



Sixtieth Meeting  
4 June 2018

EC-M-60/1  
30 May 2018  
Original: ENGLISH

**NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL****CONVENING OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

1. The Director-General would like to notify the members of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) that, on 29 May 2018, the Director-General received a request from the Permanent Representatives of Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Poland, Romania, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America to convene, pursuant to Article VIII (B) of the Chemical Weapons Convention and Rule 6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”), a special session of the Conference. The Permanent Representatives of the above-mentioned Member States requested that this special session “take place as soon as possible in The Hague”. A copy of the letter containing a proposed provisional agenda of the special session of the Conference and an explanatory memorandum is annexed hereto.
2. Under Rule 17 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, “[t]he provisional agenda for all special sessions of the Conference shall be drawn up by the Executive Council and sent by the Director-General to all Members of the Organisation not later than nine days after the receipt of ... a request to convene such a special session”. Under Rule 18 of the same Rules of Procedure, the provisional agenda for a special session “shall consist only of those items proposed for consideration ... in the request for the holding of the session ... by a Member of the Organisation”.
3. For the purpose of enabling the Council to draw up the provisional agenda for the special session of the Conference, the Director-General, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Council, hereby notifies all members of the Council of a meeting to be held at 15:00 pm on Monday, 4 June 2018, in the Ieper Room of the OPCW Headquarters building (Johan de Wittlaan 32, The Hague). The draft provisional agenda of the Sixtieth Meeting of the Council is annexed hereto.

Annexes:

Annex 1 (English only):

Note Verbale 036/2018, dated 29 May 2018, from the Permanent Representatives of Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Poland, Romania, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America to



EC-M-60/1  
page 2

the Director-General, Enclosing a Proposed Provisional Agenda of the Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties and Explanatory Memorandum

Annex 2:

Provisional Agenda for the Sixtieth Meeting of the Executive Council

**Annex 1**

**NOTE VERBALE 036/2018, DATED 29 MAY 2018, FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF AUSTRALIA, BULGARIA, CANADA, FRANCE, GERMANY, JAPAN, NEW ZEALAND, POLAND, ROMANIA, THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL, ENCLOSING A PROPOSED PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES AND EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

Note no : 036/2018

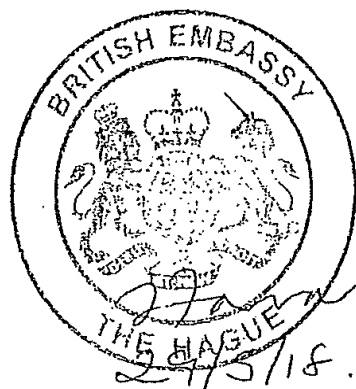
29 May 2018

Director General,

The Governments of Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Poland, Romania, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America are deeply concerned about the use of chemical weapons around the world, in spite of the longstanding norm against their use.

The Permanent Representatives to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons of the above mentioned Governments therefore request that, pursuant to Article VIII (part B) of the Chemical Weapons Convention, and Rule 6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of States Parties, you convene a special session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention. This should take place as soon as possible in The Hague.

Fully consistent with this request, and in line with Rule 21 of the Rules of Procedure, we submit the enclosed explanatory memorandum, and a proposed agenda for the Special Session.



Agenda

Provisional Agenda of the Special Session of the Conference of States Parties

1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the Session
2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Adoption of the Agenda
3. AGENDA ITEM THREE – Upholding the global ban against chemical weapons use
4. AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Adoption of the report
5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE - Closure

Explanatory Memorandum

The international regime prohibiting chemical weapons is under unprecedented threat. Chemical weapons have been developed, produced and used by both state and non-state actors, in direct contravention of international law.

As States Parties to the Convention for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, we have a responsibility to act in the face of these challenges.

We call on States Parties to come together to consider how best to respond collectively to these threats, as well as to unite in a reaffirmation of the international prohibition against chemical weapons use. We must defend and reinforce the Chemical Weapons Convention, and support the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and its Technical Secretariat.

**Annex 2**

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SIXTIETH MEETING  
OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Drawing up of the provisional agenda for the special session of the Conference of the States Parties requested by the Permanent Representatives of Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Poland, Romania, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America
4. Adoption of the report
5. Closure

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