



107th Session
8 – 11 October 2024

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ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 107TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 8 – 11 OCTOBER 2024

This annotated agenda¹ has been prepared by the Technical Secretariat (the Secretariat) to guide and assist members of the Executive Council (the Council) in their substantive preparations for its 107th Session. It lists the items of business for the session in the sequence in which they appear in the provisional agenda set for it (see agenda item two below).

1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session

The 107th Session of the Council will be opened in The Hague by the Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Andrés Terán Parral of Ecuador, at 10:00 on 8 October 2024.

2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Adoption of the agenda

The Council is **requested** to consider and adopt the following agenda, which has been circulated under cover of EC-107/1 (dated 11 September 2024).

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Opening statement by the Director-General
4. Reports by the Vice-Chairpersons on the activities conducted under their respective clusters of issues
5. General debate
6. Status of implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention:
 - (a) Reports by the Director-General on destruction-related issues
 - (b) Implementation of the Conference of the States Parties and Executive Council decisions on destruction-related issues
 - (c) Elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme
 - (d) Other verification-related issues

¹ This document is issued for information purposes only and does not supersede in any way the provisional agenda for the 107th Session of the Executive Council, or prejudice the outcome of its deliberations.



- (e) Destruction-related plans and facility agreements
 - (f) Verification Implementation Report for 2023
 - (g) Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use
 - (h) Status of implementation of Article VII
 - (i) Status of implementation of Article XI
 - (j) Progress made in the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention
 - (k) Status of implementation of the Verification Information System
7. OPCW Central Analytical Database
 8. Countering chemical terrorism
 9. Education and outreach
 10. Emerging technologies
 11. Administrative and financial matters:
 - (a) Nominations for membership of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters
 - (b) Report of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters
 - (c) Amendments to the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules
 - (d) Financial Statements of the OPCW and the External Auditor's report for the year ending 31 December 2023
 - (e) Status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor
 - (f) Report on the status of implementation of the enterprise resource planning system
 - (g) Mid-Biennium Draft Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2025, and all items pertaining to this Budget
 - (h) Multi-year payment plans to regularise the payment by some States Parties of their outstanding annual contributions
 - (i) Implementation of the amendment to the Staff Regulations regarding downward classification of posts during the period 14 August 2023 to 13 August 2024
 - (j) Participation of the OPCW in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund
 - (k) Rehiring of inspectors
 12. Appointment of the External Auditor

13. Follow-up to the Review Conferences²
14. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country
15. Any other business
16. Adoption of the report
17. Closure

3. AGENDA ITEM THREE – Opening statement by the Director-General

The Council is **requested** to note the opening statement by the Director-General (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

4. AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Reports by the Vice-Chairpersons on the activities conducted under their respective clusters of issues

The Vice-Chairpersons and coordinators for clusters of issues will report to the Council on informal consultations held during the intersessional period: Ambassador Mutlaq bin Majed Al Qahtani of Qatar on chemical weapons issues; Ambassador Salima Abdelhak of Algeria on chemical industry and other Article VI issues; Ambassador Beti Jacheva of North Macedonia on administrative and financial issues; and Ambassador Giorgio Novello of Italy on legal, organisational, and other issues.

5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – General debate

With respect to the general debate, delegations are invited to consult Note Verbale No. NV/ERD/PPB-1158 and the enclosed information note on iMeet sent to all States Parties on 9 September 2024. “Practical Information for Delegates” is available on the iMeet portal (<https://catalyst.opcw.org/sites/imeet>).

6. AGENDA ITEM SIX – Status of implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention

Subitem 6(a): Reports by the Director-General on destruction-related issues

- 6.1 Further to a decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012), the Council is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Director-General on the overall progress of the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

² Review Conference = Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Subitem 6(b): Implementation of the Conference of the States Parties and Executive Council decisions on destruction-related issues

- 6.2 The Secretariat is expected to provide an update to the Council on its destruction-related verification activities and on Article III-related submissions made during the intersessional period.
- 6.3 The States Parties concerned are expected to brief the Council on their destruction-related activities.
- 6.4 Further to a decision by the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6) and the destruction plan beyond the year 2022 for the chemical weapons abandoned by Japan in China (EC-101/DEC.2, dated 4 October 2022) attached as annex 3 to the Council's decision EC-67/DEC/6, a national paper by China (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations) and a national paper by Japan (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations) on the overall progress of the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China have been circulated to the members of the Council.
- 6.5 The Council is **requested** to consider and note the initial report of the visit by the Chairperson of the Council, the Director-General, and representatives of the Council to the Haerbaling Abandoned Chemical Weapons Destruction Site, Jilin Province, China, from 17 to 22 September 2024 (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

Subitem 6(c): Elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme

- 6.6 Further to its decision at its Eighty-Third Session (EC-83/DEC.5, dated 11 November 2016), the Council decided to place "Elimination of the Syrian Chemical Weapons Programme" on the agenda of all future Council sessions until the Council determines that all elements of the Syrian chemical weapons programme have been eliminated.
- 6.7 The Council is **requested** to note reports by the Director-General reporting on progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme (EC-107/DG.5, dated 24 July 2024 and EC-107/DG.8, dated 23 August 2024).
- 6.8 The Council is **requested** to note national papers by the Syrian Arab Republic on the activities related to the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons and their production facilities (EC-107/P/NAT.1, dated 15 July 2024 and EC-107/P/NAT.2, dated 14 August 2024).
- 6.9 The Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General entitled "Report on the Work of the Declaration Assessment Team" (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).
- 6.10 The Secretariat is expected to provide a briefing to the States Parties in advance of the 107th Session of the Council on its activities related to the Syrian Arab Republic, including on the activities of the Declaration Assessment Team, the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria, and the Investigation and Identification Team.

Subitem 6(d): Other verification-related issues

- 6.11 The Secretariat is expected to provide an update to the Council on its other verification-related activities.

Subitem 6(e): Destruction-related plans and facility agreements

- 6.12 The Council is **requested** to consider and approve an arrangement between the OPCW and the Government of Germany governing on-site inspections at the Gesellschaft zur Entsorgung von chemischen Kampfstoffen und Rüstungsaltslasten mbH (GEKA mbH), Munster, Germany (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).
- 6.13 The Council is **requested** to consider and approve an agreed detailed plan for the verification of the destruction at GEKA mbH, Munster, Germany of chemical weapons declared as abandoned (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

Subitem 6(f): Verification Implementation Report for 2023

- 6.14 The Council is **requested** to consider and note the Verification Implementation Report for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2023 (EC-107/HP/DG.1, dated 2 August 2024).

Subitem 6(g): Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use

- 6.15 The Council is **requested** to note the regular report by the Director-General to the Council on progress made in the implementation of the decision of the Conference entitled “Addressing the Threat from Chemical Weapons Use” (C-SS-4/DEC.3, dated 27 June 2018) (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

Subitem 6(h): Status of implementation of Article VII

- 6.16 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Fourteenth Session regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations (C-14/DEC.12, dated 4 December 2009), the Council is **requested** to note a report by the Director-General on the “Overview of the Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2024” (EC-107/DG.9 C-29/DG.8, dated 26 August 2024); a report by the Director-General on the “Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2024: Initial Measures” (EC-107/DG.10 C-29/DG.9, dated 26 August 2024); and a report by the Director-General on the “Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 31 July 2024: Additional Measures for States Parties That Possess Industrial Facilities Which Are Declarable under the Convention” (EC-107/DG.11 C-29/DG.10, dated 26 August 2024). The Council is also **requested** to submit the documents to the Conference at its Twenty-Ninth Session, along with its recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration.

Subitem 6(i): Status of implementation of Article XI

- 6.17 The Council is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Director-General on the “Progress Made and Review of the Status of the Implementation of Article XI of the Chemical Weapons Convention” (EC-107/DG.7 C-29/DG.7, dated 21 August 2024 and Corr.1, dated 6 September 2024).

Subitem 6(j): Progress made in the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention

- 6.18 The Council at its Twenty-Third Meeting adopted an action plan for the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention) (EC-M-23/DEC.3, dated 24 October 2003). The plan requested the Director-General, inter alia, to submit to the Conference at its regular sessions an annual report on the implementation of the action plan, and to keep the Council regularly informed, so that the Conference and the Council may review progress and monitor its implementation effectively.
- 6.19 The Council is **requested** to consider and note the annual report on the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention during the period 16 August 2023 to 15 August 2024, which is being submitted to both the Council and the Conference (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

Subitem 6(k): Status of implementation of the Verification Information System

- 6.20 The Council is **requested** to note a status report on the Verification Information System (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – OPCW Central Analytical Database

- 7.1 The Council is **requested** to consider a Note by the Director-General on lists of newly validated data on scheduled chemicals for approval by the Council for inclusion in the OPCW Central Analytical Database (OCAD) (EC-107/DG.1, dated 13 June 2024) and to adopt a draft decision on the matter (EC-107/DEC/CRP.1 dated 13 June 2024).
- 7.2 The Council is **requested** to consider a Note by the Director-General on lists of newly validated data on non-scheduled chemicals relevant to the Convention for approval by the Council for inclusion in the OCAD (EC-107/DG.2, dated 13 June 2024) and to adopt a draft decision on the matter (EC-107/DEC/CRP.2, dated 13 June 2024).
- 7.3 The Council is **requested** to consider a Note by the Director-General on lists of approved data recommended for removal from the OCAD (EC-107/DG.3, dated 13 June 2024) and to adopt a draft decision on the matter (EC-107/DEC/CRP.3, dated 13 June 2024).

8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – Countering chemical terrorism

The Chairperson of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on Terrorism, Ambassador Vusimuzi Philemon Madonsela of South Africa, is expected to brief the Council on the work of the OEWG during the intersessional period.

9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – Education and outreach

The Council is **requested** to consider and note a Note by the Director-General on the activities of the Advisory Board on Education and Outreach covering the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – Emerging technologies

10.1 The Secretariat circulated a Note by the Secretariat entitled “Artificial Intelligence and the OPCW: A Meeting with Experts” (S/2289/2024, dated 23 May 2024).

10.2 The Council is **requested** to consider the matter.

11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Administrative and financial matters

Subitem 11(a): Nominations for membership of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters

11.1 The Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Secretariat on a nomination for membership of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters (ABAF) (EC-107/S/1, dated 26 August 2024), and to appoint Ms Shiho Baba of Japan to replace Ms Yoko Sakurai of Japan, as of the date of her appointment by the Council.

11.2 The Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Secretariat on a nomination for membership of the ABAF (EC-107/S/2, dated 13 September 2024), and to appoint Mr Satendra Singh of India to replace Mr Ashutosh Jindal of India, as of the date of his appointment by the Council.

11.3 The Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Secretariat on a nomination for membership of the ABAF (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations), and to appoint Mr Terence Dance of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to replace Mr John Foggo of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as of the date of his appointment by the Council.

Subitem 11(b): Report of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters

11.4 The Council is **requested** to consider and note the report of the Fifty-Seventh Session of the ABAF, which took place from 23 to 25 July 2024 (ABAF-57/1, dated 25 July 2024), and a Note by the Director-General containing comments on the report of the ABAF at that session (EC-107/DG.13, dated 6 September 2024).

Subitem 11(c): Amendments to the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules

- 11.5 The Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Secretariat on “Proposed Amendments to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the OPCW” (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations), to consider and adopt a draft decision on the matter (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations), and to transmit it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Ninth Session.

Subitem 11(d): Financial Statements of the OPCW and the External Auditor’s report for the year ending 31 December 2023

- 11.6 The Council is **requested** to note the Financial Statements of the OPCW and the report of the External Auditor for the year ending 31 December 2023 (EC-107/DG.12 C-29/DG.11, dated 27 August 2024) and to forward them to the Conference for consideration at its Twenty-Ninth Session.
- 11.7 The Comptroller and Auditor General of India is expected to provide a statement on the report.

Subitem 11(e): Status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor

- 11.8 The Council is **requested** to consider and note a report on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).
- 11.9 The facilitator for this issue, Mr Paul Neville of the United States of America, is expected to report to the Council on the consultations carried out during the intersessional period.

Subitem 11(f): Report on the status of implementation of the enterprise resource planning system

- 11.10 Further to the decision by the Conference at its Nineteenth Session on the implementation of an enterprise resource planning (ERP) system and the establishment of a special fund for this purpose (C-19/DEC.7, dated 3 December 2014), the Council is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General reporting on the status of implementation of the ERP system (EC-107/DG.17, dated 13 September 2024).

Subitem 11(g): Mid-Biennium Draft Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2025, and all items pertaining to this Budget

- 11.11 Under this subitem the Secretariat circulated a Note by the Director-General entitled “Financial Status of the Special Fund for Cybersecurity, Business Continuity, and Physical Infrastructure Security” (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations), which the Council is **requested** to note.

11.12 The co-facilitators for the Budget, Mr Jerzy Gierasimiuk of Poland and Mr Jorge Francisco de la Lama Rebollo of Mexico, are expected to report on the consultations held during the intersessional period.

11.13 In accordance with subparagraph 32(a) of Article VIII of the Convention, the Council is **requested** to consider the Mid-Biennium Draft Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2025 (EC-107/DG.4, dated 2 July 2024) and to submit it, together with its recommendation (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations), to the Conference at its Twenty-Ninth Session.

Subitem 11(h): Multi-year payment plans to regularise the payment by some States Parties of their outstanding annual contributions

11.14 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Eleventh Session (C-11/DEC.5, dated 7 December 2006), the Council is **requested** to consider and forward to the Conference at its Twenty-Ninth Session a Note by the Director-General reporting on the status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans (EC-107/DG.6 C-29/DG.6, dated 31 July 2024).

11.15 In light of the above-mentioned decision, the Council is **requested** to consider a proposal from the Dominican Republic for a payment plan to regularise the payment of its outstanding annual contributions (EC-107/DG.16, dated 12 September 2024), to approve it (EC-107/DEC/CRP.5, dated 12 September 2024), and to transmit it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Ninth Session.

Subitem 11(i): Implementation of the amendment to the Staff Regulations regarding downward classification of posts during the period 14 August 2023 to 13 August 2024

11.16 The Council is **requested** to note a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the amendment to the Staff Regulations regarding downward classification of posts during the period 14 August 2023 to 13 August 2024 (EC-107/DG.14, dated 12 September 2024).

Subitem 11(j): Participation of the OPCW in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

11.17 At its Twenty-Eighth Session, the Conference adopted a decision on the participation of the OPCW in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF) (C-28/DEC.8, dated 27 November 2023), authorised the Secretariat to conclude an agreement to join the UNJSPF, from 1 January 2025, and tasked the Secretariat with taking all the necessary preparatory administrative actions to facilitate the OPCW's potential membership in the UNJSPF, anticipated for 1 January 2025.

11.18 The Council is **requested** to note a Note entitled "Participation of the OPCW in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund" (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations) and to consider and adopt a draft decision on the matter (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

Subitem 11(k): Rehiring of inspectors

- 11.19 At its Twenty-Seventh Session, the Conference adopted a decision on the rehiring of inspectors (C-27/DEC.9, dated 28 November 2022) and decided to review the implementation of this decision at its Twenty-Ninth Session in 2024.
- 11.20 The Council is **requested** to consider and adopt a draft decision extending the Director-General's authority to rehire inspectors (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations) and to transmit it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Ninth Session.

12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Appointment of the External Auditor

- 12.1 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Twenty-Seventh Session (C-27/DEC.6, dated 28 November 2022), an Evaluation Panel was appointed to evaluate the nominations for the next External Auditor of the OPCW.
- 12.2 The Chairperson of the Evaluation Panel, Ambassador Lucian Fătu of Romania, is expected to brief the Council on the Panel's work.
- 12.3 The Council is **requested** to consider the report of the Evaluation Panel for the Appointment of the External Auditor (EC-107/WP.1, dated 6 September 2024).
- 12.4 The Council is **requested** to consider and adopt a draft decision entitled "Appointment of the External Auditor of the OPCW" (EC-107/DEC/CRP.4, dated 6 September 2024) and to transmit it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Ninth Session.

13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Follow-up to the Review Conferences

A working paper entitled "Reflections by H.E. Ambassador Henk Cor van der Kwast, Chairperson of the Fifth Review Conference on the Outcome of the Fifth Review Conference" was circulated to the Council at its 103rd Session under the symbol EC-103/WP.1 (dated 26 June 2023).

14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The Chairperson is expected to report to the Council on the status of the work of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country.

15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – Any other business

16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Adoption of the report

17. AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Closure