



Fifty-Second Meeting 20 July 2016

EC-M-52/DEC.1 20 July 2016 Original: ENGLISH

DECISION

DESTRUCTION OF LIBYA'S REMAINING CHEMICAL WEAPONS

The Executive Council,

Noting the letter from the Libyan authorities to the Director-General dated 16 July 2016 (EC-M-52/DG.1, dated 18 July 2016), informing the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter "the Secretariat") of the movement of all of its remaining Category 2 chemical weapons to a temporary storage site in the north of the country and requesting the assistance and support of the Secretariat and States Parties in ensuring the destruction of Libya's remaining Category 2 chemical weapons on an expedited basis at a specialised waste treatment facility outside Libya;

Underscoring with concern the security situation in Libya and the risk of the remaining Category 2 chemical weapons falling into the hands of non-State actors and possibly being used for terrorist purposes;

Recalling that, in its report to the Executive Council (hereinafter "the Council") at its Eightieth Session on the progress achieved towards the complete destruction of its remaining chemical weapons, Libya notified the Council that its current situation was fraught with security challenges and that there were environmental risks associated with the condition of its remaining chemical stockpile (EC-80/NAT.2, dated 21 September 2015);

Recalling also its decision (EC-M-51/DEC.1, dated 24 February 2016) requesting the Director-General, in coordination with all relevant States Parties, to identify and evaluate the technical, operational, security, financial, and legal factors relevant to all the options for addressing the destruction of the remaining Libyan Category 2 chemical weapons, including the removal of some or all the chemicals from Libya and destruction outside Libya, and options for in-country destruction, and **noting** the report of the Council at its Eighty-First Session (EC-81/2, dated 23 March 2016); and

Reaffirming that under paragraphs 4 and 10 of Article IV, and paragraph 7 of Part IV(A) of the Verification Annex to the Chemical Weapons Convention, possessor States are responsible for taking such measures as they consider appropriate to secure storage facilities for chemical weapons and to prevent any movement of chemical weapons out of such facilities, except for purposes of removal to a chemical weapons destruction facility, and that possessor States shall assign the highest priority to ensuring the safety of people and protecting the environment during the transportation, sampling, storage, and destruction of chemical weapons;

Hereby:

- 1. **Underscores its determination** to ensure that the destruction of Libya's Category 2 chemical weapons is effected on an urgent and expedited basis;
- 2. **Requests** the Director-General to assist Libya in developing a modified plan of destruction of Libya's Category 2 chemical weapons, which will be considered by the Council, along with recommendations from the Director-General for additional measures needed to ensure the expeditious transport, storage, and destruction of Libya's Category 2 chemical weapons, not later than seven days after adoption of this decision;
- 3. **Calls upon** all States Parties in a position to do so to consider providing in-kind or financial contributions for activities in respect of the destruction of the remaining Libyan Category 2 chemical weapons, and **requests** the Director-General to identify and evaluate appropriate mechanisms for receiving such contributions;
- 4. **Also requests** the Director-General to transmit to the United Nations Secretary-General a copy of this decision and the letter to the Director-General from the Libyan authorities dated 16 July 2016 (EC-M-52/DG.1), in accordance with subparagraph 2(a) of Article II of the Agreement concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons of 17 October 2000;
- 5. **Decides** to remain seized of the matter; and
- 6. **Recognises** that this decision is made due to the extraordinary character of the situation posed by Libyan chemical weapons and does not create any precedent for the future.

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