



### REPORT OF THE SEVENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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

The Chairperson of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”), Ambassador Olexander Horin of Ukraine, opened its Seventy-Fifth Session in The Hague at 10:06 on 4 March 2014.

#### 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. Briefing by the Special Coordinator of the OPCW-UN Joint Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic
5. Reports by the Vice-Chairpersons on the activities conducted under their respective clusters of issues
6. General debate
7. 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) Other verification-related issues
  - (d) Destruction-related plans and facility agreements
  - (e) Timely submission of declarations under Article VI of the Convention
  - (f) Article XI: briefings by the facilitator and by the Technical Secretariat



- (g) The Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention
  - (h) Implementation by the Technical Secretariat in 2013 of the regime governing the handling of confidential information
  - (i) Status of implementation of the Verification Information System
8. Report on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor
  9. Follow-up process to the Third Review Conference<sup>1</sup>
  10. Report by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country
  11. The OPCW's contribution to global anti-terrorism efforts
  12. Administrative and financial matters:
    - (a) OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 31 December 2013
    - (b) Transfers of funds in 2013
    - (c) Adjustment to the Director-General's gross salary
  13. Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Executive Council
  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-75/DG.10, dated 4 March 2014).

**4. AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Briefing by the Special Coordinator of the OPCW-UN Joint Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic**

The Special Coordinator of the OPCW-UN Joint Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic, Ms Sigrid Kaag, addressed the Council.

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<sup>1</sup> Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention

**5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – Reports by the Vice-Chairpersons on the activities conducted under their respective clusters of issues**

- 5.1 The Vice-Chairpersons and coordinators for clusters of issues reported to the Council on informal consultations held during the intersessional period: Ms María Belén Barberis of Ecuador on chemical weapons issues, Ambassador Francesco Azzarello of Italy on chemical-industry and other Article VI issues (EC-75/WP.1, dated 4 March 2014), 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.
- 5.2 The facilitator for the implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”), Dr Zlatko Dimitroff of Bulgaria, reported on consultations held in the intersessional period.
- 5.3 The facilitator for the implementation of the action plan on universality, Ambassador Dziunik Aghajanian of Armenia, also reported on consultations held in the intersessional period.

**6. AGENDA ITEM SIX – General debate**

The following delegations made statements during the general debate: Greece (on behalf of the European Union), the Islamic Republic of Iran (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and China), South Africa (on behalf of the African Group), India, China, Brazil, Norway, Saudi Arabia, the United States of America, Japan, Iraq, France, Nigeria, Libya, Canada, Chile, Argentina, Germany, Peru, Pakistan, Cuba (observer), Portugal, Mexico, Turkey (observer), Belgium, Poland, Kenya, Senegal, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Czech Republic, Spain (observer), the Netherlands (observer), Uruguay, the Republic of Korea, Finland (observer), Qatar, Italy, Ireland, the Russian Federation, Denmark (observer), and the Syrian Arab Republic (observer).

**7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Status of implementation of the Convention**

**Subitem 7(a): Reports by the Director-General on destruction-related issues**

- 7.1 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-75/DG.7, dated 26 February 2014 and Corr.1, dated 28 February 2014).
- 7.2 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-75/DG.8, dated 28 February 2014).

**Subitem 7(b): Implementation of the Conference of the States Parties and Executive Council decisions on destruction-related issues**

- 7.3 The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) briefed the Council on its destruction-related verification activities.
- 7.4 The Council **noted** the voluntary presentation by Italy on the destruction of its old chemical weapons pursuant to Council decision EC-67/DEC.8 (dated 17 February 2012).
- 7.5 The Russian Federation, the United States of America, Libya, and Japan briefed the Council on their destruction-related activities.
- 7.6 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 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 applications of the measures contained in decision C-16/DEC.11.
- 7.7 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 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 appropriate measures in order to meet the planned completion date (EC-75/P/NAT.1, dated 17 February 2014 and Corr.1, dated 26 February 2014), 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.
- 7.8 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 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 appropriate measures in order to meet the planned completion date (EC-75/NAT.1, dated 11 February 2014) 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.
- 7.9 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-75/NAT.3, dated 21 February 2014), 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.

- 7.10 The Council **noted** a Note by the Director-General reporting on progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme (EC-75/DG.6, dated 25 February 2014).
- 7.11 The Council **noted** a national paper by the Syrian Arab Republic (EC-75/P/NAT.2, dated 24 February 2014).
- 7.12 In addition to the reports from the Director-General and the delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic, delegations also received a briefing from the Special Coordinator of the OPCW-UN Joint Mission. The Council **reviewed** the current situation with respect to elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme, discussing the progress that has been made, which was positively noted in the Council, and the delays that have occurred, about which concerns were expressed in the Council. The Council **noted** that on 23 February the Syrian Arab Republic informed the Joint Mission of a revised plan for removal of all relevant chemicals from its territory by 27 April 2014. The Council **noted** the increasing pace of removal of the Syrian chemical weapons and **requested** the Syrian Arab Republic to continue systematic, predictable and substantial movements and to accelerate, where possible and in cooperation with the Joint Mission, its efforts in order to complete removal in the shortest possible time. The Council will continue to closely monitor progress achieved with respect to the elimination of Syrian chemical weapons material and equipment. For this purpose, the Council **requested** the Director-General, in addition to his monthly reports, to brief delegations each week, based on the independent information from the Joint Mission, on progress in implementing the plan. During such briefings information should also be provided on any difficulties that are being experienced and on steps that are being undertaken to address those difficulties. The Council **decided** to continue its consideration of these issues at a meeting on 28 March 2014.
- 7.13 The Council **requested** that the Syrian Arab Republic, in close consultation with the Secretariat and making every effort to develop a common approach, submit to the Secretariat a revised detailed plan for destruction of the 12 chemical weapons production facilities, including proposed measures for verification, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention. The purpose of this is to allow the Secretariat, in close consultation with the Syrian Arab Republic, to submit the combined plans for destruction and verification to the Council at its next meeting for its consideration. The combined plans for destruction and verification shall be agreed upon between the Council and the Syrian Arab Republic at its next meeting in accordance with Article V and paragraphs 36 to 42 of Part V, Section B, of the Verification Annex.
- 7.14 The Council **requested** the Director-General to facilitate the preparation of this destruction plan and for this purpose to dispatch a team of experts from the Secretariat to the Syrian Arab Republic for carrying out the necessary studies and to render appropriate advice to the State Party.

7.15 Further to a decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6), a national paper by China (EC-75/NAT.2, dated 12 February 2014) and a national paper by Japan (EC-75/NAT.4, dated 20 February 2014) had been circulated to the members of the Council. 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.

7.16 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 **appreciated** the first hand information on the destruction related progress and the bilateral cooperation of the relevant States Parties obtained through the visit by the delegation of the Council to Haerbaling abandoned chemical weapons site, jointly invited by China and Japan, from 9 to 13 September 2013.

**Subitem 7(c): Other verification-related issues**

7.17 The Secretariat briefed the Council on its other verification-related activities.

**Subitem 7(d): Destruction-related plans and facility agreements**

7.18 The Secretariat submitted to the Council a Note on amendments, modifications, and updates to the facility agreement regarding on-site inspections at the Rabta Toxic Chemicals Destruction Facility, Libya, and amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification for that facility (EC-75/S/1, dated 30 October 2013).

7.19 Proposed amendments to the aforementioned facility agreement had been submitted separately to the Council (EC-75/DEC.1, dated 5 March 2014), which **considered** and **approved** them. Related amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of chemical weapons at the Rabta Toxic Chemicals Destruction Facility, Libya, are treated in paragraph 7.20 below.

7.20 The Council **considered** and **approved** amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of chemical weapons at the Rabta Toxic Chemicals Destruction Facility, Libya (EC-75/DEC.2, dated 5 March 2014).

7.21 The Council **considered** and **approved** the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of the Category 1 chemical weapons at the chemical weapons destruction facility (CWDF) located at Kizner, Udmurt Republic, the Russian Federation (EC-75/DEC.5 and EC-75/P/DEC.1, both dated 6 March 2014).

7.22 The Council **considered** and **approved** the facility agreement with the Russian Federation regarding on-site inspections at the CWDF located at Kizner, Udmurt Republic, the Russian Federation (EC-75/DEC.6 and EC-75/P/DEC.2, both dated 6 March 2014).

7.23 The Secretariat submitted to the Council a Note on modifications and updates to the facility agreement with China regarding on-site inspections at a single small-scale facility (EC-75/S/3, dated 14 January 2014).

- 7.24 The Secretariat also submitted to the Council a Note on a modification to the facility agreement with Norway regarding on-site inspections at a Schedule 1 protective purposes facility (EC-75/S/2, dated 14 January 2014).
- 7.25 The Council **considered** and **approved** an arrangement with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland specifying the arrangements governing on-site inspections at commercial facilities (EC-75/DEC.3, dated 5 March 2014).
- 7.26 The Council **considered** and **approved** an agreement with Finland specifying the arrangements governing on-site inspections at commercial facilities (EC-75/DEC.4, dated 5 March 2014).

**Subitem 7(e): Timely submission of declarations under Article VI of the Convention**

- 7.27 Further to a decision by the Council at its Fifty-First Session (EC-51/DEC.1, dated 27 November 2007), the Council **noted** a status report by the Director-General on the timely submission by States Parties of declarations under Article VI of the Convention for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013 (EC-75/DG.1, dated 15 January 2014).

**Subitem 7(f): Article XI: briefings by the facilitator and by the Technical Secretariat**

- 7.28 The Council **received** an oral report by the facilitator for this issue, Mr Tariq Karim of Pakistan, on the activities held during the intersessional period and **noted** the proposals made by delegations that are aimed at further enhancing the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of the provisions of Article XI, and **requested** him to continue consultations in this regard. The Council **noted** that the facilitator presented to the delegations the additional proposal, which he had received earlier, to further develop and enhance the future actions for the advancement of the objectives of Article XI. The Council **encouraged** the facilitator to continue making regular reports to the Council on his work.
- 7.29 The Council **noted** the briefing by the Secretariat on “Article XI Activities and Programmes, Plan for 2014” and **encouraged** the Secretariat to continue evaluating and improving programmes in consultation with States Parties in the context of the ongoing Article XI facilitations. The Council **endorsed** the call by the Director-General for States Parties to provide full and timely feedback on Article XI implementation-support activities.
- 7.30 The Council **welcomed** the discussion on Article XI at its Seventy-Fifth Session and **noted** that the rich exchange of views provides a basis for further discussion in the informal consultations aimed at achieving the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of Article XI.

**Subitem 7(g): The Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention**

7.31 The Council **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Director-General on the Third Phase of the Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention (EC-75/DG.5, dated 17 February 2014).

**Subitem 7(h): Implementation by the Technical Secretariat in 2013 of the regime governing the handling of confidential information**

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

**Subitem 7(i): Status of implementation of the Verification Information System**

7.33 The Council **noted** a status report on the Verification Information System (EC-75/S/4, dated 15 January 2014).

**8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – Report on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor**

8.1 The Council **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Secretariat on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor (EC-75/S/5, dated 15 January 2014). The Council **requested** the Advisory Board on Administrative and Financial Matters (ABAF) to review this document, and for the Council to consider in a future session any recommendations that the ABAF may have in connection with this review.

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

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

The Council **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Secretariat entitled “Updated Matrix of Actionable Items Identified at the Third Review Conference” (EC-75/S/7, dated 18 February 2014).

**10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – 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 on the performance of its activities in the intersessional period (EC-75/HCC/1/Rev.1 C-19/HCC/1/Rev.1, dated 6 March 2014).

**11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – The OPCW’s contribution to global anti-terrorism efforts**

11.1 The Council **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Director-General on the status of the OPCW’s contribution to global anti-terrorism efforts (EC-75/DG.3, dated 12 February 2014).

11.2 Mr O. D. Ilariougun of Nigeria reported on behalf of the facilitator of the Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism, Ambassador Nimota Nihinlola Akanbi, on consultations held during the intersessional period.

**12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Administrative and financial matters**

**Subitem 12(a): OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 31 December 2013**

12.1 The Council **noted** a report by the Director-General on OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 31 December 2013 (EC-75/DG.2, dated 10 February 2014).

**Subitem 12(b): Transfers of funds in 2013**

12.2 The Council **noted** a Note by the Director-General on transfers of funds during 2013 (EC-75/DG.4 C-19/DG.1, dated 13 February 2014).

**Subitem 12(c): Adjustment to the Director-General’s gross salary**

12.3 In accordance with a decision of the Conference at its First Special Session (C-SS-1/DEC.4, dated 25 July 2002) stipulating that the terms of appointment of the Director-General shall be subject to adjustments by the Council to keep the terms in line with those of other executive heads within the United Nations system, the Council **adopted** a decision adjusting the Director-General’s gross salary (EC-75/DEC.7, dated 6 March 2014).

**13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Executive Council**

In accordance with Rule 6 of its Rules of Procedure, and with effect from 12 May 2014, the Council **elected** Ambassador Álvaro Marcelo Moerzinger of Uruguay as its new Chairperson, for a term of office ending on 11 May 2015, and its new Vice-Chairpersons for the same period: Dr Ali Gebril Werfeli of Libya, Ambassador Masaru Tsuji of Japan, Ambassador Vesela Mrđen Korać of Croatia, and Ambassador Francesco Azzarello of Italy.

**14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Any other business**

**Nomination for membership of the Advisory Board on Administrative and Financial Matters**

The Council **noted** a Note by the Secretariat on a nomination for membership of the ABAF (EC-75/S/6, dated 18 February 2014) and **approved** the nomination of

Mr Alok Vardhan Chaturvedi of India to the ABAF, to replace Mr Subhash Chandra Garg, retroactive to the date of his nomination (8 January 2014).

**15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – Adoption of the report**

The Council **considered** and **adopted** the report of its Seventy-Fifth Session.

**16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Closure**

The Chairperson closed the session at 16:50 on 7 March 2014.

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