

**LIBYA****REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AT ITS EIGHTY-SIXTH SESSION
ON THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED TOWARDS THE COMPLETE DESTRUCTION
OF THE REMAINING CHEMICAL WEAPONS STOCKPILE
(31 AUGUST 2017)****Introduction**

1. The decision of the Conference of the States Parties at its Sixteenth Session on the final extended deadline of 29 April 2012 (C-16/DEC.11, dated 1 December 2011) stipulates that each possessor State is to report at each session of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) on the progress achieved towards the complete destruction of its remaining chemical weapons. This report is submitted in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the said decision.
2. Under the aforementioned decision, Libya submitted to the Council, at its Sixty-Eighth Session, its detailed plan for the destruction of the chemical weapons remaining after the final extended deadline (EC-68/NAT.4, dated 18 April 2012).
3. In line with the said plan, in May 2014, Libya completed the activities related to the disposal of all Category 1 and 3 chemical weapons. As for Category 2 chemicals, by January 2016, Libya had completed the destruction of 114.103 metric tonnes of isopropanol at the Ruwagha site, in addition to the destruction of 19.257 metric tonnes of pinacolyl alcohol at Bir Al-Osta Milad in the vicinity of Tripoli. The decanting activities started at the Ruwagha site on 25 March 2016 with the decanting of 138.770 metric tonnes of phosphorus trichloride, 100.833 metric tonnes of thionyl chloride, 238.655 metric tonnes of tributylamine, and 18.045 metric tonnes of 2-chloroethanol.
4. The Council at its Fifty-Second Meeting took the decision to remove the chemicals (EC-M-52/DEC.1, dated 20 July 2016), which was followed by a vote in the United Nations Security Council confirming the Council’s decision (resolution 2298 (2016)). On 27 July 2016, the Council decided that the remaining Category 2 chemical weapons shall be removed from Libya for the purpose of destruction outside its territory within the shortest time possible and no later than 8 September 2016 (EC-M-52/DEC.2, dated 27 July 2016).
5. As at 31 August 2017, 1,027.097 metric tonnes or 86.97% of the declared Category 2 chemical weapons have been destroyed.



Summary of measures taken in the implementation process of phase 2 of the detailed plan

6. The Category 2 chemicals departed the port of Misrata on 27 August 2016. Representatives from the Libyan National Authority were able to be present on 6 September 2016 during the offloading operations in Bremen, Germany and the subsequent delivery to Munster, Germany for their destruction.

Progress achieved

7. As at 17 December 2016, destruction of 18.045 metric tonnes of 2-chloroethanol had been completed. The Libyan National Authority visited the site in November to observe the incineration of the 2-chloroethanol at Munster Plant 1. As at 20 January 2017, destruction of 238.656 metric tonnes of tributylamine was completed using the combustion furnace of the plasma arc system. The Libyan National Authority was an observer to the inspection conducted at the Gesellschaft zur Entsorgung von chemischen Kampfstoffen und Rüstungsaltlasten mbH (GEKA mbH), Munster, Germany from 22 to 24 May and was able to view the ongoing destruction of thionyl chloride at Munster Plant 1. The Libyan National Authority (LNA) appreciates the cooperation and the support, of the German Authorities and the OPCW, provided to the Libyan observers during the inspection of the destruction of the remaining Category 2 chemicals at GEKA mbH.

Measures to be taken for the completion of subsequent work

8. Subsequent to the date of this report, the LNA travelled to Germany from 10 to 12 September. Libya will continue to monitor the destruction of the remaining Category 2 chemicals at GEKA mbH.
9. Libya is pleased to announce that the destruction of the one remaining tank in Ruwagha was completed by a Libyan firm and witnessed by the LNA. Confirmation of the destruction and analysis of the hydrolysed contents was provided to the OPCW.
10. Libya intends to continue to work closely with the Technical Secretariat and the European Union for the clean-up of the chemical storage site at Ruwagha. This will include the clean-up of chemical residue and decontamination and destruction of the old storage tanks. Libya will continue to report to the Council on all progress achieved.
11. Libya expresses its sincere gratitude for the continued support received for the removal and destruction of the remaining chemical weapons, as well as the future clean-up efforts.