1.2 The Council, bearing in mind Rule 50 of its Rules of Procedure, **considered** a request from the Syrian Arab Republic, a State not Party, and, accordingly, **invited** it to attend the Seventy-Fourth Session of the Council.

2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Adoption of the agenda

The Council **considered** and **adopted** the following agenda:

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 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) Implementation of the decision of the Executive Council at its Thirty-Third Meeting (EC-M-33/DEC.1, dated 27 September 2013)
 - (d) Other verification-related issues
 - (e) Destruction-related plans and facility agreements
 - (f) Supplement to the Verification Implementation Report for 2012



- (g) Status of implementation of Article VII
 - (h) Status of implementation of Article XI
 - (i) Status of implementation of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons
 - (j) Progress made in the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention
 - (k) Report by the Director-General on the Technical Secretariat's readiness to conduct a challenge inspection or an investigation of alleged use
7. Report of the Scientific Advisory Board
8. Administrative and financial matters:
- (a) Report of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters
 - (b) Draft Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2014, and all items pertaining to this Budget
 - (c) Financial Statements of the OPCW and the External Auditor's report for the year ending 31 December 2012
 - (d) OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 30 June 2013; the cash situation and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 31 August 2013
 - (e) Status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions
 - (f) Recommendation for write-offs of irrecoverable accounts receivable and of losses of assets
 - (g) Implementation in 2013 of amendment to the Staff Regulations regarding downward classification of posts
9. Follow-up process to the Third Review Conference¹
10. The OPCW Programme for Africa
11. Draft report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities
12. Report by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country
13. Appointment of the Director-General

¹ Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention

14. Any other business
15. Adoption of the report
16. Closure

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

The Council **noted** the opening statement by the Director-General (EC-74/DG.20, dated 8 October 2013).

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 reported to the Council on informal consultations held during the intersessional period: Mr Arturo Cabrera of Ecuador on chemical weapons issues, Ambassador Francesco Azzarello of Italy on chemical-industry and other Article VI issues, Ambassador Rajesh Nandan Prasad of India on administrative and financial issues, and Ambassador Odette Melono of Cameroon on legal, organisational, and other issues. The Chairperson also reported on his own activities on behalf of the Council during the intersessional period.

5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – General debate

- 5.1 The following delegations made statements during the general debate: the Islamic Republic of Iran (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and China), Lithuania (on behalf of the European Union and associated countries), South Africa (on behalf of the African Group), Nigeria, China, Brazil, the United States of America, Chile, Kenya, Canada, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Iraq, Mexico, Peru, Cuba (observer), Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, India, Japan, Panama (observer), Italy, Argentina, and the Russian Federation.
- 5.2 The Council **expressed its appreciation** for the efficient and prompt manner in which the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) has acted following the decision of the Council at its Thirty-Third Meeting (EC-M-33/DEC.1) and in which it has commenced activities in Syria towards the implementation of that decision. It **expressed** its full support for the Director-General and his staff as they seek to fulfil, in the most challenging circumstances, the mandate granted to them by the international community for the destruction of chemical weapons in Syria.

6. AGENDA ITEM SIX – Status of implementation of the Convention

Subitem 6(a): Reports by the Director-General on destruction-related issues

- 6.1 Further to a decision by the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11, dated 1 December 2011), the Council **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the overall progress of destruction activities by possessor States Parties (EC-74/DG.18, dated 3 October 2013 and Corr.1, dated 11 October 2013).

- 6.2 Further to a decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012), the Council **noted** a report by the Director-General on the overall progress of the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons (EC-74/DG.19*, dated 7 October 2013).
- 6.3 The Council **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Director-General on the schedule for submission by chemical weapons possessor States of the reports on their destruction activities after the extended deadline of 29 April 2012 (EC-74/DG.17, dated 2 October 2013).

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

- 6.4 The Secretariat briefed the Council on its destruction-related verification activities.
- 6.5 The United States of America, the Russian Federation, Iraq, Libya, China, and Japan briefed the Council on their destruction-related activities.
- 6.6 The Council **noted** the statements and comments made by States Parties on the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons by possessor States Parties, recalling the relevant obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) and relevant decisions by the Conference and the Council. The Council **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 and with the application of the measures contained in decision C-16/DEC.11.
- 6.7 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Council **considered** and **noted** a national paper by the United States of America on the progress made on the completion of the destruction of its chemical weapons, including information on measures to accelerate such progress, as well as on appropriate measures in order to meet the planned completion date (EC-74/NAT.3, dated 24 September 2013), along with comments on the issue as mentioned above. The Council **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.
- 6.8 Further to the same decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Council **considered** and **noted** a national paper by the Russian Federation on the progress made on the completion of the destruction of its chemical weapons, including information on measures to accelerate such progress, as well as on appropriate measures in order to meet the planned completion date (EC-74/P/NAT.1, dated 24 September 2013), along with comments on the issue as mentioned above. The Council **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 December 2015 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.

- 6.9 Further to the same decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Council **considered** and **noted** a national paper by Libya on the progress made on the completion of the destruction of its chemical weapons, including information on measures to accelerate such progress, as well as appropriate measures in order to meet the planned completion date (EC-74/NAT.2, dated 24 September 2013), along with comments on the issue as mentioned above. The Council **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.
- 6.10 Further to a decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6), a national paper by China (EC-74/NAT.4, dated 26 September 2013) and a national paper by Japan (EC-74/NAT.1, dated 10 September 2013) had been circulated to members of the Council on the overall progress of the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China. While welcoming close cooperation between the relevant States Parties, the Council **considered** and **decided** to remain seized of the matter, and **requested** the relevant States Parties to take measures to implement the destruction plan. Both States Parties reaffirmed their commitment to the abovementioned decision.
- 6.11 The Council **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*, dated 19 April 2013) relating to abandoned chemical weapons issues. The Council **noted** the report of the visit by a delegation of the Council to the Haerbaling abandoned chemical weapons site, jointly invited by China and Japan, from 9 to 13 September 2013 (EC-74/2, dated 3 October 2013, and Corr.1, dated 9 October 2013) and **expressed its appreciation** for the first-hand information on the destruction-related progress and the bilateral cooperation of the relevant States Parties obtained through the visit.
- 6.12 The Council **noted** the presentation made by Iraq and welcomed the briefing on the progress made with regard to destruction activities.
- Subitem 6(c): Implementation of the decision of the Executive Council at its Thirty-Third Meeting (EC-M-33/DEC.1, dated 27 September 2013)**
- 6.13 The Secretariat briefed the Council on its activities related to the implementation of the abovementioned decision. The Council **noted** the document EC-74/S/4, dated 10 October 2013, concerning the implementation of the decision of the Council at its Thirty-Third Meeting (EC-M-33/DEC.1).
- Subitem 6(d): Other verification-related issues**
- 6.14 The Secretariat briefed the Council on its other verification-related activities.
- 6.15 At its previous session, the Council noted the Note by the Secretariat entitled "Update on the Matter Considered by the Executive Council at Its Sixty-Third Session Under Agenda Subitem 6(i)" (EC-73/S/7, dated 19 July 2013), concerning the issue of captive use of Schedule 1 chemicals in Denmark. To bring this matter to closure, in

accordance with paragraph 5 of the above-mentioned Note, the Council noted the intention of the Secretariat to provide a further Note on this matter at its next regular session.

- 6.16 The Council **noted** the Note by the Secretariat on further information concerning the issue of captive use of Schedule 1 chemicals (EC-74/S/2, dated 25 September 2013) and **noted further** that the issue had been brought to closure.

Subitem 6(e): Destruction-related plans and facility agreements

- 6.17 The Council **considered** and **approved** amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of the Category 1 chemical weapons at the chemical weapons destruction facility (CWDF) located at Maradykovsky, Kirovskaya Oblast, the Russian Federation (EC-74/DEC.1, dated 9 October 2013).
- 6.18 The Secretariat had submitted to the Council a Note on modifications to the facility agreement with the Russian Federation regarding on-site inspections at the CWDF located at Maradykovsky, Kirovskaya Oblast, the Russian Federation (EC-74/S/1, dated 16 September 2013).
- 6.19 A proposed amendment to the aforementioned facility agreement had been submitted separately to the Council (EC-74/DEC.2, dated 9 October 2013), which **considered** and **approved** it. Related amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of Category 1 chemical weapons at the CWDF located at Maradykovsky, Kirovskaya Oblast, the Russian Federation, are treated in paragraph 6.17 above.

Subitem 6(f): Supplement to the Verification Implementation Report for 2012

- 6.20 The Council **considered** and **noted** the supplement to the Verification Implementation Report (VIR) for 2012 (EC-74/HP/DG.1, dated 19 September 2013).

Subitem 6(g): Status of implementation of Article VII

- 6.21 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 Council **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 2013" (EC-74/DG.7 C-18/DG.9, dated 28 August 2013); a report by the Director-General on the "Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2013: Article VII - Initial Measures" (EC-74/DG.8 C-18/DG.10, dated 28 August 2013 and Corr.1, dated 11 September 2013); and a report by the Director-General entitled "Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2013: Additional Measures for States Parties that Possess Industrial Facilities Which Are Declarable Under the Convention" (EC-74/DG.9 C-18/DG.11, dated 28 August 2013 and Corr.1, dated 11 September 2013). The Council **forwarded** the documents to the Conference for consideration at its Eighteenth Session.
- 6.22 The facilitator for this issue, Dr Zlatko Dimitroff of Bulgaria, reported on the consultations carried out during the intersessional period.

Subitem 6(h): Status of implementation of Article XI

- 6.23 The Council **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the progress made and review of the status of implementation of Article XI of Convention for the period from 1 January 2012 to 30 August 2013 (EC-74/DG.13 C-18/DG.14, dated 9 September 2013).
- 6.24 The Council **received** an oral report by the facilitator, Mr Aamir Shouket of Pakistan, on the informal consultations held during the intersessional period and **welcomed** proposals made by delegations that are aimed at further enhancing the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of the provisions of Article XI. The Council **also noted** that the facilitator has received an additional proposal to further develop and enhance actions for the advancement of the objectives of Article XI, which he intends to present to the delegations during the informal consultations to be held shortly.

Subitem 6(i): Status of implementation of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons

- 6.25 The Conference at its Sixteenth Session endorsed a proposal for the establishment of the international support network for victims of chemical weapons and the establishment of a voluntary trust fund for this purpose (C-16/DEC.13, dated 2 December 2011). It requested the Director-General to report every two years, through the Council, to the Conference at its regular sessions on the status of implementation of this decision.
- 6.26 The Council **noted** the report by the Director-General on the status of implementation of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons (EC-74/DG.12 C-18/DG.13, dated 9 September 2013).

Subitem 6(j): Progress made in the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention

- 6.27 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.
- 6.28 The Council **considered** and **noted** the annual report on the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention during the period from 16 August 2012 to 15 September 2013, which is being submitted to both the Council and the Conference (EC-74/DG.11 C-18/DG.12, dated 30 August 2013 and Add.1, dated 10 October 2013).
- 6.29 The Council **reaffirmed** the unqualified commitment of the OPCW to achieve universality. The Council **noted** the accession of the Syrian Arab Republic with effect from 14 October 2013. Encouraged by this development, the Council **urgently called upon** all States not Party to the Convention to join without delay or precondition.

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

6.30 The Council **considered** and **noted** 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-74/DG.15, dated 25 September 2013).

7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Report of the Scientific Advisory Board

7.1 The report of the Twentieth Session of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB-20/1, dated 14 June 2013) was circulated to the members of the Council.

7.2 A Note by the Director-General entitled “The Impact of developments in science and technology in the context of the Chemical Weapons Convention” (EC-74/DG.1, dated 24 July 2013) was also circulated to the members of the Council.

8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – Administrative and financial matters

Subitem 8(a): Report of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters

8.1 The Council **considered** and **noted** the report of the Thirty-Fifth Session of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters (ABAF), which took place from 2 to 4 September 2013 (ABAF-35/1, dated 4 September 2013), and a Note by the Director-General containing comments on the report of the ABAF at that session (EC-74/DG.16, dated 1 October 2013).

Subitem 8(b): Draft Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2014, and all items pertaining to this Budget

8.2 The Council **considered** the Draft Programme and Budget for 2014 (EC-74/CRP.1, dated 12 July 2013), which the Director-General had submitted to the Council in accordance with Financial Regulation 3.4. The Council **decided** to consider it further at a meeting to be convened prior to the Eighteenth Session of the Conference.

8.3 A revision to the Medium-Term Plan for the period from 2013 to 2015 (EC-70/S/1/Rev.1 C-17/S/1/Rev.1, dated 12 July 2013) was circulated to the members of the Council, along with the Draft Programme and Budget for 2014 (EC-74/CRP.1).

8.4 A Note by the Secretariat on the programme performance for the year 2012 (S/1098/2013, dated 31 May 2013) was also circulated to the members of the Council.

Subitem 8(c): Financial Statements of the OPCW and the External Auditor's report for the year ending 31 December 2012

8.5 The Council **noted** the Financial Statements of the OPCW and the report of the External Auditor for the year ending 31 December 2012 (EC-74/DG.3 C-18/DG.5, dated 30 July 2013) and **forwarded** them to the Conference for consideration at its Eighteenth Session. The Council **received** a presentation by the External Auditor, Mr Christian Ahrendt (EC-74/3, dated 8 October 2013).

- 8.6 The facilitator for this issue, Ms Sakiko Hayakawa of Japan, reported on consultations held during the intersessional period.

Subitem 8(d): OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 30 June 2013; the cash situation and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 31 August 2013

- 8.7 The Council **considered** and **forwarded** to the Conference at its Eighteenth Session a report by the Director-General on OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 30 June 2013 (EC-74/DG.2 C-18/DG.4, dated 30 July 2013 and Corr.1, dated 9 August 2013).

- 8.8 The Council also **considered** and **forwarded** to the Conference at its Eighteenth Session a Note by the Director-General on the cash situation and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 31 August 2013 (EC-74/DG.14 C-18/DG.15, dated 17 September 2013).

Subitem 8(e): Status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contribution

- 8.9 Further to a decision of the Conference at its Eleventh Session (C-11/DEC.5, dated 7 December 2006), the Council **considered** and **forwarded** to the Conference at its Eighteenth Session a Note by the Director-General on the status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans (EC-74/DG.5 C-18/DG.7, dated 20 August 2013).

Subitem 8(f): Recommendation for write-offs of irrecoverable accounts receivable and of losses of assets

- 8.10 The Council **considered** a Note by the Director-General on the recommendation for write-offs of irrecoverable accounts receivable and of losses of assets and **recommended** that the Conference at its Eighteenth Session approve these write-offs, totalling EUR 125,467.94 (EC-74/DG.4 C-18/DG.6, dated 31 July 2013).

Subitem 8(g): Implementation in 2013 of amendment to the Staff Regulations regarding downward classification of posts

- 8.11 The Council **noted** the report by the Director-General on the implementation in 2013 of an amendment to the Staff Regulations regarding downward classification of posts (EC-74/DG.10, dated 28 August 2013).

9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – Follow-up process to the Third Review Conference

- 9.1 The Council **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Secretariat entitled “Updated Matrix of Actionable Items Identified at the Third Review Conference” (EC-74/S/3, dated 30 September 2013).

- 9.2 The Council **noted** the information provided by the Secretariat on the reports identified by the Third Review Conference that are important for decisions on the Programme and Budget for 2014.

- 9.3 The Council **noted** the information provided by the Secretariat on developments during the intersessional period with regard to the knowledge-management capabilities of the Organisation.
- 9.4 The Council **noted** the Secretariat's presentation on "Options for Alternative Conference Venues" and also **welcomed** the Host Country's offer to provide support in organising the upcoming sessions of the Conference.

10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – The OPCW Programme for Africa

The Council **considered** and **noted** a Note on the Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention (EC-74/DG.6 C-18/DG.8, dated 20 August 2013).

11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Draft report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities

- 11.1 The Council **considered** and **approved** a report on the performance of its activities in the period from 16 July 2012 to 19 July 2013 (EC-74/4, dated 9 October 2013), and **submitted** it to the Conference for consideration at its Eighteenth Session.
- 11.2 A note by the Secretariat entitled "the Destruction of Chemical Weapons Abandoned by Japan in the People's Republic of China" was attached to the above-mentioned report.

12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Report by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The Council **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 from February to September 2013, and **submitted** it to the Conference for consideration at its Eighteenth Session (EC-74/HCC/1 C-18/HCC/2, dated 30 September 2013). The Council **decided** that the Host Country Committee should continue to meet on a regular basis, with a view to resolving any issues that may arise in the context of the OPCW Headquarters Agreement and also decided to keep this item on its agenda.

13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Appointment of the Director-General

The Council **approved by acclamation** a decision entitled "Recommendation to the Conference of the States Parties at its Eighteenth Session on the Renewal of the Appointment of the Director-General" (EC-74/DEC.3, dated 10 October 2013).

14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Any other business

Appointment of facilitators for informal consultations

- 14.1 Further to the request of the Council at its previous session (paragraph 18.2 of EC-73/6, dated 19 July 2013), the Chairperson reported on his continuing consultations on the appointment of facilitators. The Chairperson informed the

Council that he would report on the outcome of these consultations at its next regular session.

Amendment of Staff Regulation 4.4 regarding the rehiring of inspectors

14.2 The Council **requested** the Director-General to submit a background paper at the next meeting of the Council, with a view to the further consideration of the draft decision contained in EC-74/DEC/CRP.4, dated 9 October 2013.

15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – Adoption of the report

The Council **adopted** the report of its Seventy-Fourth Session.

16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Closure

The Chairperson closed the session at 12:11 on 11 October 2013.

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