



Seventy-Eighth Session
17 – 20 March 2015

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ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SEVENTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 17 – 20 MARCH 2015

This revised annotated agenda¹ has been prepared by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) to guide and assist members of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) in their substantive preparations for its Seventy-Eighth Session. It lists the items of business for the session in the sequence in which they appear in the provisional agenda set for it (see agenda item two below).

1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session

The Seventy-Eighth Session of the Council will be opened in The Hague by the Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Álvaro Moerzinger of Uruguay, at 10:00 on 17 March 2015.

2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Adoption of the agenda

The Council is **requested** to consider and adopt the following agenda, which has been circulated under cover of EC-78/1/Rev.2, dated 10 March 2015:

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

¹ This document is issued for information purposes only and does not supersede in any way the revised provisional agenda for the Seventy-Eighth Session of the Executive Council, or prejudice the outcome of its deliberations.



- (c) Other verification-related issues
 - (d) Destruction-related plans and facility agreements
 - (e) Timely submission of declarations under Article VI of the Convention
 - (f) Implementation by the Technical Secretariat in 2014 of the regime governing the handling of confidential information
 - (g) Status of implementation of the Verification Information System
 - (h) Technical Secretariat's activities: update on the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria
7. OPCW Central Analytical Database
 8. Follow-up process to the Third Review Conference²
 9. Education and outreach: briefing by the Technical Secretariat
 10. The OPCW's contribution to global anti-terrorism efforts
 11. Administrative and financial matters:
 - (a) Status of implementation of the External Auditor's recommendations
 - (b) Transfers of funds during 2014
 - (c) Report on the status of implementation of the enterprise-resource-planning (ERP) system
 - (d) Nominations for membership of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters
 - (e) Adjustment to the Director-General's gross salary
 12. Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Executive Council
 13. Report by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country
 14. Any other business
 15. Adoption of the report
 16. Closure

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

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

The Council is **requested** to note the opening statement by the Director-General (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

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 will report to the Council on informal consultations held during the intersessional period: Ambassador Vesela Mrđen Korać of Croatia on chemical weapons issues, Ambassador Francesco Azzarello of Italy on chemical industry and other Article VI issues, Ambassador Masaru Tsuji of Japan on administrative and financial issues, and Ambassador Dr Ali Gebril Werfeli of Libya on legal, organisational, and other issues.

5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – General debate

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 is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Director-General on the overall progress of destruction activities by possessor States Parties (EC-78/DG.11, dated 9 March 2015).

6.2 Further to a decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012), the Council is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Director-General on the overall progress of the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

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

6.3 The Secretariat is expected to brief the Council on its destruction-related verification activities.

6.4 The States Parties concerned are expected to brief the Council on their destruction-related activities.

6.5 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Council is **requested** to consider and note 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, and identifying progress made since the last briefing in order to meet the planned completion date. This report is also to include reporting on any specific measures undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programme (EC-78/NAT.1, dated 24 February 2015).

- 6.6 Further to the same decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Council is **requested** to consider and note 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, and identifying progress made since the last briefing in order to meet the planned completion date. This report is also to include reporting on any specific measures undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programme (EC-78/P/NAT.4, dated 20 February 2015).
- 6.7 Further to the same decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Council is **requested** to consider and note 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, and identifying progress made since the last briefing in order to meet the planned completion date. This report is also to include reporting on any specific measures undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programme (EC-78/NAT.2, dated 2 March 2015).
- 6.8 The Council is **requested** to note two Notes by the Director-General reporting on progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme (EC-78/DG.5, dated 23 January 2015 and EC-78/DG.9, dated 23 February 2015).
- 6.9 Two national papers by the Syrian Arab Republic on the activities related to the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons and their production facilities (EC-78/P/NAT.2, dated 16 January 2015 and EC-78/P/NAT.3, dated 16 February 2015) have been made available to the members of the Council.
- 6.10 Further to its consideration of this issue at its previous session, the Council is **requested** to consider and adopt a draft decision on the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of the chemical weapons declared as abandoned by the Syrian Arab Republic (EC-M-44/DEC/CRP.1/Rev.1, dated 8 October 2014).
- 6.11 Further to its consideration of this issue at its previous session, the Council is **requested** to consider and adopt a draft decision on the retention of samples of Syrian chemical weapons (EC-77/DEC/CRP.2, dated 12 September 2014).
- 6.12 Further to a decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6), a national paper by China (EC-78/NAT.3, dated 2 March 2015) and a national paper by Japan (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations) on the overall progress of the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China have been circulated to the members of the Council.

Subitem 6(c): Other verification-related issues

- 6.13 The Secretariat is expected to brief the Council on its other verification-related activities.
- 6.14 The Secretariat is also expected to provide a follow-up briefing on the activities of the Declaration Assessment Team.

- 6.15 The Council is **requested** to note a status report on the activities of the Declaration Assessment Team (EC-78/P/S/1, dated 4 March 2015).
- 6.16 The Secretariat is also expected to brief the Council on the destruction of the chemical weapons production facilities in the Syrian Arab Republic.

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

- 6.17 The Council is **requested** to consider and approve the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of chemical weapons at the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant, chemical weapons destruction facility (CWDF), located at Pueblo, Colorado, the United States of America (EC-78/DEC/CRP.8, dated 6 March 2015).
- 6.18 The Council is also **requested** to consider and approve the facility agreement with the United States of America regarding on-site inspections at the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant, CWDF, located at Pueblo, Colorado, the United States of America (EC-78/DEC/CRP.9, dated 6 March 2015).
- 6.19 The Secretariat 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 Shchuchye, Kurganskaya Oblast, the Russian Federation (EC-78/S/4, dated 20 February 2015).
- 6.20 Proposed amendments to the aforementioned facility agreement have been submitted separately to the Council (EC-78/DEC/CRP.6, dated 20 February 2015 and EC-78/P/DEC/CRP.2, dated 17 February 2015), which is **requested** to consider and approve them. Related amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of Category 1 chemical weapons at the CWDF located at Shchuchye, Kurganskaya Oblast, the Russian Federation, are treated in paragraph 6.21 below.
- 6.21 The Council is **requested** to consider and approve amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of Category 1 chemical weapons at the CWDF located at Shchuchye, Kurganskaya Oblast, the Russian Federation (EC-78/DEC/CRP.7, dated 20 February 2015 and EC-78/P/DEC/CRP.1, dated 17 February 2015).
- 6.22 The Secretariat has submitted to the Council a Note on amendments, modifications, and updates to the facility agreement with Finland regarding on-site inspections at a single small-scale facility (EC-78/S/3, dated 18 February 2015).
- 6.23 Proposed amendments to the aforementioned facility agreement have been submitted separately to the Council (EC-78/DEC/CRP.5, dated 18 February 2015), which is **requested** to consider and approve it.

Subitem 6(e): Timely submission of declarations under Article VI of the Convention

- 6.24 Further to a decision by the Council at its Fifty-First Session (EC-51/DEC.1, dated 27 November 2007), the Council is **requested** to note a status report by the Director-General on the timely submission by States Parties of declarations under

Article VI of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”), for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2014 (EC-78/DG.4, dated 12 January 2015).

Subitem 6(f): Implementation by the Technical Secretariat in 2014 of the regime governing the handling of confidential information

6.25 The Council is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Secretariat in 2014 (EC-78/DG.8 C-20/DG.2, dated 12 February 2015).

Subitem 6(g): Status of implementation of the Verification Information System

6.26 The Council is **requested** to take note of a status report on the Verification Information System (EC-78/S/1, dated 7 January 2015).

Subitem 6(h): Technical Secretariat’s activities: update on the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria

6.27 Further to the decision by the Council on the reports of the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria (EC-M-48/DEC.1, dated 4 February 2015), the Director-General is expected to provide the Council with information on the progress of the work of the Fact-Finding Mission as well as on specific plans and schedules and their implementation (S/1255/2015*, dated 10 March 2015).

7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – OPCW Central Analytical Database

The Council is **requested** to consider a Note by the Director-General on the lists of approved data recommended for removal from the OPCW Central Analytical Database (OCAD) (EC-78/DG.1, dated 30 October 2014) and to adopt a draft decision on the matter (EC-78/DEC/CRP.2, dated 19 December 2014). The Council is **also requested** to consider a Note by the Director-General on lists of new validated data of scheduled chemicals for approval by the Council for inclusion in the OCAD (EC-78/DG.2, dated 30 October 2014), and to adopt a draft decision on their inclusion (EC-78/DEC/CRP.1, dated 19 December 2014).

8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – Follow-up process to the Third Review Conference

8.1 At its Seventy-Third Session, the Council requested the Director-General to submit to each regular session of the Council the updated version of the “Matrix of Actionable Items Identified at the Third Review Conference” (paragraph 13.1 of EC-73/6, dated 19 July 2013), which the Council is **requested** to consider and note (EC-78/S/5, dated 25 February 2015).

8.2 The Secretariat is expected to provide a briefing to the Council on the follow-up process to the Third Review Conference.

9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – Education and outreach: briefing by the Technical Secretariat

9.1 The Secretariat is expected to provide a briefing to the Council on ongoing and future activities related to education and outreach.

9.2 At its Nineteenth Session, the Conference welcomed the initiative for a text of ethical guidelines for chemical professionals related to the Convention and invited the Secretariat to inform the Council of its efforts for the advancement of the initiative and its objectives in close collaboration with relevant professional and chemical industry organisations. The Secretariat is expected to inform the Council of its efforts in this regard.

10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – The OPCW’s contribution to global anti-terrorism efforts

10.1 The Council is **requested** to consider and note a Note by the Director-General on the status of the OPCW’s contribution to global anti-terrorism efforts (EC-78/DG.6, dated 5 February 2015).

10.2 The facilitator for this issue, Ambassador Nimota Nihinlola Akanbi of Nigeria, is expected to report on the consultations held during the intersessional period.

11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Administrative and financial matters

Subitem 11(a): Status of implementation of the External Auditor’s recommendations

11.1 The Council is **requested** to consider and note a Note by the Secretariat on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor (EC-78/S/2, dated 23 January 2015).

Subitem 11(b): Transfers of funds during 2014

11.2 The Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General on transfers of funds during 2014 (EC-78/DG.7 C-20/DG.1, dated 12 February 2015).

Subitem 11(c): Report on the status of implementation of the enterprise-resource-planning (ERP) system

11.3 Further to the decision by the Conference at its Nineteenth Session on the implementation on an enterprise-resource-planning (ERP) system and the establishment of a special fund for this purpose (C-19/DEC.7, dated 3 December 2014), the Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General reporting on the status of implementation of the ERP system (EC-78/DG.10, dated 4 March 2015).

Subitem 11(d): Nominations for membership of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters

11.4 The Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Secretariat on a nomination for membership of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters (ABAF)

(EC-78/S/6, dated 27 February 2015) and to approve the nomination of Mr Hiroshi Sanomura of Japan to the ABAF, to replace Ms Sakiko Hayakawa, retroactive to the date of the letter of nomination for Mr Sanomura (23 February 2015).

- 11.5 The Council is also **requested** to note a Note by the Secretariat on a nomination for membership of the ABAF (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations) and to approve the nomination of Mr Hu Zhongkun of China to the ABAF, to replace Mr Jiang Bo, retroactive to the date of the letter of nomination for Mr Hu (10 March 2015).

Subitem 11(e): Adjustment to the Director-General's gross salary

- 11.6 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 is **requested** to adopt a draft decision adjusting the Director-General's gross salary (EC-78/DEC/CRP.3, dated 19 January 2015).

12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – 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 2015, the Council is **requested** to elect its new Chairperson for a term of office ending on 11 May 2016, and its new Vice-Chairpersons for the same period. The Chairperson and four Vice-Chairpersons shall be elected from among the representatives accredited to the Council.

13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Report by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The Council is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country on the performance of its activities in the intersessional period (EC-78/HCC/1 C-20/HCC/1, dated 19 February 2015).

14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN– Any other business

15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – Adoption of the report

16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Closure