



**REPORT OF THE VISIT BY THE CHAIRPERSON  
OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND REPRESENTATIVES  
OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO THE KIZNER  
CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION FACILITY  
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION  
25 – 29 APRIL 2016**

**Introduction**

1. In its decision entitled “Final Extended Deadline of 29 April 2012” (C-16/DEC.11, dated 1 December 2011), the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) decided that Libya, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America were to invite the Chairperson of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”), the Director-General of the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”), and a delegation representing the Council to undertake visits to obtain an overview of the destruction programmes being undertaken in those countries. The Conference further decided that these visits were to include visits to destruction facilities as well as meetings with parliamentarians, if possible, and government officials in capitals, as a formal part of the programme. Invitations were also to be extended to observers to participate in the Council delegation.
2. In pursuance of the above-mentioned decision of the Conference, the Russian Federation invited the Council to visit the chemical weapons destruction facility (CWDF) located at Kizner, the Udmurt Republic, between 25 and 29 April 2016. To facilitate the conduct of the visit, the Russian Federation provided a provisional programme as well as information regarding logistical and other administrative considerations (Annex 1), and initiated consultations with the Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Francesco Azzarello of Italy, with a view to finalising all specific details of the visit.
3. Subsequent to consultations within the various regional groups and in line with decision C-16/DEC.11, the Council delegation that visited the Kizner facility comprised representatives of States Parties, the Director-General of the Secretariat, Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü, and Secretariat staff members. The names of the members of the Council delegation are listed in Annex 2 to this report, and the names of the representatives of the Russian Federation who hosted the visit are listed in Annex 3.
4. The Secretariat made the necessary funds for the visit 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 and Latin America and the



Caribbean Group, as well as for the observers from Libya and China, 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) within the framework of implementation of the European Union Strategy against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, which was adopted on 12 December 2003. All other participants bore their own expenses incurred for the visit. Because of last-minute, unforeseen circumstances, the representative from the African Group was unable to take part in 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 Representation of the Russian Federation to the OPCW on administrative and logistical arrangements, as well as on the programme of the visit.

### **Meetings in Moscow**

7. During the first meeting, which took place on the morning of 26 April 2016 and was hosted by Mr Mikhail Ulyanov, Director of the Department for Non-Proliferation and Arms Control of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Colonel-General Victor Kholstov, Director of the Department for Fulfilment of Convention-related Obligations and Head of the National Authority of the Russian Federation, gave a comprehensive presentation (Annex 4) on the overall implementation of the national chemical weapons destruction programme, the state of affairs at the Kizner CWDF, and the progress achieved so far in the completion of chemical weapons destruction in the Russian Federation.
8. Mr Ulyanov called the attention of the Council delegation to the fact that the Russian Federation regards the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) as an important mechanism for maintaining peace and security and the most successful instrument in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation. Mr Ulyanov further underscored that the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons represents a priority for the Russian Federation and, to this end, appropriate resources will continue to be allocated to meet the timelines. Mr Ulyanov then touched upon other topics related to the Convention, such as the recent developments in the Syrian dossier, the alleged use of toxic chemicals as weapons in several countries, the destruction of Category 2 chemicals in Libya, and the OPCW-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism. Mr Ulyanov also recalled the recent Russian initiative within the Conference on Disarmament on non-State actors. Finally, Mr Ulyanov thanked the Council delegation for its visit, and introduced Colonel-General Kholstov, who subsequently took the floor.
9. The Chairperson of the Council, on behalf of the Council delegation, thanked the Russian Federation delegation for its invitation and underlined the importance of the visit for the other Member States expecting the Russian Federation to successfully meet its destruction timelines. He stated that in the field of disarmament, the Convention represents one of the most successful treaties, and the OPCW one of the most successful organisations, and that the work of the Council is results-oriented, transparent, and consensual, thanks to the high level of cooperation between States

Parties. He praised the leading role the Russian Federation has played and its commitment to the Convention. The Chairperson of the Council recalled the importance of internal political and parliamentary support, especially in States Parties dealing with destruction operations, in order to provide guidance and resources to ensure respect of the internationally agreed deadlines. He stated that the Council understood that there is a strong support in the Russian Federation, which would enable the 2020 deadline to be met. He praised the cooperation and leadership exercised by the Russian Federation and the United States of America in the Council, with the support of the other members. Finally, the Chairperson of the Council expressed the Council's appreciation for the Russian Federation's efforts in investing in the social dimension of the local communities close to the destruction sites, the key themes of these efforts being safety, security, and protection of the environment.

10. The Director-General thanked the representatives of the Russian Federation for facilitating the visit to see the progress of destruction operations at the Kizner facility. He acknowledged the progress and efforts being made towards achieving complete destruction of the remaining chemical weapons stockpiles. In the context of Mr Ulyanov's remarks, the Director-General recalled the success achieved by the Convention thus far. The Director-General also mentioned his new mandate regarding the Syrian initial declaration, the activities of the Secretariat in conducting technical assistance visits and fact-finding missions, the situation in Libya, the Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism and its sub-working group on non-State actors, and the discussion papers on the prevention of terrorism and the establishment of a Rapid Response Assistance Team.
11. In the subsequent discussions, several members of the Council delegation took the floor to request technical clarification and to provide additional comments with regard to Mr Ulyanov's remarks.
12. Colonel-General Kholstov began his presentation by indicating the amounts of chemical weapons declared to the OPCW, their form of storage, as well as their distribution among the seven locations in the Russian Federation (aerial munitions were stored at the Maradykovsky, Leonidovka, and Pochep facilities; artillery munitions were and continue to be stored at the Shchuchye and Kizner facilities; and chemical-warfare agents in bulk containers were stored at the Gorny and Kambarka facilities). He also underlined the fact that the destruction of the chemical weapons stockpile in the Russian Federation is carried out in accordance with the presidential programme adopted in 1996, while the overall obligations assumed under the Convention are implemented pursuant to the federal law on the ratification of the Convention (dated 5 November 1997), which specifies the responsibilities of different ministries and agencies in the areas of the implementation of the Convention and chemical weapons destruction.
13. In this context, Colonel-General Kholstov stated that only the President of the Russian Federation has the prerogative to legally establish the completion date for the destruction of chemical weapons, taking into account the economic situation in the country and the overall obligations assumed under the Convention. The President also oversees the general implementation of the Convention and the chemical weapons destruction programme.

14. The Government of the Russian Federation takes all necessary measures in order to ensure the strict implementation of its obligations under the Convention, and provides necessary allocations from the federal budget to that end. The Ministry of Industry and Trade performs the functions of the National Authority of the Russian Federation for the implementation of the Convention and acts as a State customer for the chemical weapons destruction programme, while the Federal Directorate for the Safe Storage and Destruction of Chemical Weapons operates and is in charge of the construction of the CWDFs.
15. To improve interagency coordination and to ensure a better interaction with the regional authorities when implementing the obligations under the Convention, a State Commission on Chemical Disarmament was established by decree of the President of the Russian Federation. The Commission is chaired by Mr M.V. Babich. Furthermore, to ensure smooth implementation of the programmes of foreign technical assistance in the shortest possible time, a Committee on Humanitarian and Technical Assistance was established, in affiliation with the Government of the Russian Federation. More than 15 other ministries and agencies besides the Ministry of Industry and Trade are involved in the implementation of the presidential programme on chemical weapons destruction. These include, inter alia, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Economic Development, the Russian Federal Bio-Medical Agency, the Russian Federal Service for Ecological, Technical and Atomic Supervision (Rostekhnadzor), and the Russian Federal Service for Supervision of Natural Resource Usage (Rosprirodnadzor).
16. Colonel-General Kholstov stated that in order to expedite the chemical weapons destruction process, the Government of the Russian Federation had adopted a phase-by-phase approach which allows for the commissioning of the facilities in units (“trains”), the technology used for destruction being dependant on munition types and their chemical fill. The advantage of this approach is that it facilitates an early start of destruction operations at each facility. At the same time, additional units/trains can be constructed and brought into service concurrently. This approach proved to be reasonable and economically efficient. Such a concept was implemented at each of the CWDFs—Gorny, Kambarka, Maradykovsky, Leonidovka, Shchuchye, Pochep, and Kizner. Its implementation allowed for gains in momentum and increases in the pace of chemical weapons destruction.
17. It was further indicated that when the Russian Federation joined the Convention, it had no CWDFs, either operational or under construction. Currently, seven planned facilities have been built and commissioned. To date, six of these seven facilities have completed destruction of the relevant chemical weapons stockpiles. Four facilities—Maradykovsky, Leonidovka, Shchuchye, and Pochep—completed destruction between September and November 2015 in accordance with the original plans. Chemical weapons destruction activities had previously been completed at the Gorny facility in December 2005 and at the Kambarka facility in March 2009. As they had completed their destruction operations, these six facilities were withdrawn from the verification regime under the Convention. As of 2016, the destruction of Category 1 chemical weapons is being carried out only at the Kizner facility.
18. In accordance with the policy of the Russian Federation, CWDFs are built in the vicinity of existing chemical weapons storage facilities (CWSFs). Generally, each

CWDF includes five essential components, namely: the industrial area, where the immediate chemical weapons destruction operations are carried out; the administrative area; the engineering infrastructure, including water and gas supply systems; the living quarters for the accommodation of the facility personnel; and the social infrastructure built for the benefit of the region. Up to 10% of the total cost of a CWDF is allocated for the improvement of existing and the construction of new social infrastructure in the regions (medical and diagnostic facilities, schools, etc.). This approach has contributed to the development of the infrastructure of the region, and has allowed for an increase in the living standards of the population there. Moreover, the approach has provided additional work opportunities for personnel hired to ensure the functioning of the facilities built.

19. Colonel-General Kholstov went on to list the overall progress of chemical weapons destruction in the Russian Federation, which included successfully completing the destruction of all its declared Category 3 and Category 2 chemical weapons in 2001 and 2002 respectively, and meeting the extended deadlines for phase 1 in April 2003, phase 2 in April 2007, and phase 3 in November 2009. As at 25 April 2016, as part of final phase 4 of international destruction obligations, the overall quantity of Category 1 chemical weapons destroyed in the Russian Federation amounts to 93% of the stockpile, with the remaining 2,826 metric tonnes (MTs) of chemical agents still awaiting destruction.
20. At present, the destruction of the remaining Category 1 chemical weapons is carried out in Kizner CWDF. The facility commenced destruction operations in December 2013 with the destruction of sarin-filled artillery munitions. The facility is scheduled to destroy around 2.2 million artillery munitions containing roughly 5,700 MTs of nerve and blister agents. This quantity represents 14.4% of the entire declared stockpile of the Russian Federation. Colonel-General Kholstov outlined the general layout of the facility, including: the main process building where the destruction of artillery munitions filled with sarin is currently being carried out; the administrative building; the area for the temporary storage of reaction masses in bulk containers; the building used for the preparation of decontamination solution and waste water disposal (by evaporation and drying); and the engineering utilities and the installations to ensure safety of the destruction operations. Furthermore, Colonel-General Kholstov mentioned that as at 25 April 2016, the aggregate quantity of Category 1 chemical weapons destroyed at the Kizner facility amounts to 2,919 MTs of chemical agent, or 50.8 % of the stockpile. The quantity of the remaining Category 1 chemical weapons amounts to 2,826 MTs of chemical agent. By the end of 2016, it is planned to complete the destruction of all sarin-filled artillery munitions. It is further planned to carry out the destruction of soman- and Vx-filled artillery munitions through 2017. For the destruction of artillery munitions filled with lewisite, all of the necessary design decisions have been elaborated. This will enable the build-up of the required capacities intended for the destruction of these types of munitions in an aggregate amount of 30,623 projectiles containing 129 tonnes of chemical agent. When creating the capacities for the destruction of artillery munitions filled with lewisite, it is envisaged to install and use the equipment that was previously procured and financed by donor countries, namely Canada and Germany. Construction works will commence this year with a view to finishing all the necessary construction and installation activities in 2017. This will be followed by the start-up operations of process equipment on neutral and real chemical agents.

21. In his presentation, Colonel-General Kholstov highlighted the fact that the activities related to chemical weapons destruction under the programme are being carried out with due regard for the requirements of the legislation of the Russian Federation in the area of environmental protection. Environmental safety and security during chemical weapons destruction at the relevant facilities is achieved through the use of an industrial environmental monitoring system, ecological monitoring of the environment in the areas co-located with the facility, health checks of the personnel of the facility and the population in the vicinity of the facility, as well as by complying with requirements of the legislation in the field of public health.
22. Colonel-General Kholstov further mentioned that the main source of funding for the construction of destruction facilities is the federal budget, ensuring the social welfare of the population and environmental safety. At the same time, under the global partnership initiative against the proliferation of weapons and materials of mass destruction, some countries made financial donations and provided technical assistance on a voluntary basis. Voluntary financial and technical assistance to the Russian Federation with a view to expediting chemical weapons destruction were provided by 16 countries, the European Union, and a number of non-governmental organisations. The overall value of international technical assistance provided to the Russian Federation by foreign countries in the framework of the Russian chemical weapons destruction programme has amounted to 32.4 billion Russian rubles (representing roughly 10% of all programme costs). The assistance rendered has made it possible to create the conditions for the complete destruction of chemical weapons stockpiles within the projected timelines.
23. Colonel-General Kholstov informed the Council delegation that the Russian Federation Government has invested substantial funds in the construction of CWDFs and now faces the challenge of what to do with them next. In accordance with the order of the President of the Russian Federation, an interagency working group has been established to study the possible perspectives of future use of CWDFs after their mission has been accomplished. The option of involving these industrial complexes and infrastructure premises into the national economy is being thoroughly investigated, as is the option of using their foundations to create new investment projects, with the engagement of the personnel currently working at those facilities. It is also planned to use real assets (material resources, equipment, and supplies, including real estate and movable assets) obtained through international technical assistance in remediation activities after the completion of destruction operations. Further on, these would be introduced into the national economy with a view to building up new production in the interests of the region. The Russian Federation believes that the State donors will support its efforts to discover new options for the efficient use of all the real assets of industrial value that were created using the federal budget and international technical assistance. The Russian Federation is open to establishing joint investment projects should any State Party to the Convention wish to participate in the conversion of the former Russian Federation CWDFs.
24. Mr Ulyanov thanked Colonel-General Kholstov for his presentation and expressed his belief that it gave a complete picture of the chemical weapons destruction operations. Mr Ulyanov reiterated that the Ministry of Industry and Trade is responsible for the implementation of the chemical weapons destruction programme, and that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs supports the political efforts. Mr Ulyanov underscored

that the Russian Federation will continue to do its utmost to expedite the schedule of destruction, while continuing to respect safety and environmental regulations.

25. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session, during which the members of the Council delegation received clarifications on a number of issues related to the chemical weapons destruction programme of the Russian Federation.
26. The Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the OPCW, Ambassador Sergio Ugalde Godínez, thanked Colonel-General Kholstov for the presentation and asked when the Russian Federation expects to finalise the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons at the Kizner CWDF.
27. Colonel-General Kholstov responded that it is planned to destroy all the remaining chemical weapons by late 2020; however, all efforts are being made to destroy them earlier.
28. The Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany to the OPCW, Mr Rüdiger Zettel, appreciated the efforts and commitment of the Russian Federation in the destruction of its chemical weapons stockpiles, and asked for clarification regarding the destruction of chemical agents at the Kizner CWDF.
29. Colonel-General Kholstov explained that it is planned to complete the destruction of sarin-filled munitions in 2016 and soman- and VX-filled munitions in 2017. It is further planned to complete the construction of the facility for the destruction of lewisite-filled munitions in 2017, and to subsequently proceed with the destruction of such munitions in 2018 and 2019.
30. The Director-General took the floor and thanked Colonel-General Kholstov for his clear and transparent presentation and the representatives of the Russian Federation for their tremendous efforts. The commitment of the Russian Federation to fulfilling its obligation has been widely acknowledged and its cooperation, openness, and transparency are highly appreciated.
31. The Chairperson of the Council thanked Colonel-General Kholstov for his presentation and for giving the Council delegation the opportunity to visit the CWDF at Kizner. He underscored the importance of maintaining safety standards, complying with environmental regulations, and developing the social infrastructure for the benefit of the region.
32. The second meeting took place in the afternoon of 26 April 2016 at the Council of the Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation. The Council delegation met with Mr V. A. Ozerov, Chairman of the Committee for Defence and Security of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, and Ms O. Kovitidi, Senator and member of the Committee.
33. In his opening remarks, Mr Ozerov pointed out the enormity of the task and the work that had been done to comply with the international obligation to destroy the chemical weapons stockpiles. In the light of the financial crisis of 2008, the parliamentarians had to adjust the programme accordingly in order for the Russian Federation to comply as much as possible with the destruction deadline. He continued by stating

that meeting the deadlines represents a priority for the Russian Federation and that appropriate resources will continue to be allocated for this purpose.

34. Mr Ozerov stated that the Russian Federation valued its relationship with the Secretariat and would comply with its obligations regarding the monitoring of the chemical weapons destruction process by the OPCW. Furthermore, Mr Ozerov underlined the international cooperation, and expressed gratitude for the assistance provided to the Russian Federation by the international community in support of the construction of the CWDFs.
35. Finally, Mr Ozerov stated that the Committee for Defence and Security comprises representatives from the Udmurt Republic and Bryansk region, among others, who consider not only present but also future matters, namely, what will happen after the destruction has been completed. In this context, technical, environmental, and social support to the local community are all taken into consideration and the views of the experts representing the international community in this field are appreciated.
36. Senator Kovitidi, a member of the Committee for Defence and Security, took the floor and stated that considerable financial means have been directed towards social infrastructure projects for communities. Up to 10% of the total cost of a CWDF is allocated for building and/or improving the existing social infrastructure of the region. This approach ensures the smooth functioning of a CWDF and facilitates the recruitment of personnel needed to operate the facilities. She continued by stating that the Russian Federation will appreciate the views of the international community in regard to the transfer of the highly sophisticated equipment designed for the destruction of chemical weapons after the destruction operations are finalised.
37. The Chairperson of the Council thanked the Russian Federation on behalf of the Council delegation for the warm hospitality and comprehensive presentations it had received from the outset. He welcomed the Russian Federation Assembly's commitment to allocating the necessary resources to meet the destruction deadline. He noted the skills developed by the personnel involved in the destruction of chemical weapons and the efforts being made to protect the environment, the surrounding communities, and the workforce directly involved in the process. He expressed his appreciation for the close cooperation between the Russian Federation and the international community in support of the destruction of chemical weapons in the Russian Federation. He underlined the priority given by all Member States to the fight against terrorism and the importance of addressing the issue of non-State actors, also by reinforcing in a consensual manner the international legal framework. Finally, the Chairperson of the Council stated that the visit to the Kizner CWDF would offer an excellent opportunity for members of the delegation to understand the complexity of the process of destruction of chemical weapons, and expressed his confidence that because of the strong political and parliamentary support, the Russian Federation would complete the destruction of its remaining stockpile within the established timelines.
38. Senator Kovitidi thanked the Chairperson for having raised the issue of investing in the social dimension of the communities close to the destruction sites. She said that this was one of the most important issues for parliamentarians representing those

regions, with 10% of the budget allocated to destruction operations benefitting such communities.

39. The Director of the Verification Division of the Secretariat, Mr Philippe Denier, on behalf of the Director-General, acknowledged the cooperation between the Russian Federation and the Secretariat in regard to the destruction of chemical weapons in the Russian Federation, and thanked the Russian Federation for the progress and efforts being made towards achieving complete destruction of its chemical weapons stockpile within the established timelines. He highlighted the efforts that were being made with respect to the industrial infrastructure and social facilities built for the benefit of the region.
40. The Council delegation continued its visit in Moscow with a third meeting on 27 April 2016 with Mr V. Babich, Chairman of the State Commission on Chemical Disarmament, and Mr G. Kalamanov, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade.
41. Mr Babich welcomed the Council delegation to the Russian Federation and underlined the objectives of the visit, in particular the objective of informing the Council of the measures and efforts undertaken by the Russian Federation to complete the destruction of its chemical weapons stockpiles.
42. Mr Babich drew attention to the fact that the Russian Federation considers the Convention an important instrument of peace and security and is committed to achieving the complete destruction of the remaining chemical weapons stockpile in line with the obligations undertaken. He underscored that the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons represents a priority for the Russian Federation and, to this end, appropriate resources will continue to be allocated to meet the timelines.
43. Mr Babich indicated that six CWDFs had successfully destroyed all of their chemical weapons stockpiles and that, currently, destruction operations are ongoing at the last remaining CWDF in Kizner. It is planned to destroy all of the remaining chemical weapons located at this facility by late 2020; however, all efforts are being made to destroy them earlier.
44. Mr Babich also mentioned that a group of experts had been established to initiate discussions for the re-orientation of the existing infrastructures and support and utility systems in place upon completion of destruction operations at the CWDFs, to the benefit of the area and local population. The main process buildings would be decontaminated and their future use would be decided taking into account, inter alia, stringent safety considerations.
45. Mr Babich further stated that up to 10% of the total cost of a CWDF is allocated for the improvement of existing and the construction of new social infrastructure in the regions (medical and diagnostic facilities, schools, etc.), given that the remote areas where CWDFs are located are among the least developed in the country. This approach ensures the smooth functioning of a CWDF and facilitates the recruitment of local personnel to operate the facilities.
46. In conclusion, Mr Babich touched upon other topics related to the destruction of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic, the alleged use of toxic chemicals in

several countries, as well as the fight against the global threat of terrorist acts perpetrated by Non-State Actors.

47. The Chairperson of the Council, on behalf of the Council delegation, expressed gratitude for the hospitality shown by the Russian Federation and the quality and value of the visit to the Kizner CWDF. He stated that the Council delegation appreciates the Russian Federation's commitment to allocating budgetary resources to the destruction programme and all of the efforts made thus far in this regard. He expressed confidence that, because of strong political and parliamentary support, the Russian Federation would complete the destruction of its remaining stockpile within the current timelines, while continuing to give the highest priority to the safety of the personnel and surrounding communities. He recalled other issues already stated in previous statements.
48. The Director of Verification, on behalf of the Director-General, expressed appreciation for the Russian Federation's efforts and commitment in the area of chemical disarmament and for the fact that the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons stockpile represents a priority for the Russian Federation. He also expressed appreciation for the fact that appropriate resources continue to be allocated to meet the destruction timelines, while continuing to conduct destruction operations in a safe and environmentally sound manner.
49. At the invitation of the Chairperson of the Council, some members of the Council delegation took the floor and expressed their appreciation for the efforts being undertaken by the Russian Federation to complete the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons within the established timelines, with due regard to ensuring the safety of the people and environment. Delegation members also made additional comments in regard to Mr Babich's remarks.

#### **Visit to the Kizner CWDF**

50. The members of the Council delegation arrived at the Kizner CWDF on 28 April 2016. The visit to Kizner began with statements by Colonel-General Kholstov, who introduced the senior officials and other local government branch administrators who joined the visit at Kizner.
51. Colonel-General Kholstov welcomed the members of the Council delegation to the Kizner CWDF and stressed once again the dedication of the Russian Federation to the goals and objectives of the Convention and its strong commitment to completing the destruction of its chemical weapons stockpiles within the established deadlines. In addition, he noted that the visit to the Kizner CWDF will provide the Council delegation with an opportunity to familiarise itself with the operations by visiting a series of facilities during a site tour. Finally, he stressed that the Russian Federation attaches great importance to all aspects of environmental protection and safety of personnel. The Russian Federation has a very rigid monitoring system in place to ensure that the required protection measures are incorporated as early as the design phase and are strictly enforced during the construction and actual operation of the facility, to avoid any chemical weapons-related incidents.
52. The Head of the Government of the Udmurt Republic, Mr Viktor Alexeyevich Saveliev, welcomed the Council delegation. He referred to the good and constructive

cooperation between local and federal authorities, which had enabled all relevant decisions to be taken in consensus with the local population, with due regard to environmental issues. He then underscored the importance of the Kizner facility to the development of the local community, as it has resulted in job creation, thus helping to eliminate unemployment in Kizner.

53. The Chairperson of the Council thanked everyone on behalf of the Council delegation, and expressed his gratitude for the Russian Federation's warm welcome. He underscored his appreciation for all the efforts that had been made from the beginning of the visit. The Council delegation was looking forward to learning more about the Kizner facility, including the destruction technology. He underlined the historical role of the Kizner CWDF since it will have the honour of finalising the destruction of all remaining chemical weapons stockpiles in the Russian Federation, and he expressed confidence that because of strong political and parliamentary support, the destruction operations at this facility would be completed within the current timelines.
54. The Commander of the facility, Colonel Yury Vasiliyevich Novoydarsky, then gave a presentation, providing information about the Kizner CWDF.
55. The Kizner facility has been designed to destroy chemical artillery munitions filled with organo-phosphorus agents (sarin, soman, and Vx) and lewisite, which are currently stored at the nearby Kizner CWSF. The total number of artillery munitions to be destroyed at the facility is around 2.2 million, which is equivalent to 5,745 MTs of agent, or 14.4% of the aggregate chemical weapons stockpile declared by the Russian Federation. As of 27 April 2016, 2,924 MTs of agent had been destroyed, constituting more than 50% of the aggregate amount of chemical weapons designated to be destroyed at the Kizner CWDF.
56. Colonel Novoydarsky further explained the layout of the Kizner facility, which includes one process building, units for the thermal treatment of the reaction masses and drained and decontaminated munitions bodies, a building for the temporary storage of the reaction masses generated during the operations, an administrative building, as well as other auxiliary buildings and structures. In 2015, the project was developed in order to build up essential facilities at the Kizner CWDF in process building 1041A, designed for the destruction of two types of artillery munitions filled with lewisite. It is envisaged to use the equipment previously provided by donor countries. Currently, the construction of process building 1041A has been initiated and it is planned to complete construction works and all necessary equipment installation in 2017. It is also planned to build up building 1041 for the disposal of industrial waste by means of thermal treatment, and for the disposal of the reaction masses resulting from lewisite detoxification by bituminisation.
57. Colonel Novoydarsky described the destruction process which involves the draining and subsequent neutralisation of the chemical agent fill, followed by the thermal treatment of the reaction masses and the thermal treatment and mutilation of the drained and decontaminated munition bodies.
58. Next, Colonel Novoydarsky briefly described in his presentation the main stages of the destruction operations. These comprise delivery of chemical munitions from the

CWSF to the CWDF; preparation of delivered chemical munitions for destruction; draining of the chemical agent; detoxification of the drained chemical agent; thermal treatment of the drained munition bodies; and deformation of thermally treated munition bodies. He stated that the neutralising reagent used for the detoxification of sarin and soman is an 80% aqueous solution of monoethanolamine, while for Vx and lewisite RD-4M decontamination solution is used. As for the other destruction facilities, a chemical weapon is reported as destroyed once the residual percentage of the original chemical agent in the reaction mass is less than 0.1% of mass and the respective munition body has been thermally treated.

59. Colonel Novoydarsky underscored that, as required under the chemical weapons destruction programme in the Russian Federation, the construction of destruction-related facilities had to be accompanied by the construction of social infrastructure facilities that will contribute to the welfare of the region in which the facility is located. Considerable efforts have been made in this regard, with 10% of the capital invested in the construction and modernisation of such facilities. Such social infrastructure includes the OPCW inspectors' accommodation area, the medical and diagnostic centre, the municipal recreation centre, and a secondary school in Kizner.
60. Colonel Novoydarsky informed the Council delegation that the first train of chemical weapons destruction in building 1010 is currently under way, and that about 1,355 MTs of chemical agent are scheduled for destruction in 2016.
61. Following the presentation by Colonel Novoydarsky, the Council delegation participated in a tour of the Kizner CWDF, during which it received additional comprehensive detailed information regarding the process and destruction technology. The delegation was also able to observe the current status of activities. The site tour allowed the members of the Council delegation to familiarise themselves with the layout of the facility and the destruction process. The Council delegation had the opportunity to visit the administrative building (building 1050), including the facility control room, the OPCW inspectors' office, the medical and diagnostic facility, and the laboratory. Since destruction operations were in progress, the Council delegation could not physically enter the industrial toxic and restricted areas of the process building. Instead, the Council delegation visited the delivery area containing the airlocks through which the chemical munitions are delivered into the process buildings area, as well as the exit area where the thermally treated munitions are cooled down prior to being irreversibly mutilated by deformation (building 1010). The Council delegation also visited the liquid and solid waste thermal treatment building (building 1044), the wastewater treatment building (building 1040), and the water circulation station (building 1080). The Council delegation also observed the state of construction of process building 1041A, designated for the destruction of two types of artillery munitions filled with lewisite.
62. During the site tour, the Council delegation was provided with extensive briefings by the facility representatives, which included a demonstration and presentation of emergency chemical agent protection equipment, firefighting vehicles and equipment, a mobile environmental laboratory, as well as facility monitoring systems.

63. Throughout the site visit, the members of the Council delegation had the opportunity to ask questions covering a variety of general topics, as well as very specific technical queries. Discussions were conducted in an open and transparent manner.
64. The visit to the Kizner CWDF concluded with a wrap-up meeting, which gave the delegation an opportunity not only to express appreciation to the Russian Federation representatives for the efficient and effective manner in which the visit had been organised and conducted, but also to clarify additional queries related to the facility and the technology applied.

#### **General observations by the delegation and conclusions**

65. The Council delegation completed its visit to the Kizner CWDF satisfied that the Russian Federation attached great importance to meeting its obligations under the Convention and remained fully committed to completing the destruction of its remaining chemical weapons stockpile in a safe and environmentally sound manner in the shortest time practicable. In this respect, the Council delegation was confident that the Russian Federation would complete the destruction of its remaining stockpile within the established timelines.
66. The Council delegation noted that the Russian Federation has destroyed to date 93% of its declared Category 1 chemical weapons stockpile. Six facilities have completed the destruction of all their chemical weapons stockpiles: the CWDFs at Maradykovsky, Leonidovka, Shchuchye, and Pochep completed destruction operations between September and November 2015; the Kambarka CWDF completed destruction operations in March 2009; and the Gorny CWDF completed destruction operations in December 2005. The last remaining CWDF at Kizner is on track to complete the destruction of all remaining chemical weapons within the current timeline.
67. The visit to the Kizner CWDF enabled the Council delegation to better understand the emphasis placed by the Russian Federation on safe and environmentally friendly operations. Moreover, the Council delegation noted the assurances given by the representatives of the Russian Federation that it will complete the destruction of the chemical weapons stockpiles within the established destruction timelines.
68. The various meetings with political and parliamentary officials in Moscow also highlighted the Russian Federation's commitment to continue to allocate the necessary financial resources from the federal budget, and confirmed the strong support the destruction programme enjoys in the Russian Federation at all levels. The Council delegation was reassured that the Russian Federation has allocated the necessary financial resources to the implementation of its chemical weapons destruction programme.
69. The Council delegation considers that the visit to the Kizner CWDF was useful in that it provided a better understanding of the human effort, technical challenges, regulatory constraints, and financial expenditures related the destruction of chemical weapons in the Russian Federation.

70. The Council delegation was very appreciative of the spirit of cooperation, openness, and transparency that marked the visit to the Kizner CWDF, as well as the detailed discussions with the Russian Federation representatives, including during the high-level meetings in Moscow.
71. The Council delegation confirms the relevance of visits to CWDFs by delegations representing the Council, and recommends that they continue, as required by the decision on the final extended deadline of 29 April 2012 taken by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11).

Annexes (English only):

- Annex 1: The Russian Federation – Provisional Programme and Terms of Conduct of the Visit to the Russian Federation by a Delegation from the Executive Council of the OPCW, including a Visit to the Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility at Kizner, the Udmurt Republic, 25 – 29 April 2016.
- Annex 2: List of OPCW Executive Council Delegation Members Who Took Part in the Visit to the Kizner Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility, 25 – 29 April 2016.
- Annex 3: List of Representatives of the Russian Federation Hosting the Visit of the OPCW Executive Council Delegation to the Kizner Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility, 25 – 29 April 2016.
- Annex 4: The Russian Federation – Briefing Materials.
- Annex 5: Comments from the Russian Federation on the Report of the Visit by the Chairperson of the Executive Council and Representatives of the Executive Council to the Kizner Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility, 25 – 29 April 2016.

**Annex 1**

**THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME AND TERMS OF CONDUCT OF THE VISIT TO  
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION BY A DELEGATION FROM THE EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL OF THE OPCW, INCLUDING A VISIT TO THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS  
DESTRUCTION FACILITY AT KIZNER, THE UDMURT REPUBLIC  
25 – 29 APRIL 2016**

1. Facility to be visited: the chemical weapons destruction facility at Kizner, the Udmurt Republic (hereinafter “the Kizner CWDF).
2. Dates of the visit: 25 to 29 April 2016.
3. Details of arrival and accommodation of the delegation from the Executive Council of the OPCW:
  - (a) Members of the OPCW delegation shall arrive at the point of entry into the Russian Federation (Terminal E, Sheremetyevo Airport, Moscow) on 25 April 2016 at around 16:00.
  - (b) On the day of arrival, the members of the delegation shall be transferred from Sheremetyevo Airport to the Marriott Royal Aurora hotel in central Moscow.
  - (c) All visiting group expenses (meals, hotel accommodation, and transport costs) shall be borne by the visiting group.
4. The updated timetable of activities scheduled for the visit is as follows:

<b>Monday, 25 April 2016</b>	
<b>16:00</b>	Arrival at Sheremetyevo Airport, Moscow and transfer to hotel Marriott Royal Aurora.
<b>Tuesday, 26 April 2016</b>	
<b>11:00 – 13:30</b>	Initial briefing at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Presentation of the Russian National Programme on the Destruction of Chemical Weapons (presented by the Director of the Department of Implementation of the Convention's Obligations, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Mr. V. Kholstov)  Followed by buffet (Spiridonovka str. 17).
<b>16:00 – 17:00</b>	Meeting with the Head of the Defence Committee of the Upper Chamber of the Russian Parliament, Mr. V. Ozerov
<b>Wednesday, 27 April 2016</b>	
<b>11:00 – 12:00</b>	Meeting of the OPCW delegation with the Plenipotentiary Representative of the President of the Russian Federation to the Volga Federal District, Chairman of the State Commission on Chemical Disarmament Mr. M. Babich and Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, G. Kalamanov
<b>17:38</b>	Departure from "Kazansky" railway station to "Kizner" <i>Train: 26 "Moscow- Izhevsk"</i>
<b>Thursday, 28 April 2016</b>	
<b>10:00 – 19:00</b>	Activities at the Kizner CWDF  Departure from "Kizner" railway station to Moscow <i>Train: 25 "Izhevsk -Moscow"</i>
<b>Friday, 29 April 2016</b>	
<b>10:08</b>	Arrival in Moscow at "Kazansky" railway station
<b>14:50</b>	Departure of the delegation to Amsterdam

**Annex 2**

**LIST OF OPCW EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DELEGATION  
MEMBERS WHO TOOK PART IN THE VISIT TO THE  
KIZNER CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION FACILITY  
25 – 29 APRIL 2016**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>
H.E. Mr Francesco Azzarello Chairperson of the Executive Council and Permanent Representative of Italy to the OPCW	Chairperson of the Executive Council and Western European and Other States Group
Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü Director-General of the Technical Secretariat	OPCW
Mr Philippe Denier Director of the Verification Division	OPCW
Mr Bob Fairweather Chief of Cabinet	OPCW
H.E. Mr Abdulaziz Bin Abdullah Abohaimed Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the OPCW	Asian Region
H.E. Mr Sergio Ugalde Godínez Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the OPCW	Latin America and Caribbean Region
Mr Nikolai Ovsyanko Deputy Director of Department for International Security and Arms Control, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belarus	Eastern European Region
Mr Rafael Foley Deputy Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the OPCW	United States of America and Possessor State
Mr Eugene Klimson Foreign Affairs Officer, Bureau of Arms Control, Verification, and Compliance	United States of America and Possessor State
Dr Ali Gebril Werfeli Permanent Representative of Libya to the OPCW	Libya and Possessor State
Mr Rüdiger Zettel Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany to the OPCW	Observer
Mr Zhaoyang Xu Deputy Permanent Representative of China to the OPCW	Observer

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Mr Yeonjean Yoon Minister-Counselor, Permanent Representation of the Republic of Korea to the OPCW	Observer
Mr Gunnar Heløe Defense Attaché, the Norwegian Embassy in Moscow	Observer
Mr Hiroshi Sanomura First Secretary, Permanent Representation of Japan to the OPCW	Observer
Ms Clara Martins Solon Counsellor of the Brazilian Embassy in Moscow	Observer
Ms Nataly Spears Program Officer, Chemical Weapons Destruction, Global Partnership Program Division, Canada	Observer
Mr Mechislav Remishevski Head, Languages Services Branch, Secretariat for the Policy-Making Organs	OPCW
Mr Frantisek Pavlasek Senior Chemical Demilitarisation Officer Verification Division	OPCW

**Annex 3**

**LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION HOSTING THE  
VISIT OF THE OPCW EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DELEGATION TO THE KIZNER  
CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION FACILITY  
25 – 29 APRIL 2016**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title or Position</b>
Mr Mikhail Viktorovich Babich	Plenipotentiary Representative of the President of the Russian Federation to the Volga Federal District
Mr Yury Vasilyevich Zolotarev	Assistant to Plenipotentiary Representative of the President of the Russian Federation to the Privozhsky Federal District
Mr Viktor Alexeyevich Ozerov	Chairman of the Committee on Defence and Security of the Council of the Federation
Andrey Ivanovich Shilov	Assistant to the Chairman of the Committee on Defence and Security of the Council of the Federation
Mr Georgy Vladimirovich Kalamonov	Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation
Colonel-General Victor Ivanovich Kholstov	Director of the Department for Fulfilment of Convention-related Obligations, Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation, Head of the National Authority
Ms Elena Borisovna Rodyushkina	Deputy Director, Department for Fulfilment of Convention-related Obligations, Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation
Mr Andrei Miroslavovich Triguk	Head of Division, International Inspections, Department for Fulfilment of Convention-related Obligations, Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation
Mr Mikhail Andreyevich Dedkov	Deputy Head of Division, Ministry of Industry and Trade
Mr Igor Stanislavovich Vishnevetsky	Head of Division, Department for Non-proliferation and Arms Control
Colonel General Valery Petrovich Kapashin	Head of Federal Department for the Safe Storage and Destruction of Chemical Weapons
Colonel Vladimir Grigoryevich Mandych	Deputy Head of Federal Department for the Safe Storage and Destruction of Chemical Weapons

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title or Position</b>
Major-General Gennadiy Nikolayevich Bezrukov	Chief Engineer of Federal Department for the Safe Storage and Destruction of Chemical Weapons
Colonel Ekaterina Vladimirovna Kinash	Head of Division of Federal Department for the Safe Storage and Destruction of Chemical Weapons
Colonel Yulia Evgenyevna Kuznetsova	Deputy Head of Division of Federal Department for the Safe Storage and Destruction of Chemical Weapons
Mr Dmitriy Vladimirovich Griбанov	Senior Officer of Division of Federal Department for the Safe Storage and Destruction of Chemical Weapons
Mr Viktor Alexeyevich Saveliev	Head of Government of the Udmurt Republic
Mr Alexandr Dmitriyevich Perunov	Deputy Minister of Construction and Housing Policy, the Udmurt Republic
Mr Alexandr Ivanovich Plotnikov	Head of Municipality, Kizner District
Colonel Yury Vasiliyevich Novoydarsky	Commander of the Kizner CWDF
Mr Yury Alexandrovich Telushkin	Interpreter
Mr Vadim Yurievich Nikolayenko	Interpreter
Mr Ivan Semenovich Shafalovich	Interpreter

**Annex 4**

**THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**BRIEFING MATERIALS**

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

**Annex 5**

**COMMENTS FROM THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION ON THE REPORT OF THE  
VISIT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND  
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO THE KIZNER  
CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION FACILITY  
25 – 29 APRIL 2016**

The Russian Federation informed the Secretariat that it had no comments on the report.

**--- 0 ---**