



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 from over 90 locations within China. This figure includes the items that 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 that also have yet to be recovered and declared.
3. As at the end of the reporting period on 31 May 2015, the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) had verified the destruction of 37,665 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 facilities (MDFs) in Shijiazhuang and Wuhan, which include all of the items transferred from surrounding locations to the MDFs for destruction as at the date mentioned above.
4. According to information provided in their national papers and the destruction plan jointly submitted to the Council by China and Japan, the MDF currently located at Wuhan, which was originally scheduled to be deployed to Guangzhou, will be redeployed to Harbin to facilitate the destruction of ACW items in Northern China. This redeployment will occur following the completion of destruction operations at Wuhan and scheduled maintenance in Japan. During the reporting period, the 143 ACW items that were consolidated at the Wuhan destruction site were destroyed. Afterwards, the Secretariat verified the completion of ACW destruction at the Wuhan site in May. Currently, decontamination operations of the MDF are ongoing as at the cut-off date for this report.
5. Regarding the Shijiazhuang MDF site, the consolidation at the Shijiazhuang Trust Warehouse of 594 ACW items previously stored at Tianjin took place in May and



June. Following this, the fourth phase of destruction operations at this location is tentatively scheduled to begin in the second half of 2015.

6. During the reporting period, test destruction operations resumed at the Haerbaling Test Destruction Facility (TDF) following the winter suspension period. According to the 2015 work plan agreed upon by China and Japan, more than 1,000 ACW items are scheduled to be destroyed during this phase of operations. Owing to the fact that Haerbaling is the largest burial site of ACWs in China, the destruction operations will have a major impact on the overall progress in the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China.
7. In accordance with a decision taken by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6), China and Japan hosted the second Visit by the Chairperson of the Executive Council and Representatives of the Executive Council to the Haerbaling Facility between 8 and 12 June 2015. The visit allowed the Council representatives to obtain an overview and greater understanding of the destruction of ACWs. Upon completion of its visit to Haerbaling, the Council delegation was impressed by the progress made since its last visit in 2013, both in terms of the construction of the site infrastructure, as well as the test destruction operations that have taken place. The delegation commended the continued commitment of Japan as the Abandoning State Party and China as the Territorial State Party to destroy all ACWs as soon as possible and fulfil their obligations under the Convention.
8. During the intersessional period, China and Japan carried out a number of bilateral investigations and excavation and recovery operations at various locations. Following these activities, a number of items were confirmed as ACWs, while other suspect items require further identification activities. Amended declarations reflecting the results of these operations will be submitted to the Secretariat in due course.
9. From 14 to 15 May 2015, Japan hosted the 22nd trilateral meeting in Tokyo. These meetings between China, Japan, and the Secretariat are held on a biannual basis and are important occasions for ensuring transparency, discussing technical and practical issues, and implementing the projects in accordance with the appropriate verification measures.
10. Finally, the destruction of the chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China is scheduled to continue based on 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).