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**REPORT ON THE PROGRESS TOWARDS THE COMPLETION OF DESTRUCTION
OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS ABANDONED BY JAPAN IN CHINA**

In accordance with paragraph 28 of Part IV(A) of the Verification Annex to the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) and pursuant to the relevant decision (EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012) of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the progress achieved, during the period from 31 May 2014 to 30 September 2014, towards the complete destruction of the chemical weapons abandoned by Japan in China (hereinafter “Japanese ACWs”) is hereby reported as follows:

1. Destruction and Disposal of Japanese ACWs

- 1.1 During the reporting period, the third phase of destruction operations commenced in the mobile Japanese ACW destruction facility in Shijiazhuang.
- 1.2 To date, Japanese ACWs have been discovered on the territory of China at over 90 locations in 17 provinces (municipalities, autonomous regions). The number of Japanese ACW items already recovered so far stands at approximately 50,000, of which 37,187 items had been destroyed as at 30 September.
- 1.3 The largest burial site of Japanese ACWs ever discovered is located at Harbaling, Jilin Province. It is estimated that over 330,000 items of Japanese ACWs are buried there.
- 1.4 It must be pointed out that owing to the lack of relevant information it is difficult to make an accurate assessment of Japanese ACWs in terms of their specific numbers and burial locations. And many of Japanese ACWs are corroded and leaky, causing incidents of human injury from time to time.

2. Status of the operational destruction facilities

2.1 The mobile destruction facility in Nanjing

The destruction operations in Nanjing have been fully concluded. According to the destruction plan jointly submitted to the Council by China and Japan, the destruction



equipment will be redeployed, first in Wuhan and then in Guangzhou, for the destruction of the Japanese ACWs stored in those places and in their vicinities.

2.2 The mobile destruction facility in Shijiazhuang

- (a) From 23 June to 21 August 2014, the transportation was completed for consolidating to the mobile destruction facility in Shijiazhuang the total of 322 items of Japanese ACWs kept at the trust storehouse in Yanqing and the temporary trust storehouses in Tianjin, Tangshan, Datong, Shouyang and Handan.
- (b) From 21 to 31 August 2014, China assisted Japan in conducting a X-ray identification of the 6 artillery shells stored in the mobile destruction facility in Shijiazhuang, Hebei Province (kept at the trust storehouse in Shijiazhuang prior to their consolidation) as well as 4 barrels of bulk yellow agent.
- (c) From 15 September to 11 December 2014, the third phase of destruction operations was undertaken, with the plan of completing within three months the destruction of 324 items of Japanese ACWs (comprised of the 318 pieces transported from Tianjin, Tangshan, Datong, Shouyang and Handan to Shijiazhuang and the 6 pieces already kept at the trust storehouse in Shijiazhuang prior to the consolidation mentioned above). In 2015, it is planned to destroy the 4 barrels of bulk yellow agent from Yanqing, and to transport to this facility for destruction the nearly 600 items of Japanese ACWs already excavated and recovered in Tianjin and those that may be newly excavated and recovered in subsequent operations in Taiyuan. As at the reporting date, 114 pieces of Japanese ACWs had been destroyed during the third phase of operations in Shijiazhuang.
- (d) According to the destruction plan jointly submitted to the Council by China and Japan, after the conclusion of the destruction operations in Shijiazhuang, the destruction equipment will be redeployed in Harbin, for the destruction of the Japanese ACWs stored there and in its vicinity.

3. Status of destruction facilities under construction

3.1 The Harbaling destruction facilities

- (a) The construction of the Harbaling destruction facilities had started in September 2013, and was completed on 30 September 2014. A trial run will be carried out in October, and the destruction will be initiated within this year.
- (b) As Harbaling is the largest burial site of Japanese ACWs discovered so far, an early start of the destruction operations there will be decisive for the acceleration of the overall process of Japanese ACW destruction. Viewed against the schedule in the destruction plan formulated by China and Japan at the beginning of 2012, the pace of the construction work for the Harbaling destruction project has obviously fallen behind schedule.

3.2 The mobile destruction facility in Wuhan

As regards the mobile destruction facility in Wuhan, the installation of the destruction equipment was completed in January 2014, and the destruction operations are expected to begin in December. The constructions of access roads and storage buildings have been concluded now, and the refitting of the complex building was completed in September. Before the destruction operations commence, the Japanese ACWs stored in the nine temporary trust storehouses in the vicinity of Wuhan will need to be all transported to this facility for destruction. China and Japan are yet to decide further on the specific starting date for the transportation. Viewed against the schedule in the destruction plan formulated by China and Japan at the beginning of 2012, the destruction operations in Wuhan will begin two years behind schedule.

3.3 Other destruction sites

The mobile destruction facility in Harbin is being designed now, and the construction of its external access roads is expected to begin in October 2014. The destruction operations with a mobile facility in Guangzhou will be planned depending on the progress of those in Wuhan.

4. Bilateral excavation and recovery operations

4.1 From 24 June to 15 August 2014 and from 27 August to 25 September 2014, China assisted Japan on two occasions in conducting excavation and recovery operations at the Japanese ACW burial site in the compound of Tianma Metal Material Recovery Corporation located at Chunhua Road in Dunhua City, Jilin Province. Through the operations, 261 items of Japanese ACWs were recovered.

4.2 From 1 to 7 August 2014, China assisted Japan in carrying out an investigation concerning Japanese ACWs in the Mao'ershan region in Shangzhi City, Heilongjiang Province, with 12 pieces of Japanese ACWs recovered.

4.3 From 17 to 21 September 2014, China assisted Japan in conducting operations of excavation, recovery and overpacking of Japanese ACWs in Xuzhou City, Jiangsu Province, with 11 pieces of Japanese ACWs recovered.

4.4 From 22 to 24 September 2014, China assisted Japan in undertaking an external identification and overpacking of the Japanese ACWs recovered by China in Hangzhou City, Zhejiang Province, with 5 items confirmed as Japanese ACWs.

5. Trilateral consultations and OPCW inspections

During the reporting period, the OPCW conducted its inspections of the Harbaling Trust Storehouse for Japanese ACWs and the Qiqihar Trust Storehouse for Japanese ACWs, and of the Shijiazhuang Trust Storehouse for Japanese ACWs and the mobile Japanese ACW destruction facility in Shijiazhuang.

6. Conclusion

6.1 It is now nearly 70 years since Japan's war of aggression against China and already 17 years since the entry into force of the Convention, but the large quantities of

chemical weapons abandoned by Japan in China are still posing a grave threat and harm to the lives and properties of the people and the ecological and environmental safety in the affected areas in China. The destruction of Japanese ACWs is directly related to the realisation of the core objectives of the Convention. China expresses its regret over Japan's failure to complete the destruction of Japanese ACWs by the deadline prescribed by the Convention and the relevant Council decision (EC-46/DEC.4, dated 5 July 2006).

- 6.2 At the same time, with a pragmatic, cooperative and constructive approach, China has reached agreement with Japan on multilateral and bilateral arrangements for the future destruction of Japanese ACWs. As a result, the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session adopted a decision on the future destruction of Japanese ACWs (EC-67/DEC.6) and the destruction plan jointly submitted by China and Japan. Japan has undertaken to make every effort to complete the destruction of the Japanese ACWs already confirmed and declared to the OPCW by the end of 2016, and to complete the destruction of all Japanese ACWs, including those at Harbaling, by the end of 2022.
- 6.3 Regrettably, the pace of the relevant work has fallen behind the schedule in the destruction plan mentioned above. China urges Japan to implement in good faith the relevant Council decision and the provisions of the relevant Memorandum of Understanding between the Chinese and Japanese governments, and increase its inputs, with a view to completing the destruction at an early date according to the timeframe established by the destruction plan. Meanwhile, China calls upon the policy-making organs and the Secretariat of the OPCW to continue supervising and facilitating the destruction process.