REPORT OF THE FORTY-FOURTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the meeting

The Chairperson of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”), Ambassador Álvaro Moerzinger of Uruguay, opened its Forty-Fourth Meeting in The Hague at 10:15 on 28 August 2014.

2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Adoption of the agenda

The Council considered and adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme
4. Any other business
5. Adoption of the report
6. Closure

3. AGENDA ITEM THREE – Progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme

3.1 The Director-General delivered a statement to the Council.

3.2 The Special Coordinator of the OPCW-UN Joint Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic, Ms Sigrid Kaag, addressed the Council.

3.3 The following delegations made statements: Japan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, France, Spain, Germany, the Republic of Korea, Brazil, the United States of America, the Russian Federation, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Syrian Arab Republic (observer), Guatemala, Norway (observer), China, Peru, Ukraine (observer), the Netherlands, Chile, South Africa, Mexico, Pakistan, and Senegal.
3.4 The Council noted two Notes by the Director-General reporting on progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme (EC-M-44/DG.1, dated 25 July 2014 and EC-M-44/DG.2, dated 25 August 2014).

3.5 The Council noted a national paper by the Syrian Arab Republic on progress relating to the destruction of chemical weapons and chemical weapons production facilities on its territory (EC-M-44/P/NAT.1, dated 18 August 2014).

3.6 The Council noted a Note by the Technical Secretariat reporting to the Council on an initial inspection of abandoned chemical weapons declared by the Syrian Arab Republic (EC-M-44/P/S/1, dated 25 August 2014).

3.7 The Council considered a draft decision on the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of the abandoned chemical weapons declared by the Syrian Arab Republic (EC-M-44/DEC/CRP.1, dated 25 August 2014), and decided to consider it further at its next regular session.

4. AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Any other business

A number of delegations expressed appreciation for the work done by outgoing Ambassadors Zelmys María Domínguez Cortina of Cuba, Jorge Alfredo Lemcke Arévalo of Guatemala, and José Manuel Terán Sittón of Panama.

5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – Adoption of the report

The Council considered and adopted the report of its Forty-Fourth Meeting.

6. AGENDA ITEM SIX – Closure

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 12:40 on 28 August 2014.

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