



Eighty-First Session
15 – 18 March 2016

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**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA
FOR THE EIGHTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
15 – 18 MARCH 2016**

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 Eighty-First 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 Eighty-First Session of the Council will be opened in The Hague by the Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Francesco Azzarello of Italy, at 10:00 on 15 March 2016.

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-81/1/Rev.2, dated 9 March 2016:

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 Eighty-First 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) Article XI: briefings by the facilitator and by the Technical Secretariat
 - (g) Implementation by the Technical Secretariat in 2015 of the regime governing the handling of confidential information
 - (h) Status of implementation of the Verification Information System
 - (i) Technical Secretariat's activities: update on the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria
7. Follow-up process to the Third Review Conference²
 8. Education and outreach: briefing by the Technical Secretariat
 9. The OPCW's contribution to global anti-terrorism efforts
 10. Administrative and financial matters:
 - (a) Status of implementation of the External Auditor's recommendations
 - (b) Transfers of funds during 2015
 - (c) Report on the status of implementation of the enterprise-resource-planning (ERP) system
 - (d) Financial situation of the OPCW as at 29 February 2016
 - (e) Nomination for membership of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters
 - (f) Adjustment to the Director-General's gross salary
 11. Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Executive Council
 12. Report by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country
 13. Establishment of an open-ended working group on the future priorities of the OPCW
 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 Ilze Rūse of Latvia on chemical weapons issues, Ambassador Jong-hyun Choe of the Republic of Korea on chemical industry and other Article VI issues, Ambassador Willys Delvalle of Panama on administrative and financial issues, and Ambassador Rose Makena Muchiri of Kenya 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-81/DG.12, dated 29 February 2016 and Corr.1*, dated 3 March 2016).

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 (EC-81/DG.13, dated 4 March 2016).

6.3 Further to a decision by the Council at its Fifty-First Meeting (paragraph 2 of EC-M-51/DEC.1, dated 24 February 2016), the Director-General will report to the Council on the matter.

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

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

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

6.6 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 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-81/P/NAT.6, dated 16 February 2016).

- 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 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-81/NAT.2, dated 19 February 2016).
- 6.8 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-81/NAT.1*, dated 18 February 2016).
- 6.9 The Council is **requested** to note five Notes by the Director-General reporting on progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme (EC-81/DG.1, dated 22 October 2015; EC-81/DG.2, dated 24 November 2015; EC-81/DG.3, dated 22 December 2015; EC-81/DG.5, dated 25 January 2016; and EC-81/DG.11, dated 24 February 2016).
- 6.10 Five national papers by the Syrian Arab Republic on the activities related to the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons and their production facilities have been made available to the members of the Council (EC-81/P/NAT.1, dated 13 October 2015; EC-81/P/NAT.2, dated 12 November 2015; EC-81/P/NAT.3, dated 18 December 2015; EC-81/P/NAT.4, dated 15 January 2016; and EC-81/P/NAT.5, dated 15 February 2016).
- 6.11 Further to its consideration of this issue at its previous sessions, 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-81/NAT.4, dated 26 February 2016) and a national paper by Japan (EC-81/NAT.3, dated 25 February 2016) 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.
- 6.13 Following a declaration submitted to the Secretariat by the Netherlands in November 2015 regarding the discovery of an old chemical weapon, the Council is **requested** to take note of the information provided by the delegation of the Netherlands on this issue.

Subitem 6(c): Other verification-related issues

- 6.14 The Secretariat is expected to brief the Council on its other verification-related activities.
- 6.15 The Secretariat is also expected to provide a follow-up briefing on the activities of the Declaration Assessment Team.
- 6.16 The Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General entitled “Report on the work of the Declaration Assessment Team Regarding the Declaration and Related Submissions by the Syrian Arab Republic” (EC-81/HP/DG.1, dated 22 February 2016).

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

- 6.17 The Council is **requested** to note a Note on modifications to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of chemical weapons at the Pueblo Chemical Agent Destruction Facility, Pueblo, Colorado, the United States of America (EC-81/S/5, dated 12 February 2016).
- 6.18 The Secretariat has submitted to the Council a Note on amendments, modifications, and updates to the facility agreement regarding inspections at the Rabta Toxic Chemicals Destruction Facility, Libya, and amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification for that facility (EC-81/S/3, dated 22 January 2016).
- 6.19 Proposed amendments to the aforementioned facility agreement with Libya have been submitted separately to the Council, which is **requested** to consider and approve them (EC-81/DEC/CRP.1, dated 22 January 2016). Related amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of chemical weapons at the Rabta Toxic Chemicals Destruction Facility, Libya, are treated in paragraph 6.20 below.
- 6.20 The Council is **requested** to consider and approve amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of chemical weapons at the Rabta Toxic Chemicals Destruction Facility, Libya (EC-81/DEC/CRP.2, dated 22 January 2016).

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

- 6.21 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 2015 (EC-81/DG.4, dated 14 January 2016).

Subitem 6(f): Article XI: briefings by the facilitator and by the Technical Secretariat

- 6.22 The facilitator for this issue, Mr Shoaib Sarwar of Pakistan, is expected to report on the consultations carried out during the intersessional period.

- 6.23 The Secretariat will make a presentation on the programme of activities related to Article XI for 2016.

Subitem 6(g): Implementation by the Technical Secretariat in 2015 of the regime governing the handling of confidential information

- 6.24 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 2015 (EC-81/DG.10 C-21/DG.3, dated 19 February 2016).

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

- 6.25 The Council is **requested** to take note of a status report on the Verification Information System (EC-81/S/2, dated 12 January 2016).

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

- 6.26 The Director-General is expected to provide an update in regard to the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria.

7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Follow-up process to the Third Review Conference

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-81/S/1, dated 11 November 2015 and Add.1, dated 17 February 2016).

8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – Education and outreach: briefing by the Technical Secretariat

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

- 8.2 Further to a decision of the Conference at its Twentieth Session (C-20/DEC.9, dated 3 December 2015), the Secretariat circulated a Note by the Director-General on the membership of the Advisory Board on Education and Outreach (EC-81/DG.9 C-21/DG.2, dated 18 February 2016).

- 8.3 Further to the above-mentioned decision, the Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General entitled “Rules of Procedure for the Advisory Board on Education and Outreach and its Temporary Working Groups” (EC-81/DG.14, dated 4 March 2016).

9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – The OPCW's contribution to global anti-terrorism efforts

- 9.1 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-81/DG.7, dated 9 February 2016).

- 9.2 The Council will be briefed on the consultations held by the Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism during the intersessional period.

10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – Administrative and financial matters

Subitem 10(a): Status of implementation of the External Auditor's recommendations

- 10.1 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-81/S/4, dated 22 January 2016).

Subitem 10(b): Transfers of funds during 2015

- 10.2 The Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General on a request for transfers of funds between chapters and transfers of funds during 2015 (EC-81/DG.8 C-21/DG.1, dated 16 February 2016).

Subitem 10(c): Report on the status of implementation of the enterprise-resource-planning (ERP) system

- 10.3 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-81/DG.6, dated 8 February 2016).

Subitem 10(d): Financial situation of the OPCW as at 29 February 2016

- 10.4 At its Twentieth Session, the Conference requested the Council to monitor the financial situation of the OPCW in 2016. In this regard, the Conference requested further that the Director-General provide detailed monthly updates about the overall financial situation, and particularly cash flow, to Member States (subparagraphs 5(t) and 5(u) of C-20/DEC.6, dated 3 December 2015).

- 10.5 Accordingly, the Secretariat has circulated a Note on the cash situation of the OPCW as at 31 January 2016 (S/1354/2016, dated 18 February 2016) and another Note on the cash situation as at 29 February 2016 (S/1364/2016, dated 8 March 2016).

Subitem 10(e): Nomination for membership of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters

- 10.6 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-81/S/6, dated 2 March 2016) and to approve the nomination of Mr John Fox of the United States of America to the ABAF, to replace Mr Max McClellan, retroactive to the date of the letter of nomination for Mr Fox (26 February 2016).

Subitem 10(f): Adjustment to the Director-General's gross salary

10.7 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-81/DEC/CRP.3, dated 8 February 2016).

11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – 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 2016, the Council is **requested** to elect its new Chairperson for a term of office ending on 11 May 2017, 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.

12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Report by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The Chairperson of the Council will report on the status of the work by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country.

13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Establishment of an open-ended working group on the future priorities of the OPCW

At its Twentieth Session, the Conference requested the Council to establish at its Eighty-First Session an open-ended working group to discuss and formulate recommendations on the future priorities of the OPCW, to be considered at the Fourth Review Conference³ in 2018. The working group should provide all States Parties to the Convention with an opportunity to consult regarding all aspects of the Convention (paragraph 25.3 of C-20/5, dated 4 December 2015).

14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Any other business

15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – Adoption of the report

16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Closure

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³ Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.