

**NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL****REQUEST FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL FUND  
FOR THE FOURTH REVIEW CONFERENCE IN 2018**

1. The annual Programme and Budget of the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) details specific short-term activities that will be implemented over a one-year period in line with programme strategies that aim to achieve the core objectives of the Organisation in the long-term. The activities included in the Programme and Budget fit within the framework of the Organisation’s strategic vision, are foreseen in advance, and are formulated with a high degree of certainty that they will be implemented. The nature, scope, and duration of the activities are normally well defined and the resources required to implement them can be estimated with a high level of accuracy.
2. In accordance with paragraph 22 of Article VIII of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”), special sessions of the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) to review the operation of the Convention have been convened at intervals of five years. Costs associated with organising these review conferences have resulted in a significant increase in funding requirement for the year in which they are held, placing pressure on the Programme and Budget of the OPCW in the relevant financial year.
3. Taking into consideration the focus placed by the States Parties on zero nominal growth of the Programme and Budget, and following discussion at the meetings of the budget facilitation on the Draft Programme and Budget for 2018 (EC-86/CRP.1, dated 7 July 2017), the Secretariat proposes the establishment of a special fund for the Fourth Review Conference\* in 2018, to cover the cost of organising the review conference.
4. Expenses directly related to the organisation of the review conference falling outside the Programme and Budget of the OPCW may be charged against the fund. The Executive Council is requested to consider this proposal and consider recommending that the Conference approve the transfer to the fund of a portion of the 2015 cash surplus, in the amount of EUR 309,360.

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

