

OPCW

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REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ON THE VISIT OF THE DELEGATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO THE HAERBALING ABANDONED CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION SITE JILIN PROVINCE, CHINA 8 – 11 JUNE 2015

Introduction

- 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"), noted that Japan and the People's Republic of China (hereinafter "China") welcome visits of the Chairperson of the Council, the Director-General and a delegation representing the Council to undertake visits to obtain an overview of the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons (hereinafter "ACW") being undertaken. Invitations are also extended to observers to participate in the Council delegation.
- 2. In pursuance of the above-mentioned decision of the Council (EC-67/DEC.6), China and Japan jointly invited the Council to visit the Haerbaling ACW destruction site, Jilin Province, between 8 and 11 June 2015. China and Japan provided in advance a general outline of logistical and safety considerations (Annex 1 to this report) as well as a detailed itinerary (Annex 2), and initiated consultations with the Chairperson of the Council with a view to finalising all specific details of the visit.
- 3. Subsequent to consultations within the various regional groups and in line with the aforementioned decision of the Council, the Council delegation that visited the Haerbaling ACW destruction site comprised the Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Francesco Azzarello representatives of State Parties, and Secretariat staff members. Director-General Ahmet Üzümcü attended the meetings at the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and National Defence in Beijing. The names of the members of the Council delegation are listed in Annex 3 to this report, and the names of the representatives of China and Japan who hosted the visit are listed in Annex 4 and 5.
- 4. The Secretariat made the necessary funds available to the Chairperson of the Council, the Director General and Secretariat staff members. In addition, funding was provided for the representatives of the African Group, Latin America and Caribbean Group, as well as for the observers from Libya and Cameroon using the voluntary contributions available under the terms of Project 3 of the decision adopted by the Council of the European Union on 23 March 2012 (2012/166/CFSP) in the framework of the implementation of the European Union Strategy against

Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction that was adopted on 12 December 2003. China funded observers from Sudan and Pakistan. All other participants bore their own expenses incurred for the visit.

- 5. This report is presented by the Chairperson of the Council after consultations with the representatives of the Council in the delegation.
- 6. In preparation for the visit, the members of the Council delegation were briefed by the Permanent Representatives of both China and Japan to the OPCW on administrative and logistical arrangements, as well as on the programme of the visit.

Meetings in Beijing

7. On 8 June 2015, upon arrival in China, the Chairperson and members of the Council delegation, accompanied by the Director-General, attended two meetings. Firstly, with Mr Kong Li, Head of the JACW Office, Ministry of National Defence (hereinafter "MND") and his Excellency Mr. Li Baodong, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, (hereinafter "MFA").

Ministry of National Defence

- 8. Mr Kong stated that this year marks the 100 year anniversary of the first large scale use of chemical weapons in human history and that many commemorative events have been held this year. Mr Kong continued by stating that it is now 70 years since the end of the Second World War. Mr Kong stated that however, these ACWs still pose a threat to the Chinese people as incidents can occur from time to time.
- 9. Mr Kong further stated that ACW abandoned by Japan on the territory of China have been found at over 90 locations in 17 provinces or autonomous regions in China. Mr Kong stated that most of them were discovered by accident. Mr Kong stated that due to the lack of information on their accurate whereabouts and quantities, the ACW yet to be found still pose a threat to the people and the environment in China. Mr Kong stated that since they have been buried for decades and will have corroded, the destruction of the ACW is more difficult and dangerous than destruction of the chemical weapons stockpiles.
- 10. Mr Kong continued his briefing explaining when the MND established their office for dealing with the ACW and the three areas of responsibilities covered by the Chinese military. Mr Kong stated that firstly, assisting the Japanese side in excavating, recovering and identifying the already discovered ACW. Mr Kong stated that secondly, in assisting the Japanese side in carrying out the destruction operations. Mr Kong stated that thirdly, in keeping the Japanese ACW in secure custody. Mr. Kong also praised the close cooperation between Chine and Japanese personnel on-site.
- 11. Mr Kong said that he was looking forward to the Executive Council continuing to play a more prominent role in facilitating destruction of ACW in China. Mr Kong stated that the important role of the Executive Council, as the Executive body of the OPCW in facilitating the destruction of chemical weapons, including ACW, in the recent years, is very much appreciated. Mr Kong mentioned that the EC decision entitled "The Deadline of 29 April 2012 and Future Destruction of the Chemical

Weapons Abandoned by Japan in the People's Republic of China", adopted by EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012 has provided fundamental legal bases for the advancement of destruction of ACW.

- 12. Finally, Mr Kong explained that during the EC delegation visit to the Haerbaling destruction facility, the members of the delegation will have the opportunity to obtain a better understanding of the current status of the disposal of ACW. He hoped that as a result of the visit by the EC delegation, the OPCW will continue to follow the issue of ACW and will, on that basis, help to realise the ultimate goal of the complete destruction of ACW in China.
- 13. The Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Francesco Azzarello, on behalf of the Council delegation thanked the Governments of China and Japan for the invitation and thanked Mr Kong for the meeting and underlined the commitment of the Council towards ACW destruction. He stated that the Council appreciates the regular progress updates provided at the regular Council sessions, and noted positively the increased cooperation between the Parties. Ambassador Azzarello welcomed this very important visit to Haerbaling to better understand the technical challenges facing both China and Japan.
- 14. The Director-General of the OPCW, Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü, welcomed the progress and cooperation between China and Japan, and stated that the facilitating role would continue by the Secretariat. He acknowledged that ACW destruction is a complex, time consuming, labour intensive and costly undertaking and commended both China and Japan in working to destroy this legacy. Finally, the Director-General reiterated that ACW in China is a priority of the Secretariat and the support of both State Parties is appreciated by the OPCW in all of its activities.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- 15. The second meeting was held at the MFA and chaired by His Excellency Mr. Li Baodong, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Li gave a full account of the historic background and current status of Japanese ACWs. Mr. Li also put this visit in the perspective of the recent achievements of the Secretariat, of the 100th anniversary of the use of chemical weapons, of the declaration of Ieper. Mr. Li further declared that China appreciates the role OPCW plays in ACW issues and that the Chemical Weapons Convention is an important instrument in the field of disarmament.
- 16. "Even 70 years after Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression", Mr. Li said, "ACWs still pose immediate threat to both the Chinese people and the environment." He regretted the lack of information by Japan regarding the location of ACWs, causing injuries in recent years as ACWs were accidently discovered. He explained that the destruction of ACWs is an urgent task and should be completed as soon as possible, which will contribute greatly to the achievement of "A World Free of Chemical Weapons".
- 17. Mr. Li introduced the assistance provided by China during the process of the ACWs destruction in accordance to the MOU signed by China and Japan. Mr. Li reiterated China's deep concern by the passing of destruction deadline and its worry that the pace of the destruction is again falling noticeably behind the schedule envisaged in the destruction plan.

- 18. Mr. Li urged Japan to further intensify its efforts and increase its inputs of resources, so as to speed up the destruction process as quickly as possible according to the plan. Mr. Li stressed that the destruction of ACWs is an international obligation of OPCW under the Chemical Weapons Convention. He appreciated the role Executive Council plays in the ACW issues, and looked forward to its continued constructive role in this respect.
- 19. The Chairperson of the Council thanked Mr Li for hosting the Council delegation, stressed the importance that the Council attaches to ACW destruction, and to the increasing cooperation within the Parties in this matter. He stated that the visit would offer an excellent opportunity for members of the delegation to understand the challenges faced on the ground with regard to ACW recovery and destruction.
- 20. The Director-General of the OPCW thanked the Governments of China and Japan for the invitation and thanked Mr Li for his welcome and hospitality in hosting the Council delegation. He acknowledged the importance of China's support as the Secretariat enters the post destruction phase. At the same time he stated that ACW and stockpiled chemical weapons will remain a priority for the Secretariat. The Secretariat will continue to play a facilitating role in this complex process. Collective efforts by China, Japan and the Secretariat are needed to reach the goal of destroying all ACW in China.

Overview of ACW Destruction in China

- 21. On 09 June 2015 the Council delegation travelled to Yanji, Jilin Province. The Council delegation was welcomed by officials from both the Chinese and Japanese sides. A number of detailed briefings from China and Japan regarding the current status of ACW destruction operations followed.
- 22. The first presentation, made by Mr. Cai Hong, Director General, ACW Office, MFA, provided an overview of the origin of Japanese ACW and the challenges they pose in relation to their recovery and destruction, as well as the efforts of the Chinese side and the current progress towards destruction.
- 23. Mr Cai explained that ACW have been discovered at over 90 locations in 17 provinces, either buried or dumped in rivers and lakes as a result of Japanese occupation Haerbaling is the largest of such known burial locations and is estimated to contain approximately 330,000 items of ACW. As for other places, the amount of ACW discovered varies from dozens to 10,000 and more ACW probably remain to be discovered.
- 24. Mr Cai further explained that in order to start the destruction of ACW, a Memorandum of Understanding signed in 1999 by China and Japan, combined with the Convention, had brought the ACW issue closer to a solution.
- 25. Mr Cai then informed the Council delegation of the efforts by the Chinese side in destroying the ACW after the war. However, during that time, China lacked the technical expertise and financial ability to complete the work and a decision was made to move the items to remote areas away from the general population, thus resulting in the two burial locations at Haerbaling.

- 26. Mr Cai explained that in 1999 the MFA established an ACW office to manage the coordination and administration of ACW issues. In 2012, this management was further enhanced by the creation of an ACW office within the MND, to deal with ACW destruction operations.
- 27. Next Mr. Cai stated that full cooperation has been provided to Japan in terms of the choice of the destruction site, the construction of the destruction facility, the use of land, the logging permit application, the exemption of import duties on detection and destruction equipment imported from Japan and their quality inspections, as well as with regard to technical assistance, logistic and medical support.
- 28. Mr Cai continued his presentation with an overview of the current situation as it relates to ACW destruction operations. He explained that mobile destruction operations have been completed at Nanjing, with the destruction of 35,681 ACW items. The Shijiazhuang Mobile Destruction Facility (MDF) has destroyed 1,392 ACW items from December 2012 to July 2013. The next step will be to restart the destruction operations at this particular site, in the context of properly resolving the problem of excessive dioxin emission. The destruction operations at Wuhan MDF commenced in December 2014 and finished in May 2015 with destruction of 264 ACW items.
- 29. Mr Cai explained that in 2003 the site for the destruction facility at Haerbaling was selected. Destruction technologies utilizing thermal and controlled detonation were chosen. In order to minimize the impact on the environment, China established 78 specialized environmental protection standards regulating the ACW destruction at Haerbaling. The implementation of these standards started at the end of 2004. In November 2012, the first phase of excavation and recovery operations was initiated. The first phase of the destruction operations in Haerbaling commenced on 30 November 2014 and was completed on 4 December 2014 with the destruction of 56 ACW items. Currently, trial destruction operations are ongoing at the Haerbaling site.
- 30. Finally, Mr Cai thanked the OPCW, the State Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention, the Director-General, the Executive Council and the Secretariat for their long-time attention dedicated to the destruction of ACW and their understanding and support of China's efforts in this regard.
- 31. Following the presentation made by Mr Cai, the Japanese side represented by Mr Kenichi Takahashi, Director General, ACW Office, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan provided a briefing to the Council delegation covering a background and the current status of the three main ACW projects in China: the excavation and recovery operations at various locations, the destruction operations with MDFs and the specific project conducted at Haerbaling.
- 32. Further, Mr Takahashi mentioned three points he considers of special importance for carrying out the destruction of ACW in China. First, ensuring transparency of the project through various occasions, such as providing briefings during the Executive Council sessions and other relevant occasions like the Executive Council visits and/or taking part in trilateral meetings among Japan, China and Secretariat. Second, conducting intensive communications in every phase of the process by holding a

number of bi-lateral meetings in order to maintain a close cooperation between Japan and China. Third, ensuring safety of the local community as well as on-site personnel and protecting the environment by implementing measures such as conducting periodical environmental monitoring.

- 33. Mr Takahashi pointed to three characteristics of the ACW projects. First is the continuous discovery of new ACWs and accordingly the modification of the implementation plan. Second is that most ACWs are heavily corroded and some are deformed. Third is that this project is carried out on the territory of China, with different legal framework, business customs, operational procedures and government administrative process. All of these aspects intertwine with each other and make it one of the most challenging projects in the world.
- 34. Next, Mr Takahashi stated that Japan has invested enormous financial resources to tackle this challenging project and to achieve tangible progress. So far, Japan has invested almost one billion two hundred sixty million Euros into the ACWs project. Since the beginning of the destruction operations in Nanjing in 2010, the budget allocated for this project has been increasing regularly and substantially. The relevant budget for the fiscal year 2015 is approximately two hundred twenty four millions Euros, which is about 2.2 times more than the budget for the year 2009 and 17% higher than the 2014 budget. This demonstrates Japan's solid commitment to make utmost efforts toward the early completion of ACW destruction.
- 35. Mr Takahashi introduced recent progress regarding excavation and recovery operations in Dunhua, Taiyuan and Jiamusi. In Dunhua, safety measures were taken by means of building of four meters high walls around the site in order to protect the local community. Since the excavation site belongs to the local scrap dealer, approximately 31,100 items were excavated, of which only 1,496 were confirmed as ACWs. In Taiyuan, the first phase ended with the recovery of 247 ACWs. In Jiamusi, where ACWs were found in the riverbed, the trial excavation and recovery operations are planned from September to October 2015.
- 36. Mr Takahashi introduced recent progress of MDF destruction operation in Shijiazhuang. Since the destruction operation started in Shijiazhuang, three phases of operation have been carried out with destruction of 1,692 ACWs in total. The operation was suspended November 2014, due to China's report of possible Dioxin emission. Recognizing the highest priority to ensure the protection of the environment, Japan conducted a verification test in Japan and on-site verification tests at Shijiazhuang site with the presence of Chinese experts to resolve this issue as soon as possible. The operation is expected to resume in July 2015. For next operation, about 600 recently recovered ACWs in Tianjin are under transportation to Shijiazhuang site.
- 37. Mr Takahashi stated that in Wuhan MDF site 121 ACWs were destroyed in December 2014 and 143 ACWs were destroyed during the second phase from 17 April to 7 May 2015. the facilities are now under decontamination operation, and will be disassembled, loaded on to trailers, then transported back to Japan for renovation. Once the renovation is completed, the facilities are expected to be deployed to Harbin, the next MDF site in Northern China, which is under construction.

- 38. Mr Takahashi also touched briefly upon Haerbaling project, stating that following the inauguration ceremony on 30 November 2014, the destruction operation was conducted between 1 to 4 December with destruction of 56 ACWs. In order to deal with a large number and a wide variety of ACWs, two types of destruction facilities have been applied; namely Controlled Detonation Chamber and Static Detonation Chamber. The destruction operation in 2015 is scheduled from April to the end of July with destruction of nearly 1,000 ACWs. The excavation operation in Haerbaling is expected to resume in late October 2015.
- 39. Mr Takahashi further provided explanations with regard to the types and quantities of ACW so far declared in China and further explained that, of the 52,573 ACW items declared as at 31 May 2015, 37, 956 items have been destroyed. This figure does not take into account the estimated 300,000 to 400,000 items to be recovered at Haerbaling. Since the last Executive Council visit in September 2013, 2,891 items were excavated and declared. This accounts for the total figure increase from 49,682 to 52,573 ACW items.
- 40. Following the presentations, the Council delegation was given the opportunity for questions, which covered a variety of general topics as well as very specific technical queries. Discussions were conducted in an open and transparent manner.
- 41. In answering a question related to the difference of the thermal and control detonation, the representative of Japan explained that the controlled detonation chamber is used for the larger calibre munitions while the static detonation chamber is used for smaller calibre munitions and is being able to accommodate more munitions for destruction.
- 42. In reply to a question on what is the estimated number of ACWs remaining to be destroyed, the Japanese representative explained that almost all the documents on this topic were unfortunately lost and therefore it is not known how many of ACWs were left in China. The currently known information is that there are between 300,000 and 400,000 ACWs estimated to be buried in Haerbaling and around 53,000 ACWs in other locations of which 37,956 items have been destroyed already. Although there is no comprehensive information about ACWs buried in China, Japan is fully committed to destroy all of them. It is also crucial that the Executive Council has an understanding of the complexity of this project and of its financial implications. On this question, the Chinese representative stated that Japan did not provide any information regarding where and in which number the ACWs are buried and therefore these ACWs can only be found by accident.

Visit to the Haerbaling ACW destruction site

- 43. On 10 June 2015, the Council delegation visited the Haerbaling ACW destruction site. On-site activities started with presentations from the Chinese and Japanese sides. The first presentation was delivered by Mr Masato Koie, Counsellor, ACW Office, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan.
- 44. With respect to the operations in Haerbaling site, Mr Koie described the workflow process, starting with the location of ACW and the excavation process, following with the process of external and internal feature identification and finally describing over packing activities prior to storage or destruction.

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- 45. Mr. Koie indicated the work schedule of current fiscal year of Japan. The test destruction operation is scheduled to continue until the end of July 2015 and then the construction of auxiliary facilities will take place. X-ray identification of stored ACWs in Herbaling finished at the end of May. The excavation and recovery operation at burial Pit No.1 is planned from October to the end of November. In Haerbaling, temperature from December to March drops as low as minus thirty degrees Celsius, the operations are suspended during winter and maintenance works are implemented.
- 46. Mr. Koie further explained the details of the recent X-ray identification operation. Certain part of the stored ACWs was recovered before the installation of X-ray device. From April to the end of May 2015, 1,050 items were identified. As a result, 1,041 were confirmed as ACWs, while the rest of 9 were confirmed as non-ACWs.
- 47. Mr Koie informed the Council delegation that the installation of the destruction equipment and the construction of the test destruction facility were completed in late October 2014. The inauguration ceremony for the commencement of destruction operations at Haerbaling was jointly held on 30 November 2014. The test destruction operation commenced on 1 December 2014 resulting in the destruction of 56 ACW. After the winter suspension, the test destruction operations resumed on 27 April 2015 and as of the end of May 2015, in total, 249 ACW items were destroyed. The test destruction operations will continue till the end of July 2015 with estimation to destroy around 980 ACW items in total.
- 48. Then, Mr Koie described the destruction technology employed at Haerbaling site. The controlled detonation chamber provides a disposal technology whereby munitions are attached with donor charges and blown up in order to instantaneously make the chemical agent destroyed and harmless. This destruction method is preferred when disposing chemical munitions that contain important quantities of bursting charge. The static detonation chamber is a disposal technology through which chemical munitions are put into to the detonation chamber and heated up to more than 550 degrees of Celsius to set them off. In order to make the chemical agent destroyed and harmless, resulting products are burned up in a subsequent incinerator at 1,100 degrees of Celsius. This destruction method can dispose batches of chemical munitions in a regular manner.
- 49. Finally, Mr Koie briefed the Council delegation about the joint emergency response drills and environment monitoring being conducted at Haerbaling facility in order to ensure the protection of personnel and safety of the environment at this particular site.
- 50. The second presentation was delivered by Ms Liu Hong from the JACW office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, China, providing to the Council delegation an introduction to the current status of destruction of ACW in Haerbaling.
- 51. Ms Liu opened her presentation by explaining the location of Haerbaling in relation to the other ACW sites within China. She then recalled the history of Haerbaling in relation to the bilateral on-site investigations that have taken place since 1995 and how this has affected the accuracy of the estimated quantity of ACW buried on this location.

- 52. Ms Liu stated that the Chinese side has invested a significant amount of manpower and resources in preparation for destruction operations at Haerbaling. This infrastructure outlay has included building of a guard house, construction of the administration building which houses the laboratories and medical facilities, excavation and recovery zone, trial destruction zone, custody zone, as well as construction of the infrastructure such as electricity, access roads, slope protection and guard fencing.
- 53. Further Ms Liu provided an explanation of the workflow process, in terms of the location of ACW, the excavation process, the external and internal feature identification and the over packing of munitions for storage or destruction.
- 54. Then Ms Liu explained how safety trainings and emergency rescue drills are conducted before each commencement of destruction operations. Such exercises and drills are organized by China, with a view to ensuring the protection of personnel and environment for which China bears the responsibility.
- 55. Next Ms Liu provided an overview regarding the results of excavation and recovery operations conducted jointly by China and Japan at Haerbaling destruction site. She informed the Council delegation that the first phase of the destruction operations in Haerbaling commenced on 30 November 2014 and was completed on 4 December 2014 with the destruction of 56 ACW items.
- 56. Ms Liu concluded her presentation by stating that the beginning of the ACW trial destruction in Haerbaling marks a new stage of the overall destruction of ACW. It bears great significance on speeding up the entire destruction process. Since then, the operation of ACW in Haerbaling has turned from "excavation and recovery" into a new mode of "excavation and destruction". Ms Liu further noted that, while China and Japan maintain good cooperation, destruction lags behind the destruction plan. She also indicated that China urges Japan, in strict accordance with the requirements of relevant decisions, bilateral Memorandum of Understanding and the destruction plan, to further increase manpower and material resources as well as to make every effort to accelerate the destruction rate for an early completion of the project.
- 57. Following the presentations, the Council delegation visited the different areas of the Haerbaling site, starting with the command post, the laboratories and the medical facility, where detailed explanations were provided by Chinese and Japanese personnel of the facility. The laboratories are equipped with a range of analytical equipment enabling the analysis of liquid, solid and gaseous samples, for confirming complete destruction of the ACW, as well as for ensuring environmental protection.
- 58. The medical facilities operate under a three level approach. Initial medical treatment can be administered on site by doctors and medical personnel, using advanced medical equipment in a facility that was built specially for such purpose. The second level of treatment would take place at a designated local hospital, and finally should it be necessary, the third level of medical treatment involves transfer to the People's Liberation Army hospitals (No 301 and 307) in Beijing. These hospitals can provide experts with specialist medical knowledge able to treat and manage chemical casualties. The on-site medical area includes an integrated decontamination facility,

to ensure that injured people are decontaminated prior to their entry into the medical facility.

- 59. From the medical facility, the Council delegation moved to the excavation and recovery facility and was given guided tours of both buildings housing pits one and two. The Japanese representatives explained and showed how the area around the pits had been levelled and the top soil removed, thus exposing the pit itself. The explanation was complemented by a number of photographs showing the different phases of the recovery operation.
- 60. The visit of the connected recovery facility gave the opportunity for the delegation to better understand the technical issues and challenges associated with identifying ACW, as well as the process of over packing ACW prior to their storage or destruction. The Japanese representatives gave a detailed explanation of the process used to identify and categorise the recovered ACW. By using a mock shell, they demonstrated the high capacity X-ray system used to confirm the internal characteristics of recovered ACW, as well as the electronic database system utilised for the storage and management of X-ray data. From there a demonstration was given, showing the over packing of munitions. This enabled the delegation to visualise the entire process of ACW excavation, recovery, identification, processing and final over packing for storage and destruction.
- 61. The third location of the Haerbaling site to be visited was the operation building where the Council delegation was briefed by the Japanese representatives about the layout and operation flow including technical details of the controlled detonation chamber located in the controlled detonation facility building as well as of the static detonation chamber located in heating detonation facility building. Since destruction operations were in progress, the Council delegation could not physically enter into the facilities enclosed within the chemical limited area but did observe, through the monitoring cameras, an actual destruction by explosion.
- 62. During the tour of the facility, the Council delegation was invited to ask questions as necessary. These covered a variety of general topics as well as very specific technical queries. Discussions were conducted in an open and transparent manner.
- 63. The visit to Haerbaling site was concluded by a wrap up session during which the Council delegation was given a final opportunity for questions for which answers are summarized below.
- 64. With regard to the current daily destruction capacity of the controlled detonation chamber and of the static detonation chamber with regard to 90mm Yellow-munition for example, the working hours, the months during which excavation and recovery operations take place, the conduct of X-ray identification and destruction operations and whether all estimated amount of ACW (300,000 400,000) are located in pits one and two, the Japanese representatives responded that the current daily destruction capacity for 90mm Yellow-munition of controlled detonation chamber is 12 munitions per day and of static detonation chamber 36 munitions per day, under current operational condition with one shift per day from Monday till Friday and, due to the winter weather conditions, from April till November. The Japanese representative also confirmed that all the estimated amount of ACW are

located in pits one and two and therefore it is not required to build up any other excavation and recovery facility at Haerbaling. Concerns were expressed by members of Council delegation that according to the current destruction pace, the completion of ACW destruction in Haerbaling will significantly fall behind schedule. The Japanese representative answered that the destruction plan will be revised after the end of the on-going test period.

- 65. With respect to a question related to the number of personnel employed in Haerbaling during the destruction activities the Japanese representative explained that, at the current trial rate, around 120 Japanese personnel are required for the destruction operations and additionally 50 Japanese personnel for excavation and recovery operations in each pit. The Chinese representative added that around 190 Chinese personnel are employed at Haerbaling for the support of all the ongoing operations being conducted.
- 66. In reply to a question regarding the waste treatment, the Chinese representative explained that non-hazardous wastes are handled by the local Chinese companies; however hazardous wastes, such this containing arsenic component are stored in a temporary storage facility since the solution regarding its treatment is pending to be proposed, agreed and implemented.
- 67. Regarding the average amount of ACWs excavated and recovered, the Japanese representative responded that currently excavation operation is conducted 6 hours per day and the amount of excavation dependent on the burial situation. Chinese representative mentioned that around 40 ACWs are excavated and recovered per day at the current pace of activities; this is consistent with the capacity of the X-ray equipment but this could be a bottle neck of the process. Japanese representative pointed that currently Japan is studying the best approach to increase this X-ray capacity. Japan also indicated that the current electrical power available on site is not permitting to conduct simultaneously excavation and recovery operations on one hand, and destruction activities on the other hand.
- 68. With respect to the storage capacity at Haerbaling, the Japanese representative clarified that in Haerbaling there are 5 storage buildings with a maximum storage capacity 75,000 ACWs in total. Currently, around 7,000 ACWs are located inside these storage buildings. The Chinese representative responded that the maximum storage capacity of the 5 storage buildings is 36,000 instead of 75,000. However, such number of stored ACWs is adequate for the period of the test destruction activities, under current conditions.
- 69. With regard to the percentage of a total budget spent for the Haerbaling project, the Japanese representative stated that for the total amount of budget invested into the ACW project, approximately 30% has been spent for Haerbaling project.
- 70. In answering questions raised on the fact that the current destruction pace falls short of the timeframe, the Japanese representatives stated that the current destruction rate is linked to the fact that the destruction activities conducted at Haerbaling are still under the test period and that discussions between China and Japan on increase of the number of personnel, working shift and working day, as well as increase of electrical power are ongoing in this regard. The new destruction plan for Haerbaling

site will be submitted after 3 years test destruction operations, i.e. by the end of 2017.

- 71. Mr. Li Yang, Deputy Director-General, Department of Arms Control and Disarmament, MFA, who accompanied the delegation to Haerbaling, made concluding remarks for the Chinese side. Mr. Li stated that it is now 70 years after their abandonment and already 18 years since the entry into force of the Convention, but large quantities of Japanese ACWs are still scattered all over China. Mr Li stated that the constant discovery of Japanese ACWs continues to threaten lives and properties of people and the safety of the environment in China. Up to date, the pace of ACW destruction is obviously falling behind the schedule. Mr Li stated that China finds this situation highly deplorable and worrying.
- 72. Mr. Li further pointed out that the destruction of ACW is directly related to the achievement of the objectives and purposes of the Convention. ACW constitute a very important category of chemical weapons that poses some unique hazards and risks and constitutes a significant threat, and as such should be given special attention when discussing priorities of the future work of the OPCW. Mr. Li praised the efforts made by the OPCW and its Secretariat for ACW destruction and expected the Council and the Secretariat to continue their support for the task.
- 73. In concluding its visit to Haerbaling, the Council delegation expressed its appreciation for the hospitality shown to its members throughout the visit, the transparency and openness that governed all discussions and concluded that the visit was useful and allowed for better understanding of the challenges involved in the process of destruction of ACW, of the progress achieved and the way forward, of the emphasis placed by China and Japan on safety and environmental protection, and of the importance of bilateral cooperation. For the latter, the Council delegation expressed its satisfaction that cooperation has been increasing over the years, as acknowledged by both parties.

General observations by the delegation and conclusions

- 74. On completion of its visit to Haerbaling, the Council delegation was impressed by the progress made since its last visit, be it for the construction of the site or for the achievements made during the excavation and recovery operations as well as for the test destruction operations.
- 75. The delegation commended the continued commitment of Japan as the Abandoning State Party and China as the Territorial State Party to destroy all the ACW as soon as possible and to fulfil their obligations under the Convention.
- 76. The members of the delegation were impressed by the professionalism and dedication of the personnel, from both sides and at all levels, who are involved in the ACW destruction programme. It was clear from the interactions that the delegation had with the technical experts from both sides at Haerbaling, that it is such dedication to destroying the ACW that can carry the project forward towards completion.

- 77. The delegation better understood the technical challenges posed by ACW recovery, identification and destruction. The visit enabled the delegation to gain an appreciation of the complexities and the hazards involved in this work.
- 78. The delegation noted the destruction of 37,956 ACW items from a total declared number of 52,573 ACW items. However, the delegation also noted that this number does not include estimated 300,000 to 400,000 items buried at Haerbaling, nor does it include items that might be later discovered.
- 79. The Council delegation considers that the visit to Haerbaling destruction site was useful, in that it provided a better understanding of the human effort, technical challenges, regulatory constraints and financial expenditures surrounding the destruction of ACW by Japan in the territory of China.
- 80. The Council delegation was very appreciative of the spirit of cooperation, openness, and transparency that marked the visit to the Haerbaling site, as well as the detailed high-level meetings with the Chinese representatives in Beijing.
- 81. The delegation of the Council confirms the relevance of visits to ACW destruction sites by delegations representing the Council, and recommends that they continue, as noted by the decision on the deadline of 29 April 2012 and its future destruction of the chemical weapons abandoned by Japan in the People's Republic of China taken by the Council at its Sixty Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6).

Annexes (English only):

- Annex 1: The People's Republic of China Program for the Conduct of the 2015 OPCW Executive Council Visit to the Haerbaling Abandoned Chemical Weapons Destruction Site, 8 – 11 June 2015.
- Annex 2: The People's Republic of China Itinerary of the OPCW Executive Council Visit to the Haerbaling Abandoned Chemical Weapons Destruction Site, 8 11 June 2015.
- Annex 3: List of Members of the OPCW Executive Council Delegation Who Took Part in the Visit to the Haerbaling Abandoned Chemical Weapons Destruction Site, 8 11 June 2015.
- Annex 4: List of Representatives of the People's Republic of China Hosting the Visit of the OPCW Executive Council Delegation to the Haerbaling Abandoned Chemical Weapons Destruction Site, 8 11 June 2015.
- Annex 5: List of Representatives of Japan Hosting the Visit of the OPCW Executive Council Delegation to the Haerbaling Abandoned Chemical Weapons Destruction Site, 8 11 June 2015.
- Annex 6: The People's Republic of China Briefing Materials (background information provided during the visit is available upon request at the Documentation Counter)

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- Annex 7: Japan Briefing Materials (background information provided during the visit is available upon request at the Documentation Counter)
- Annex 8: Comments from the People's Republic of China on the Report of the Visit by the Chairperson of the Executive Council and Representatives of the Executive Council to the Haerbaling Abandoned Chemical Weapons Destruction Site, 8 11 June 2015.
- Annex 9: Comments from Japan on the Report of the Visit by the Chairperson of the Executive Council and Representatives of the Executive Council to the Haerbaling Abandoned Chemical Weapons Destruction Site, 8 11 June 2015.

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA PROGRAM FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE 2015 OPCW EXECUTIVE COUNCIL VISIT TO THE HAERBALING ABANDONED CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION SITE 8 – 11 JUNE 2015

The Sixty-Seventh Session of the Executive Council (hereinafter "the Council"), noted that Japan and People's Republic of China (hereinafter "China") welcome visits of the Chairperson of the Council, the Director-General and a delegation representing the Council to undertake visits to obtain an overview of the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons (hereinafter "ACW") being undertaken. China and Japan invites the Council to conduct its 2015 visit to the Haerbaling ACW destruction site. China and Japan has begun consultations with the Chairman of the Council to develop the details of the visit. In order to provide transparency to the consultations, China and Japan present this paper to explain the program and actions that must take place prior to and during the visit.

1. **Pre-Arrival to China**

- (a) Individuals requiring visas to enter China must obtain them through their customary diplomatic channels. However, prior to this please provide the Technical Secretariat (TS) point of contact (POC) with copies of the photograph page of participants passports to facilitate the visa application process.
- (b) Delegates will coordinate individual travel arrangements directly with the designated TS POC.
- (c) An overview briefing prior to the Executive Council visit will be provided by China, Japan and TS on May 19, 2015, at 11:30 at room 027 in the OPCW.
- (d) To facilitate logistical arrangements, the TS POC will consolidate documents and required information listed on the attached spreadsheet and provide the documents to the Chinese and Japanese designated POC no later than 25 May 2015.
- (e) All costs incurred with respect to hotel accommodations, air transport expenses, and meals will be paid by each individual, with the exception of receptions hosted by China and Japan and lunch provided during the site tour.

2. International Arrival and Departure and In-Country Air Travel

(a) International travel to and from the Beijing Capital International Airport is the responsibility of each visitor. It is recommended to fly to the Beijing Capital International Airport by KL 0897 on June 8, 2015 and from Beijing Capital International Airport by KL 898 on June 12, 2015. Deviations outside of this timeframe must be coordinated in advance of the visit. For those participants being funded by the EU or TS, the POC will organize the required flights.

- (b) Members of the delegation will be greeted at the Beijing Capital International Airport and transported to the Swissotel, Beijing.
- (c) Domestic air travel within China will be arranged by the POC through the TS travel office based on the flight information provided below. No deviations from the pre-arranged flights to or from the visit site are possible. China will not be responsible for individuals who miss the pre-arranged in-country flights.

Date	Flight	Departing	Arriving
June 9	CZ 6152	Beijing Airport	Yanji Chaoyangchuan Airport
		10:20AM	12:30AM
June 11	CA 1614	Yanji Chaoyangchuan Airport	Beijing Airport
		10:00AM	12:00AM

(d) Departure from China at the completion of the visit will be facilitated by China, provided that departure occurs within two days of the end of the EC visit.

3. Lodging Requirements

(a) China will reserve hotel rooms in the vicinity of the selected site as well as in Beijing area based on the information provided by the participants to the TS POC. Each visitor will be responsible for paying their own hotel bill.

Date	Location	Hotel	Price*
June 8 (1 night)	Beijing	Swissotel	Single room – 750 RMB
			Administrative suit – 1 300 RMB
			Deluxe suite - 1 900 RMB
June 9 and 10 (2 nights)	Yanji	Baishan hotel	Single room – 538 RMB
			Administrative suit – 889 RMB
			Deluxe suite - 988 RMB
June 11	Beijing	Swissotel	Single room – 750 RMB
June 11			Administrative suit – 1 300 RMB
(1 night)			Deluxe suite - 1 900 RMB

* Rate: 1 RMB app. 0.15 EUR

4. Ground Transportation

- (a) Ground transportation will be provided for travel between airports, local accommodation, the visit site and other meeting locations.
- (b) Ground transportation to and from the Beijing Capital International Airport and the Swissotel, Beijing will be provided up to two days prior and two days after the EC visit. Please be advised that this must be coordinated with the TS POC prior to the visit.

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5. Dietary Requirements

(a) Delegates with specific dietary requirements must make these requirements known to the TS POC prior to the commencement of the EC visit.

6. Safety Requirements

(a) Visitors must bring any required medications with them.

7. Clothing and Grooming Requirements

(a) To be provided in a later stage.

8. Designated Point of Contacts

- (a) China Mr. Zhang Zhenliang Tel.: +31(0) 70 355 2493 Email: zhang_zhenliang@mfa.gov.cn
- (b) Japan Mr. Takao Yoshizawa Tel.: +31(0)70 3132346 etakao.yoshizawa@mofa.go.jp

Mr. Hiroshi **Sanomura** Tel.: +31(0) 70 313 2350 Email: hiroshi.sanomura@mofa.go.jp

 (c) Technical Secretariat Mr. Frantisek Pavlasek Tel.: +31 (0)70 416 3189 Email: Frantisek.pavlasek@opcw.org

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ITINERARY OF THE OPCW EXECUTIVE COUNCIL VISIT TO THE HAERBALING ABANDONED CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION SITE 8 – 11 JUNE 2015

Monday, June 8

08:55	Arrival in Beijing
09:30	Departure for Swissôtel BEIJING Hong Kong Macau Center
10:30	Check-in at Swissôtel
11:30-14:30	Lunch Break
15:20	Departure for the Ministry of National Defense (MND)
16:00-16:30	Meeting with the Head of the Foreign Affairs Office, MND
16:30	Departure for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)
17:30-18:00	Meeting with H.E.Mr. Li Baodong, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Dress Code: Business Attire
18:00	Welcome Reception Hosted by H.E.Mr. Li Baodong, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs
19:00	Departure for Swissôtel

Tuesday, June 9

06:30	Breakfast (Included at hotel)
08:00	Check-out at Swissôtel (Collecting Luggage and Passports)
08:20	Departure for Beijing International Airport
10:20	Departure for Yanji
12:30	Arrival at Yanji Airport
13:30	Check-in at Yanbian Hotel
13:40-14:30	Lunch Break

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15:30-17:00	Briefings: Overview of the Destruction of JACWs in China (at Yanbian Hotel) Dress Code: Business Casual
18:00	Dinner Time

Wednesday, June 10

06:00	Breakfast
07:30	Departure for Haerbaling Destruction Site
10:00	Arrival at Haerbaling Destruction Site
10:10-10:40	Briefing on Haerbaling Project by the Chinese and Japanese Sides
10:45-10:55	Visit to the Command Offices of the Chinese and Japanese Sides
11:00-11:40	Visit to On-site Analytical Labs and the On-site Clinic of the Chinese Side
11:40-12:20	Buffet Lunch (Provided by the Chinese Side)
12:30	Departure for Excavation and Recovery Facilities
12:40-12:45	Group Photo
12:50-13:15	Visit to the Excavation Facility No.1 Burial Site
13:25-13:45	Visit to the Recovery Facility
13:50-13:55	Visit to the Excavation Facility No.2 Burial Site
14:05-14:35	Briefing on Destruction Facility by KHI and KSL
14:35-14:50	Visit to the Control Room of KHI
14:50-15:05	Visit to the Control Room of KSL
15:05-15:15	Visit to the Analysis Rooms of KSL
15:15	Return to the Administrative Building
15:35-16:00	Q&A/Wrap up Dress Code: Smart Casual The following items are not allowed to be worn during the site tours: dresses, skirts, shorts, sleeveless shirts, high heeled shoes, or open toed shoes

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16:00	Departure for Yanbian Hotel
19:00	Reception Hosted by MND Dress Code: Business Casual

Thursday, June 11

06:00	Breakfast
07:15	Check-out (Collecting Luggage and Passports)
07:45	Departure for Yanji Airport
10:00	Departure for Beijing
12:00	Arrival at Beijing International Airport
14:00	Arrival at Swissôtel
14:30	Departure for the Forbidden City Dress Code: Smart Casual
15:00-18:00	Visit to the Forbidden City
18:00	Departure for Swissôtel
19:00	Reception Hosted by Japan (at Swissôtel) Dress Code: Business Casual

End of Executive Council Visit

Friday, June 12

06:00	Breakfast
08:20	Check-out (Collecting Luggage and Passports)
08:40	Departure for Beijing International Airport
10:55	Departure for the Netherlands

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE OPCW EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DELEGATION WHO TOOK PART IN THE VISIT TO THE HAERBALING ABANDONED CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION SITE 8 – 11 JUNE 2015

Name	<u>Representing</u>
H.E. Mr. Francesco Azzarello Chair of the Executive Council & Permanent Representative of Italy to the OPCW	EC Chair and Western European Regional Group
Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü Director-General	OPCW
Mr. Bob Fairweather Chief of Cabinet	OPCW
Mr. Philippe Denier Director of Verification Division	OPCW
H.E. Mrs. Rose Makena Muchiri Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya to the OPCW	African Regional Group
H.E. Mr. Abdulaziz Bin Abdullah Abohaimed Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the OPCW	Asian Regional Group
Mrs. Dace Dobrāja Deputy Permanent Representative of Latvia to the OPCW	Eastern European Regional Group
Mr Sergio Ugalde Godínez Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the OPCW	Latin America and Caribbean Regional Group
H.E. Mr. Xu Chen Permanent Representative of China to the OPCW	China
Mr. Feng Xu First Secretary, Permanent Representation of China to the OPCW	China
H.E. Mr. Masaru Tsuji Permanent Representative of Japan to the OPCW	Japan

Name	<u>Representing</u>
Mr. Hiroshi Sanomura Second Secretary, Permanent Representation of Japan to the OPCW	Japan
Mr. Rafael Foley Deputy Permanent Representative of United States to the OPCW	United States and Possessor State
Mr. Oleg Serov Counsellor, Russian Federation	Russian Federation and Possessor State
Dr. Ali Gebril Werfeli Permanent Representative of Libya	Libya and Possessor State
H.E. Mr. Jan Lucas van Hoorn Permanent Representative of Netherlands to the OPCW	Observer
H.E. Mrs. Odette Melono Permanent Representation of the Republic of Cameroon to the OPCW	Observer
H.E. Mr. Mohamed Elhassan Ibrahim Alawad Permanent Representative of the Republic of Sudan to the OPCW	Observer
Mr Teddy Bongezile Ceke Deputy Permanent Representative of South Africa to the OPCW	Observer
Mr. Shoaib Sarwar Counsellor Permanent Representation of Pakistan to the OPCW	Observer
Mr. Rudiger Zettel Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany to the OPCW	Observer
Ms. Christina Smikop Second Secretary (Defence) of the Norwegian Embassy in Beijing	Observer
Ms. Wenche Prebensen Counsellor (Political) of the Norwegian Embassy in Beijing	Observer
Mr. Frantisek Pavlasek Chemical Demilitarisation Branch, Technical Secretariat	OPCW

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Name	<u>Representing</u>
Mr. En Li	OPCW
Language Services Branch, Technical Secretariat	OPC w

LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA HOSTING THE VISIT OF THE OPCW EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DELEGATION TO THE HAERBALING ABANDONED CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION SITE 8 – 11 JUNE 2015

Name	<u>Representing</u>
Mr. LI Baodong	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
Vice Minister	China
Mr. LI Yang Deputy Director-General, Department of Arms Control and Disarmament	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China
Mr. CAI Hong	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
Director-General, ACW office	China
Mr. ZHANG Ze	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
Director, Department of Arms Control and Disarmament	China
Ms. LIU Hong	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
Director, ACW office	China
Mr. YIN Daqi	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
Director, ACW office	China
Mr. JIANG Bo Deputy Director, Department of Arms Control and Disarmament	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China
Mr. WU Chengmai Second Secretary, Department of Arms Control and Disarmament	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China
Mr. ZHANG Jinjin Third Secretary, Department of Arms Control and Disarmament	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China
Mr SONG Hailong Staff Member, Department of Arms Control and Disarmament	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China
Ms. YUAN Mu	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
Interpreter	China

Name	<u>Representing</u>
Mr. WEN Jian	Ministry of National Defense of
Officer, ACW office	China
Mr. SHEN Honggang	Ministry of National Defense of
Officer	China
Mr. SHI Wei	Ministry of National Defense of
Officer	China
Ms. LI Jingliang	Ministry of National Defense of
Interpreter	China
Mr. MA Tao	Shenyang Military Command,
Major General	PLA,China
Mr. SHI Dongliang	Shenyang Military Command,
Director, ACW office	PLA,China
Mr. LI Yajun	Jilin Provincial Military Command,
Director, ACW office	PLA,China

LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES OF JAPAN HOSTING THE VISIT OF THE OPCW EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DELEGATION TO THE HAERBALING ABANDONED CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION SITE 8 – 11 JUNE 2015

Name	<u>Representing</u>
Mr. Yoshitoshi Nakamura Deputy Director-General, Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Science Department	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan
Mr. Masaoki Abe Director, Biological and Chemical Weapons Conventions Division, Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Science	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan
Department Mr. Koichi Tsuneda Official, Biological and Chemical Weapons Conventions Division, Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Science Department	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan
Mr. Shingo Ito First Secretary	Embassy of Japan, Beijing
Mr. Kenichi Takahashi Director-General	Abandoned Chemical Weapons Office, Cabinet Office
Mr. Makoto Otomo Deputy Director	Abandoned Chemical Weapons Office, Cabinet Office
Ms. Michiko Ito Project Counsellor	Abandoned Chemical Weapons Office, Cabinet Office
Mr. Kosuke Nakagawa Official	Abandoned Chemical Weapons Office, Cabinet Office
Ms. Miho Sato Interpreter	

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA BRIEFING MATERIALS

Background information provided during the visit is available upon request at the Documentation Counter.

JAPAN BRIEFING MATERIALS

Background information provided during the visit is available upon request at the Documentation Counter.

COMMENTS FROM THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON THE REPORT OF THE VISIT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO THE HAERBALING ABANDONED CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION SITE 8 – 11 JUNE 2015

The People's Republic of China informed that it had no comments to the report.

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Annex 9

COMMENTS FROM JAPAN ON THE REPORT OF THE VISIT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO THE HAERBALING ABANDONED CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION SITE 8 – 11 JUNE 2015

Japan informed that it had no comments to the report.

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