

**NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL****OVERALL PROGRESS WITH RESPECT TO THE DESTRUCTION OF THE
REMAINING CHEMICAL WEAPONS STOCKPILES****Introduction**

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 that the Director-General 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 2013.

LibyaProgress 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 2013, the Secretariat had verified the destruction by Libya of 22.295 MTs, or 84.63%, 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.¹

¹ Libya 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. It also completed the destruction of all its Category 3 chemical weapons.



5. No destruction of chemical weapons has taken place in Libya during the period under review.
6. With respect to the remaining Category 2 chemical weapons stockpiles, Libya, as at 31 August 2013, had destroyed 555.71 MTs, or 39.64%, of its Category 2 chemical weapons.
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.

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 decision of the Conference on the final extended deadline of 29 April 2012 (EC-74NAT.2, dated 24 September 2013), Libya informed the Secretariat that it has continued work to “facilitate the initial arrangements required as part of the preparatory phase for completing the project of destruction of chemical munitions and sulfur mustard remnants that cannot be disposed of using the hydrolysis and neutralisation system”. To this end, contracts “have been concluded with local entrepreneurs and contractors to provide all logistics required for the implementation of the project”. Moreover, the security-and-safety equipment provided by the United States of America was received and is being stored, pending its intended use at the start of destruction operations.
9. Libya also stated in its latest report that the shipment of the static detonation chamber (SDC) and support systems “is scheduled to start by October 2013, so that it will be installed at the site and prepared for operations by early November. Destruction operations are expected to start immediately thereafter”. A number of Libyan engineers and technicians have been trained in Germany and Sweden in areas related to the use of the SDC for the destruction of chemical weapons.
10. Libya also informed the Secretariat that “the Libyan Authorities remain highly committed to overcoming all difficulties and exploring appropriate means and solutions conducive to addressing the dossier of chemical weapons in an effective and careful manner, and to meeting the planned completion date for destruction”.
11. Libya will assign highest the priority “to the safety of foreign experts and to the physical security of the chemical stockpile until all of it is completely destroyed” and, in this context, “[A] joint plan for the management of security, safety and contingencies has been developed in concert with the American side, with a view to ensuring and fulfilling all requirements pertaining to this issue”.
12. Finally, Libya is of the view that the “[p]rotection of the environment needs also to be given special importance and to be addressed in line with the relevant applicable national standards”. As such, in order to effectively address the risks for, and impact on, the environment, Libya, in coordination with OPCW, will task a specialised company to conduct a thorough survey and analysis of the “by-products generated by

the destruction activities, determining their level of toxicity and their impact on public safety and the environment, with a view to deciding the appropriate means to safely dispose thereof”.

13. The Director-General, on the basis of information he received from Libya regarding measures being implemented to facilitate the destruction of its remaining chemical weapons, including munitions, as well as the results of bilateral and multilateral meetings undertaken in the period under review, is in a position to confirm that Libya has taken the necessary measures to meet the planned completion date for Category 1 chemical weapons destruction activities. The Secretariat will continue to receive regular evaluations from its experts. Should the situation change, the Secretariat, in a timely manner, shall inform the policy-making organs, in accordance with C-16/DEC.11.

Russian Federation

Progress achieved to meet the planned completion date

14. The Russian Federation has declared 39,966.586 MTs of Category 1 chemical weapons (nerve and blister chemical agents).
15. As at 31 August 2013, the Secretariat had verified the destruction by the Russian Federation of 30,452.670 MTs, or 76.20%, 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.²
16. Four chemical weapons destruction facilities—in Leonidovka, Maradykovsky, Pohep, and Shchuchye—have been operating in the Russian Federation in the period under review. Between 1 June 2013 and the cut-off date for this report, 969.55 MTs of Vx, viscous soman, soman and sarin have been verified as destroyed in this State Party.
17. An operation of processing chemical weapons in a hazardous condition has been conducted at the Kizner chemical weapons storage facility (CWSF) from 16 May to 8 August 2013; during this operation 12,406 hazardous munitions filled with sarin were processed.
18. In accordance with the detailed plan by the Russian Federation for the destruction of its 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.

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

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

19. In its latest report on the progress it has made towards the complete destruction of its remaining stockpiles of chemical weapons (EC-74/P/NAT.1, dated 24 September 2013) the Russian Federation informed the Secretariat that, in order to speed up 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, capacities continue to be increased with the construction of the next process flow lines for the destruction of the remaining types of stockpiles”.
20. The Russian Federation stated in the aforementioned report that the construction of the seventh and last destruction facility at Kizner continues. Thus, it is planned that “comprehensive testing of the process equipment of the first train under inert conditions” will begin in the second half of the fourth quarter of 2013 and that “[b]y the end of 2013 the process equipment will switch to operation with live agent for the destruction of rocket warheads filled with sarin”.
21. At Maradykovsky, the construction of a train for the destruction of air bomb blocks has been completed and at the end of September, plans had been put in place “to begin comprehensive testing of the process equipment under inactive conditions, subsequently switching to work with live agent in November 2013 to destroy aerial bombs filled with soman”.
22. Finally, the Russian Federation stated in its latest report that, as at 31 August 2013, “[T]he indicators for the destruction of Category 1 chemical weapons stockpiles at working CWDFs correspond with the data submitted in the ‘Detailed plan for destruction of Category 1 chemical weapons remaining after the final extended deadline of 29 April 2012’”.
23. The Director-General—on the basis of independent information that he received from the Organisation’s inspectors undertaking verification in accordance with Part IV(A) of the Verification Annex, as well as the information he received from the Russian Federation regarding facilities and units under construction—is in a position to confirm that the Russian Federation has taken the necessary measures to meet the planned completion date for its destruction activities. The Secretariat will continue to receive regular evaluations from its experts. Should the situation change, the Secretariat, in a timely manner, shall inform the policy-making organs, in accordance with C-16/DEC.11.

United States of America

Progress achieved to meet the planned completion date

24. 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).

25. As at 31 August 2013, the Secretariat had verified the destruction by the United States of America of 24,923.673 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.³
26. No destruction of chemical weapons has taken place in the United States of America during the period under review.
27. 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), this State Party plans that the destruction of its remaining Category 1 chemical weapons will be completed by September 2023.

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

28. The United States of America has stated in a recently submitted progress report (EC-74/NAT.3, dated 24 September 2013) that it “continues to act on opportunities to accelerate the completion of chemical weapons destruction”, and that by the use of “a combination of new technologies, contract incentives, and the transfer of experienced personnel”, it is working to “complete destruction before the scheduled timelines”.
29. Following the completion of an environmental assessment, the United States of America has decided that the explosive destruction system (EDS) will be used at Pueblo, Colorado, for the destruction of “problematic munitions in a safe, environmentally sound manner, augmenting, not replacing, the main Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) facility, which will destroy the majority of the chemical weapons stockpile using neutralisation-based destruction technology”.
30. At Blue Grass, an explosive destruction technology (EDT) will be also used “to augment the planned operation of the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP)”. The selection of the EDT to address the challenges that are expected to arise during the processing of the mustard-filled munitions will be determined once the environmental assessment has been completed.
31. The United States of America has informed the Secretariat that it has completed construction work for the major buildings at the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) and that systemisation at this facility is 46% complete. This State Party has also informed the Secretariat that it has completed 71% of the construction work for the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) and that this facility has also reached nine percent systemisation. The United States of America plans to begin destruction operations at Pueblo in December 2015 and at Blue Grass in April 2020.
32. The United States of America has informed the Secretariat that “No problems have been encountered since the last report” and that it “continues to anticipate potential

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

issues and will use risk mitigation strategies to address and eliminate concerns as early as possible to facilitate the safe and environmentally sound destruction of the remaining U.S. chemical weapons stockpile”. Finally, the United States of America stated that it is “on track to meet its planned completion date”.

33. The Director-General, on the basis of information he has received from the United States of America, is in a position to confirm that this State Party has taken the necessary measures to meet the planned completion date for its destruction activities and that measures have been put in place to shorten the construction and systemisation schedule at both PCAPP and the BGCAPP, inter alia, by using a combination of new technologies and equipment, contract incentives, transfer of experienced personnel, as well as by augmenting the main plants’ capacities with EDTs designed for the safe destruction of problematic chemical munitions. Should the situation change, the Secretariat, in a timely manner, shall inform the policy-making organs, in accordance with C-16/DEC.11.

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