NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

MODIFICATIONS TO THE ARRANGEMENT WITH THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA GOVERNING INSPECTIONS ON SAN JOSÉ ISLAND, PANAMA

1. At its Eighty-Fifth Session, the Executive Council approved the arrangement between the OPCW and the Republic of Panama governing inspections on San José Island, Panama (EC-85/DEC.3, dated 12 July 2017).

2. According to section 9, paragraph 2, of this arrangement, modifications to the Attachments of the arrangement may be jointly decided upon at any time by the representative of the OPCW and the representative of the Republic of Panama, each being specifically authorised to do so.

3. The Republic of Panama has notified the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) of modifications to one Attachment. The Secretariat agrees with these modifications.

4. The agreed modifications relate to Attachment 1 and include additional technical changes, as follows:

   (a) Delete in paragraph 2(c): “The empty CK munition carcass will be rinsed, the rinsate collected, and disposed of at an off-site treatment storage and disposal facility (TSDF) to be determined.”

   (b) Delete the subtitle after paragraph 7: “Explosive Venting, Washout, Collection of Rinsate, and Transfer to TSDF.”

   (c) Delete paragraphs 9, 10 and 11 and renumber the following paragraphs accordingly.

   (d) Delete the subtitle after paragraph 11 (old numbering): “Explosive Venting and Hydrolysation of CG.”

   (e) Replace paragraph 12 (old numbering) by: “CK and CG are non-persistent agents that are gases under ambient conditions. CK and CG vapours are heavier than air and tend to hug the ground.”
(f) Insert a new paragraph after paragraph 12 (old numbering) and renumber the following paragraphs accordingly:

The Republic of Panama has decided to destroy these munitions by explosive venting during the rainy season, using rain and humidity to promote and ensure hydrolysis and dilution. Venting of CK and CG in quantities estimated to be present inside the munitions to the environment is not expected to result in significant or lasting effects on local biota, although some temporary damage could occur in the area where release occurs.

(g) In paragraph 13 (old numbering), insert “the 500 lb. CK bomb and” and “CK and” respectively before “the 1000 lb. bomb” and before “CG to the atmosphere.”

5. The latest revision of the previously approved arrangement is available upon request from the Secretariat.