

Executive Council

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REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

OVERALL PROGRESS WITH RESPECT TO THE DESTRUCTION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS ABANDONED BY JAPAN IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

- 1. In its decision entitled the "The Deadline of 29 April 2012 and Future Destruction of the Chemical Weapons Abandoned by Japan in the People's Republic of China" (EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012), the Executive Council (hereinafter "the Council") requested the Director-General to provide a report at each regular session of the Council on the overall progress of the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons (ACWs).
- 2. To date, over 50,000 items of ACWs have been recovered at over 90 locations within China. This figure includes those items which have already been destroyed. However, it does not include the estimated 300,000 to 400,000 items buried at Haerbaling, Jilin Province, which have yet to be recovered, nor does it include items at other locations which also have yet to be recovered and declared.
- 3. As at the end of the reporting period on 31 August 2014, the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter "the Secretariat") had verified the destruction of 37,020 chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China. This figure accounts for all items of ACWs that were declared at Nanjing, items transferred to Nanjing for destruction from surrounding locations, and items destroyed at the mobile destruction facility (MDF) in Shijiazhuang, Hebei Province, as at the date mentioned above. The current third phase of destruction operations, which started on 15 September 2014 at the Shijiazhuang MDF, will be reported in the next ACW progress report.
- 4. According to information provided in their national papers, as well as the destruction plan jointly submitted to the Council by China and Japan, the MDF initially deployed in Nanjing has been redeployed to Wuhan, with the installation of the MDF being completed in January 2014. During the reporting period, the renovation of the administration building and the construction of additional infrastructure took place. Furthermore, prior to destruction operations commencing in Wuhan, ACW items from nine temporary trust storehouses will be consolidated at the Wuhan site for purposes of destruction. China and Japan have been holding bilateral consultations in order to develop a plan for this activity.
- 5. During the reporting period, 322 ACW items stored at six locations in the vicinity of Shijiazhuang were transported to the MDF at this location for destruction. Further to this, the items recently recovered in Tianjin will also be transferred to Shijiazhuang during a later phase for destruction. Upon completion of destruction operations at the

Shijiazhuang MDF, it is planned to redeploy the destruction equipment to Harbin, Heilongjiang Province, for destruction of items at that location and of items stored at temporary trust warehouses within its vicinity.

- 6. During the reporting period, China and Japan carried out a number of bilateral excavation and recovery operations at several locations, including X-ray identification of a number of items at Shijiazhuang. Following these activities, a number of items were confirmed as ACWs, while other suspect items require further identification activities to be undertaken. Amended declarations to reflect the results of these operations will be submitted to the Secretariat in due course.
- 7. Regarding the Haerbaling destruction site, bilateral consultations and preparations continue, including improvements to the X-ray identification system and munitions data management system, as both sides work towards the commencement of destruction operations at this location. Owing to the fact that Haerbaling is the largest burial site of ACWs in China, the start of destruction operations will have a major impact in regard to the overall progress in the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China.
- 8. During the reporting period, China and Japan continued to hold bilateral consultations, including a biannual high-level meeting between the ACW offices from both sides. Topics discussed included the implementation plans for MDFs, excavation and recovery operations, as well as a range of other practical issues. Furthermore, in August the Secretariat carried out inspections of the Guangzhou and Jiamusi trust warehouses, where it verified more than 400 ACW items.
- 9. Finally, the destruction of the chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China is scheduled to continue on the basis of the agreed destruction plan, in accordance with which Japan and China regularly report to the Council (EC-67/NAT.11, dated 15 February 2012). The plan includes time frames for the destruction of ACWs by Japan, with appropriate cooperation from China. The Secretariat remains in close coordination with both China and Japan on the implementation of the Council decision (EC-67/DEC.6).

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