



REPORT OF THE EIGHTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session

The Chairperson of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”), Ambassador Sheikh Mohammed Belal of Bangladesh, opened its Eighty-Sixth Session in The Hague at 10:07 on 10 October 2017.

2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Adoption of the agenda

The Council **considered** and **adopted** the following agenda:

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
 - (c) Elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme
 - (d) Other verification-related issues
 - (e) Supplement to the Verification Implementation Report for 2016
 - (f) Destruction-related plans and facility agreements
 - (g) Technical Secretariat’s activities: update on the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria



- (h) Status of implementation of Article VII
 - (i) Status of implementation of Article X
 - (j) Status of implementation of Article XI
 - (k) Status of implementation of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons
 - (l) Progress made in the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention
7. OPCW Central Analytical Database
 8. Countering chemical terrorism
 9. Education and outreach
 10. Administrative and financial matters:
 - (a) Report of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters
 - (b) Nominations for membership of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters
 - (c) Financial Statements of the OPCW and the External Auditor's report for the year ending 31 December 2016
 - (d) Status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor
 - (e) Cash deficit for 2014 and cash surplus for 2015
 - (f) Establishment of a special fund for the review conference
 - (g) Draft Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2018, and all items pertaining to this Budget
 - (h) Cash situation and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 31 August 2017
 - (i) Special Fund for OPCW Special Missions
 - (j) Recommendation for write-offs of irrecoverable accounts receivable and of losses of assets
 - (k) Status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions
 - (l) Report on the status of implementation of the enterprise resource planning system

- (m) Amendments to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW
 - (n) Amendments to the Staff Regulations and Interim Staff Rules of the OPCW
 - (o) Implementation of the amendment to the Staff Regulations regarding downward classification of posts during the period from 14 August 2016 to 13 August 2017
 - (p) Rehiring of inspectors
11. Nomination of the External Auditor
 12. The OPCW Programme for Africa
 13. Draft report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities
 14. Follow-up process to the Third Review Conference¹
 15. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country
 16. Report by the Open-Ended Working Group on the Future Priorities of the OPCW
 17. Appointment of the Director-General
 18. Any other business
 19. Adoption of the report
 20. Closure

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

The Council **noted** the opening statement by the Director-General (EC-86/DG.32, dated 10 October 2017).

4. AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Reports by the Vice-Chairpersons on the activities conducted under their respective clusters of issues

- 4.1 The Vice-Chairpersons and coordinators for clusters of issues reported to the Council on informal consultations held during the intersessional period: Ambassador Roman Bužek of Slovakia on chemical weapons issues, Mr Wolfgang Rechenhofer of Germany (on behalf of Ambassador Fernando Arias of Spain) on chemical-industry and other Article VI issues, Ambassador María Teresa Infante of Chile on administrative and financial issues, and Ambassador Rahma Salih Elobied of the Sudan on legal, organisational, and other issues.

¹ Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

- 4.2 The Council **expressed appreciation** for the work done by the facilitator for the Office of Internal Oversight and External Auditor reports, Mr Hiroshi Sanomura of Japan, and **welcomed** the appointment of Ms Bettina Gorczynski of the United States of America as the new facilitator.

5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – General debate

The following delegations made statements during the general debate: the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and China), Estonia (on behalf of the European Union), Morocco (on behalf of the African Group), Italy, Spain, Germany, Indonesia (observer), Brazil, China, Australia, Poland, Bangladesh, Mexico, Canada (observer), India, the Russian Federation, Switzerland, the Republic of Korea, Pakistan, New Zealand (observer), the Netherlands (observer), Japan, Chile, the Sudan, Panama, the United States of America, Morocco, France, Guatemala, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia (observer), Argentina, Peru, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Viet Nam, Cuba (observer), Algeria, Belgium, Colombia, Sweden, the Syrian Arab Republic (observer), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Senegal, and Sri Lanka.

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 **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the overall progress with respect to the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons stockpiles (EC-86/DG.31, dated 5 October 2017).
- 6.2 Further to a decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012), the Council **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the overall progress of the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons (EC-86/DG.28, dated 3 October 2017).
- 6.3 The Council **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Director-General on the schedule for submission by chemical weapons possessor States of the reports on their destruction activities after the extended deadline of 29 April 2012 (EC-86/DG.17, dated 7 September 2017).

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

- 6.4 The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) briefed the Council on its destruction-related verification activities.
- 6.5 The United States of America, the Russian Federation, Libya, Japan, and China briefed the Council on their destruction-related activities.
- 6.6 The Council **noted** the statements and comments made by States Parties on the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons by possessor States Parties, recalling the relevant obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the

Convention”), and relevant decisions by the Conference and the Council. The Council **recalled** that the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons by possessor States Parties should continue in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and its Annex on Implementation and Verification (hereinafter “the Verification Annex”) and with the application of the measures contained in decision C-16/DEC.11.

- 6.7 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Council **considered** and **noted** 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, as well as appropriate measures in order to meet the planned completion date (EC-86/NAT.1, dated 18 September 2017), along with comments on the issue as mentioned above. The Council **noted** the confirmation provided by the delegation of the United States of America that the necessary measures continue to be undertaken in order to meet the planned completion date of September 2023 for its destruction activities, as submitted to the Council at its Sixty-Eighth Session in accordance with subparagraph 3(c) of C 16/DEC.11.
- 6.8 Further to the same decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Council **considered** and **noted** a national paper by the Russian Federation on the progress achieved towards complete destruction of its chemical weapons (EC-86/P/NAT.5, dated 12 September 2017).
- 6.9 The Council **welcomed** the completion of the destruction of declared Category 1 chemical weapons stockpiles in the Russian Federation. The Organisation’s inspectors, in accordance with Part IV(A) of the Verification Annex, verified on 27 September the completion of the destruction operations at the Kizner chemical weapons destruction facility in the Udmurt Republic. Therefore, based on the Russian Federation’s announcement, as well as the independent information received from its inspectors, the Secretariat can confirm that the Russian Federation has completed the full destruction of its declared 39,967 metric tonnes of chemical weapons.
- 6.10 Further to the aforementioned decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.11), the Council **considered** and **noted** 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, as well as appropriate measures in order to meet the planned completion date (EC-86/NAT.3, dated 19 September 2017), along with comments on the issue as mentioned above.
- 6.11 Further to its decision at its Fifty-Third Meeting on the “Plan for the Destruction of Libya’s Remaining Category 2 Chemical Weapons Outside the Territory of Libya” (EC-M-53/DEC.1, dated 26 August 2016), the Council **considered** and **noted** the monthly reports by the Director-General on the implementation of the plan, including any problems relating to its implementation (EC-86/DG.1, dated 24 July 2017; EC-86/DG.6, dated 23 August 2017; and EC-86/DG.22, dated 25 September 2017).
- 6.12 Further to its decision at its Eighty-Fourth Session (EC-84/DEC.2, dated 8 March 2017), the Council **considered** and **noted** a national paper by Iraq entitled “Report to the Eighty-Sixth Session of the Executive Council on Progress Achieved

Towards Destruction of the Chemical Weapons Remnants Stored at the Al Muthana Site” (EC-86/P/NAT.3, dated 15 September 2017).

- 6.13 Further to a decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6) and the destruction plan beyond the year 2016 for the chemical weapons abandoned by Japan in China (EC-84/NAT.6, dated 2 March 2017) attached as Annex 2 to the Council’s decision EC-67/DEC.6, and adopted by the Council at its Eighty-Fourth Session (paragraph 6.14 of EC-84/2, dated 9 March 2017), a national paper by China (EC-86/NAT.2, dated 20 September 2017) and a national paper by Japan (EC-86/NAT.4, dated 28 September 2017) on the overall progress of the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China were circulated to the members of the Council. The Council **recalled** the provisions of the Convention that the Abandoning State Party undertakes to destroy all chemical weapons it abandoned on the territory of another State Party and shall provide all necessary financial, technical, expert, facility as well as other resources, **expressed its determination** to remain seized of the matter, and **urged** the Abandoning State Party to continue to make the fullest possible effort to complete destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China as early as possible in accordance with the Council’s decision (EC-67/DEC.6) and its Annex 2 in a faithful manner and to address challenges including ensuring the safety of people and protecting the environment. The Council **reaffirmed** that the Territorial State Party shall provide appropriate cooperation.
- 6.14 The Council also **reaffirmed** the obligation of the Abandoning State Party to provide all available information including, to the extent possible, the location, type, quantity as well as information on the abandonment in accordance with relevant provisions of the Convention, so as to facilitate the expedite destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China.
- 6.15 The Council **welcomed** the review of the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons conducted by the Third Review Conference and the report of the Third Review Conference (RC-3/3*, dated 19 April 2013), which reaffirmed the role of the Council, the Conference and the Review Conference with regard to the abandoned chemical weapons destruction-related issues as defined in the provisions of the Convention and in the Council’s decision (EC-67/DEC.6).
- 6.16 The Council **considered** and **noted** the report of the visit by the Chairperson of the Council and representatives of the Council to the Haerbaling abandoned chemical weapons destruction site, Jilin Province, China, from 12 to 16 June 2017, jointly invited by China and Japan (EC-85/14, dated 10 July 2017) and **expressed its appreciation** for the first-hand information on the destruction progress and the bilateral cooperation of the relevant States Parties obtained through the visit.

Subitem 6(c): Elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme

- 6.17 Further to its decision at its Eighty-Third Session (EC-83/DEC.5, dated 11 November 2016), the Council decided to place “Elimination of the Syrian Chemical Weapons Programme” on the agenda of all future Council sessions until the Council determines that all elements of the Syrian chemical weapons programme have been eliminated.

- 6.18 The Council **noted** three Notes by the Director-General reporting on progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme (EC-86/DG.2, dated 24 July 2017; EC-86/DG.7, dated 23 August 2017; and EC-86/DG.23, dated 25 September 2017).
- 6.19 The Council **noted** three national papers by the Syrian Arab Republic on the activities related to the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons and their production facilities (EC-86/P/NAT.1, dated 19 July 2017; EC-86/P/NAT.2, dated 16 August 2017; and EC-86/P/NAT.4, dated 15 September 2017).
- 6.20 Pursuant to subparagraph 12(a) of its decision entitled “OPCW-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism Reports on Chemical Weapons Use in the Syrian Arab Republic” (EC-83/DEC.5, dated 11 November 2016), the Council decided that the Director-General shall regularly inform the Council on the implementation of this decision. The Council **noted** a report by the Director-General entitled “Status of Implementation of Executive Council Decision EC-83/DEC.5 (Dated 11 November 2016)” (EC-86/DG.21, dated 21 September 2017).
- 6.21 In subparagraph 12(b) of the above decision, the Council further decided that the Director-General shall report to the Council at all future sessions, pursuant to paragraph 40, Article VIII of the Convention, any unresolved doubts, ambiguities or uncertainties regarding the compliance of the Syrian Arab Republic with the Convention. The Council **noted** a Note by the Director-General entitled “Outcome of Further Consultations with the Syrian Arab Republic Regarding its Chemical Weapons Declaration” (EC-86/DG.30, dated 4 October 2017).
- 6.22 The Council **noted** a Note by the Director-General entitled “Report on the Work of the Declaration Assessment Team” (EC-86/HP/DG.2, dated 3 October 2017 and Corr.1, dated 5 October 2017).

Subitem 6(d): Other verification-related issues

- 6.23 The Secretariat briefed the Council on its other verification-related activities.

Subitem 6(e): Supplement to the Verification Implementation Report for 2016

- 6.24 The Council **considered** and **noted** the supplement to the Verification Implementation Report for 2016 (EC-86/HP/DG.1, dated 8 September 2017).

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

- 6.25 The Secretariat submitted to the Council a Note on amendments and modifications to the facility agreement with Spain regarding on-site inspections at a Schedule 1 facility for protective purposes (EC-86/S/3, dated 6 September 2017).
- 6.26 Proposed amendments to the aforementioned facility agreement were submitted separately to the Council, which **considered** and **approved** them (EC-86/DEC.1 and EC-86/R/DEC.1, both dated 11 October 2017).

- 6.27 The Secretariat also submitted a Note on modifications to the arrangement with Panama governing inspections on San José Island, Panama (EC-86/S/4, dated 8 September 2017).

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

- 6.28 The Director-General provided an update in regard to the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria. The Director-General took note of the Council's discussion regarding the alleged use of sarin on 30 March 2017 in Ltamenah and agreed to provide additional information to questions raised in this respect.

Subitem 6(h): Status of implementation of Article VII

- 6.29 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Fourteenth Session regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations (C-14/DEC.12, dated 4 December 2009), the Council **noted** a report by the Director-General on the "Overview of the Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2017" (EC-86/DG.10 C-22/DG.10, dated 24 August 2017); a report by the Director-General on the "Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2017: Article VII – Initial Measures" (EC-86/DG.8 C-22/DG.8, dated 24 August 2017); and a report by the Director-General on the "Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2017: Additional Measures for States Parties that Possess Industrial Facilities Which Are Declarable Under the Convention" (EC-86/DG.9 C-22/DG.9, dated 24 August 2017). The Council **submitted** the documents to the Conference at its Twenty-Second Session, along with its recommendations, for consideration.
- 6.30 The facilitator for this issue, Mr Stefano Dell'Aquila of Italy, reported on the consultations carried out during the intersessional period.

Subitem 6(i): Status of implementation of Article X

- 6.31 The Council **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the status of implementation of Article X of the Convention as at 30 June 2017 (EC-86/DG.13, dated 30 August 2017, and Corr.1, dated 6 October 2017).
- 6.32 The facilitator for this issue, Mr Martin Pizinger of the Czech Republic, reported on the consultations carried out during the intersessional period.

Subitem 6(j): Status of implementation of Article XI

- 6.33 The Council **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the progress made and review of the status of the implementation of Article XI of the Convention (EC-86/DG.19 C-22/DG.15, dated 14 September 2017).

Subitem 6(k): Status of implementation of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons

- 6.34 The Conference at its Sixteenth Session endorsed a proposal for the establishment of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons and the establishment of a voluntary trust fund for this purpose (C-16/DEC.13, dated 2 December 2011). It requested the Director-General to report every two years, through the Council, to the Conference at its regular sessions on the status of implementation of this decision (paragraph 5 of C-16/DEC.13).
- 6.35 The Council **noted** a report by the Director-General on the status of implementation of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons (EC-86/DG.15 C-22/DG.13, dated 6 September 2017).

Subitem 6(l): Progress made in the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention

- 6.36 The Council at its Twenty-Third Meeting adopted an action plan for the universality of the Convention (EC-M-23/DEC.3, dated 24 October 2003). The plan requested the Director-General, inter alia, to submit to the Conference at its regular sessions an annual report on the implementation of the action plan, and to keep the Council regularly informed, so that the Conference and the Council may review progress and monitor its implementation effectively.
- 6.37 The Council **considered** and **noted** the annual report on the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention during the period from 16 August 2016 to 15 August 2017 (EC-86/DG.12 C-22/DG.12, dated 30 August 2017).

7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – OPCW Central Analytical Database

- 7.1 Further to its consideration of this issue at its previous sessions, the Council **considered** a Note by the Director-General on the lists of new validated data of non-scheduled chemicals for approval by the Council for inclusion in the OPCW Central Analytical Database (EC-84/DG.13/Rev.2, dated 11 October 2017).
- 7.2 The Council **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the matter (EC-86/DEC.10, dated 13 October 2017).

8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – Countering chemical terrorism

- 8.1 The Chairperson of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on Terrorism, Ambassador Momar Diop of Senegal, briefed the Council on the work of the OEWG during the intersessional period (EC-86/WP.2, dated 11 October 2017).
- 8.2 The Council **expressed appreciation** for the report provided by the facilitator of the OEWG on Terrorism. The Council also **noted** the work done by the facilitator of the Sub-Working Group on Non-State Actors of the OEWG, Ambassador María Teresa Infante of Chile, whose report was circulated to the Council (EC-86/WP.1, dated 2 October 2017).

- 8.3 Further to its consideration of this issue at its previous sessions, the Council **considered** and **adopted** a decision entitled “Addressing the Threat Posed by the Use of Chemical Weapons by Non-State Actors” (EC-86/DEC.9, dated 13 October 2017).

9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – Education and outreach

The Council **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Director-General reporting on the activities of the Advisory Board on Education and Outreach in 2017 (EC-86/DG.29 C-22/DG.17, dated 4 October 2017).

10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – Administrative and financial matters

Subitem 10(a): Report of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters

- 10.1 The Council **considered** and **noted** the report of the Forty-Third Session of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters (ABAF), which took place from 29 to 31 August 2017 (ABAF-43/1, dated 1 September 2017), and a Note by the Director-General containing comments on the report of the ABAF at that session (EC-86/DG.24*, dated 27 September 2017).

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

- 10.2 The Council **noted** a Note by the Secretariat on a nomination for membership of the ABAF (EC-86/S/1, dated 19 July 2017) and **appointed** Mr Khodayar Rouzbahani of the Islamic Republic of Iran for a second term with the ABAF, retroactive to the date of the letter of nomination for Mr Rouzbahani (29 June 2017).
- 10.3 The Council **noted** a Note by the Secretariat on a nomination for membership of the ABAF (EC-86/S/5, dated 27 September 2017) and **appointed** Mr Arata Mizukami of Japan, to replace Mr Hiroshi Sanomura, retroactive to the date of the letter of nomination for Mr Mizukami (22 September 2017).

Subitem 10(c): Financial Statements of the OPCW and the External Auditor’s report for the year ending 31 December 2016

- 10.4 The Council **noted** the Financial Statements of the OPCW and the report of the External Auditor for the year ending 31 December 2016 (EC-86/DG.3 C-22/DG.5, dated 24 July 2017) and **forwarded** them to the Conference for consideration at its Twenty-Second Session. The Secretariat circulated a statement by the External Auditor on its report (EC-86/10, dated 11 October 2017).
- 10.5 The facilitator for this issue, Mr Hiroshi Sanomura of Japan, reported on the consultations held during the intersessional period.

Subitem 10(d): Status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor

- 10.6 The Council **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Secretariat on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor (EC-86/S/2, dated 21 August 2017).

Subitem 10(e): Cash deficit for 2014 and cash surplus for 2015

- 10.7 At previous Council sessions, the Secretariat circulated a draft decision recommending that the Conference suspend, on an exceptional basis, the application of Financial Regulation 6.3 in respect of the allocation among States Parties of cash surpluses in light of the cash deficit for the year 2014 and to review the treatment of future cash surpluses as and when such surpluses are determined (EC-83/DEC/CRP.2/Rev.1, dated 23 February 2017).
- 10.8 Subsequently, with a cash surplus for 2015 having been determined, the Secretariat circulated a draft decision to apply the cash deficit for 2014 to the cash surplus for 2015 and to apportion the remaining surplus to the Special Fund for the Fourth Review Conference² in 2018 (see subitem 10(f)) and to the Working Capital Fund. The Council **considered** and **adopted** this decision (EC-86/DEC.2, dated 11 October 2017) and **transmitted** it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Second Session.

Subitem 10(f): Establishment of a special fund for the review conference

- 10.9 The Council **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Director-General entitled “Request for Establishment of a Special Fund for the Fourth Review Conference in 2018” (EC-86/DG.25, dated 28 September 2017).
- 10.10 The Council **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the establishment of a special fund for the Fourth Review Conference in 2018 (EC-86/DEC.3, dated 11 October 2017), and **transmitted** it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Second Session.

Subitem 10(g): Draft Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2018, and all items pertaining to this Budget

- 10.11 In accordance with subparagraph 32(a) of Article VIII of the Convention, the Council **considered** the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018 (EC-86/CRP.1, dated 7 July 2017) and **transmitted** it, together with its recommendation and amendments (EC-86/DEC.4, dated 11 October 2017), to the Conference at its Twenty-Second Session.
- 10.12 The co-facilitator for this issue, Mr Bahram Jamali of the Islamic Republic of Iran, reported on the consultations held during the intersessional period.

² Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

- 10.13 A Note by the Secretariat on the programme performance for the year 2016 (S/1485/2017, dated 11 April 2017) was circulated to the members of the Council.

Subitem 10(h): Cash situation and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 31 August 2017

- 10.14 The Council **considered** and **forwarded** to the Conference at its Twenty-Second Session a Note by the Director-General on the cash situation and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 31 August 2017 (EC-86/DG.20 C-22/DG.16, dated 21 September 2017).

Subitem 10(i): Special Fund for OPCW Special Missions

- 10.15 The Council **noted** a Note by the Director-General on the financial status of the Special Fund for OPCW Special Missions (EC-86/DG.27, dated 2 October 2017).

- 10.16 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Twentieth Session (C-20/DEC.11, dated 3 December 2015) on the establishment of a special fund for OPCW special missions, the Council **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the extension of the Special Fund for OPCW Special Missions for a period of one further year (EC-86/DEC.5, dated 11 October 2017), and **transmitted** it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Second Session.

Subitem 10(j): Recommendation for write-offs of irrecoverable accounts receivable and of losses of assets

- 10.17 The Council **considered** a Note by the Director-General on the recommendation for write-offs of irrecoverable accounts receivable and of losses of assets, and **recommended** that the Conference at its Twenty-Second Session approve these write-offs, totalling EUR 14,828.28 (EC-86/DG.4 C-22/DG.7, dated 24 July 2017).

Subitem 10(k): Status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions

- 10.18 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Eleventh Session (C-11/DEC.5, dated 7 December 2006), the Council **considered** and **forwarded** to the Conference at its Twenty-Second Session a Note by the Director-General reporting on the status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans (EC-86/DG.11 C-22/DG.11, dated 30 August 2017).

- 10.19 At its Eleventh Session, the Conference adopted a decision on a mechanism to encourage States Parties that are in arrears to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions (C-11/DEC.5, dated 7 December 2006). In light of this decision, the Council **considered** and **approved** a proposal from Libya for a multi-year payment plan to regularise the payment of its outstanding annual contributions (EC-86/DG.26, dated 28 September 2017), and **transmitted** it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Second Session (EC-86/DEC.6, dated 11 October 2017).

Subitem 10(l): Report on the status of implementation of the enterprise resource planning system

10.20 Further to the decision by the Conference at its Nineteenth Session on the implementation of 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 **noted** a Note by the Director-General reporting on the status of implementation of the ERP system (EC-86/DG.16, dated 6 September 2017).

Subitem 10(m): Amendments to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW

10.21 The Secretariat circulated a Note on proposed amendments to the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules (S/1553/2017, dated 14 September 2017 and Corr.1, dated 10 October 2017).

10.22 The Council **considered** and **adopted** a decision entitled “Amendments to the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules” (EC-86/DEC.7, dated 11 October 2017), and **transmitted** it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Second Session.

Subitem 10(n): Amendments to the Staff Regulations and Interim Staff Rules of the OPCW

10.23 The Secretariat circulated a Note on proposed amendments to the OPCW Staff Regulations and Interim Staff Rules (S/1535/2017, dated 15 September 2017).

10.24 The Council **considered** and **adopted** a decision entitled “Amendments to the OPCW Staff Regulations and Interim Staff Rules” (EC-86/DEC.8, dated 11 October 2017), and **transmitted** it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Second Session.

Subitem 10(o): Implementation of the amendment to the Staff Regulations regarding downward classification of posts during the period from 14 August 2016 to 13 August 2017

10.25 The Council **noted** a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the amendment to the Staff Regulations regarding downward classification of posts during the period from 14 August 2016 to 13 August 2017 (EC-86/DG.14, dated 5 September 2017).

Subitem 10(p): Rehiring of inspectors

10.26 At its Nineteenth Session, the Conference adopted a decision on the rehiring of inspectors (C-19/DEC.11, dated 4 December 2014) and decided to review the implementation of this decision at its Twenty-Second Session, in 2017, taking into consideration the recommendations of the ABAF to the Council on the matter.

10.27 The Council **considered** and **noted** an addendum to a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the tenure policy in 2016 (EC-85/DG.6/Add.1*, dated 25 September 2017).

10.28 The Council **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the rehiring of inspectors (EC-86/DEC.11, dated 13 October 2017), and **transmitted** it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Second Session.

11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Nomination of the External Auditor

11.1 According to Article 13.1 of the OPCW Financial Regulations, the Conference shall appoint the External Auditor, who shall be the Auditor-General (or an officer holding an equivalent title) of a State Party, and such appointment shall be in the manner and for the period determined by the Conference and for a single period of not less than two years, but not exceeding six years. The Conference will appoint the next External Auditor at its Twenty-Second Session, in November/December 2017.

11.2 The Director-General had issued a Note requesting nominations for the post of External Auditor of the OPCW (S/1507/2017, dated 22 June 2017). The Council **considered** the Note by the Director-General containing a summary of nominations for this post (EC-86/DG.5, dated 23 August 2017). The Council **made a recommendation** on the re-appointment of the External Auditor of the OPCW, and **forwarded** it to the Conference at its Twenty-Second Session.

12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – The OPCW Programme for Africa

The Council **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Director-General on the Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention (EC-86/DG.18 C-22/DG.14, dated 12 September 2017).

13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Draft report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities

The Council **considered** and **approved** a report on the performance of its activities in the period from 28 July 2016 to 14 July 2017 (EC-86/9 C-22/2, dated 12 October 2017), and **transmitted** it to the Conference for consideration at its Twenty-Second Session.

14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – 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 **considered** and **noted** (EC-86/S/6, dated 28 September 2017).

15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The Chairperson reported to the Council on the status of the work of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country.

16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Report by the Open-Ended Working Group on the Future Priorities of the OPCW

Pursuant to the decision of the Council on the establishment of an OEWG on the Future Priorities of the OPCW (OEWG-FP) (EC-82/DEC.2, dated 14 July 2016), the Co-Chairpersons of the OEWG-FP, Ambassador Sabine Nölke of Canada and Ambassador Vusi Bruce Koloane of South Africa, were requested to keep the policy-making organs informed of their work. Ambassador Sabine Nölke of Canada reported on behalf of the Co-Chairperson to the Council on the progress achieved.

17. AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Appointment of the Director-General

17.1 The Council **took note** of the Notes by the Chairperson regarding the withdrawal by Iraq (EC-86/3, dated 21 September 2017), Burkina Faso (EC-86/4, dated 25 September 2017), the Republic of Korea (EC-86/5, dated 26 September 2017), Denmark (EC-86/6, dated 4 October 2017), Lithuania (EC-86/7, dated 5 October 2017), and Hungary (EC-86/8, dated 6 October 2017) of their candidates for appointment to the position of Director-General.

17.2 The Council **recommended** that the Conference at its Twenty-Second Session appoint Mr Fernando Arias as the Director-General of the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, for a term of office beginning on 25 July 2018 and ending on 24 July 2022 (EC-86/DEC.12, dated 13 October 2017).

18. AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN – Any other business

19. AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN – Adoption of the report

The Council **considered** and **adopted** the report of its Eighty-Sixth Session.

20. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY – Closure

The Chairperson closed the session at 16:19 on 13 October 2017.