



107th Session
8 – 11 October 2024

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REPORT OF THE 107TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session.

The Chairperson of the Executive Council (the Council), Ambassador Andrés Terán Parral of Ecuador, opened its 107th Session in The Hague, at 10:08 on 8 October 2024.

2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Adoption of the agenda

The Council **considered** and **adopted** the following agenda:

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
 - (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 Conferences¹

¹ Review Conference = Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

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 **noted** 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

- 4.1 The Vice-Chairpersons and coordinators for clusters of issues reported 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.
- 4.2 The Chairperson briefed the Council on his own activities during the intersessional period.
- 4.3 The following facilitators also reported on the consultations that had been carried out during the intersessional period: Mr Nikolaus Jaroslaw Korczynski of Germany on chemical industry and other Article VI issues; Mr Paul Neville of the United States of America on the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight and the External Auditor; and Ms Lucía Rodríguez Fetzer of Guatemala on the action plan for the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention).
- 4.4 The Council **welcomed** the appointments during the intersessional period of Mr Paul Neville of the United States of America as the new facilitator for the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight and the External Auditor and Mr Jamal Nasir of Pakistan as the new facilitator on the full implementation of Article XI.

5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – General debate

- 5.1 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: Colombia (observer) (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group), Ghana (on behalf of the African Group), Hungary (observer) (on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, and Ukraine), Uganda (observer) (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and China), Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia (observer), Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of) (observer), Brazil, Canada (observer), Chile, China, Colombia (observer), Costa Rica (observer), Cuba (observer), the Czech Republic (observer), Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Germany, Guatemala, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (observer), Ireland (observer), Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico,

Morocco, Myanmar (observer), the Netherlands (observer), New Zealand, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway (observer), Pakistan, Panama (observer), Poland, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation (observer), Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia (observer), South Africa, Spain, the State of Palestine (observer), Sweden (observer), Switzerland (observer), the Syrian Arab Republic (observer), Türkiye (observer), Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (observer).

5.2 The following delegations exercised their right of reply: Germany, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ukraine, Canada (observer), the Russian Federation (observer), and the Syrian Arab Republic (observer).

5.3 The Legal Adviser provided a legal opinion.

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 **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the overall progress of the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons (EC-107/DG.22, dated 3 October 2024).

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

6.2 The Technical Secretariat (the Secretariat) provided an update to the Council on its destruction-related verification activities and on Article III-related submissions made during the intersessional period (the presentations were posted on the external server of the OPCW).

6.3 The delegations of Japan and China briefed the Council on their destruction-related activities (the presentation by Japan was posted on the external server of the OPCW).

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 (EC-107/NAT.2, dated 19 September 2024) and a national paper by Japan (EC-107/NAT.1/Rev.1, dated 4 October 2024) on the overall progress of the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China were circulated to the members of the Council.

- 6.5 The Council **reaffirmed** the obligation to complete the destruction of all abandoned chemical weapons (ACW) in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the relevant decisions of the Council by recalling that the Abandoning State Party shall provide all necessary financial, technical, expert, facility as well as other resources and that the Territorial State Party shall provide appropriate cooperation, and **expressed its determination** to remain seized of the matter, and **urged** the Abandoning State Party to continue to make the fullest possible effort to complete the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China as early as possible in accordance with the Council's decision (EC-67/DEC.6) and its annex 3 in a faithful manner, and to address challenges including ensuring the safety of people and protecting the environment.
- 6.6 The Council **recalled** that the destruction plan beyond the year 2022 for the chemical weapons abandoned by Japan in China (EC-101/DEC.2) stipulated the common recognition regarding the destruction of ACW with the Mobile Destruction Facility, the destruction of ACW in Haerbaling (Jilin Province), the destruction of other ACW, including consultations in making a medium- to long-term plan for the excavation of ACW, and the consolidation of ACW storehouses, continuing to use its best efforts to collect and provide information on traces of ACW by the Abandoning State Party and continuing to hold consultations, and that the relevant States Parties jointly affirmed that they would accelerate in all aspects the destruction process and that their best efforts will be used towards the completion of the destruction of ACW as early as possible.
- 6.7 The Council **recalled** that the review of the destruction of ACW was welcomed by the Third Review Conference and the report of the Third Review Conference (RC-3/3*, dated 19 April 2013), which reaffirmed the role of the Council, the Conference of the States Parties (the Conference), and the Review Conference with regard to the issues related to ACW destruction as defined in the provisions of the Convention and in the Council's decision (EC-67/DEC.6), and **welcomed** the review of this issue by the Fourth Review Conference and **noted** the constructive discussion related to this issue at the Fifth Review Conference.
- 6.8 The Council **welcomed** that a total of nine on-site inspections at the ACW facilities had been successfully conducted in 2024.
- 6.9 The Council **considered** and **noted** the initial report of the Chairperson on the visit by the Chairperson, the Director-General, and members and observers of the Council to the Mudanjiang and Haerbaling ACW sites in China from 18 to 22 September 2024 (EC-107/2, dated 3 October 2024) upon the joint invitation of China and Japan, and **expressed its appreciation** for the first-hand information that was obtained through the visit regarding the progress, difficulties, and challenges in the process of excavation, recovery, and destruction of ACW and the bilateral cooperation of the relevant States Parties.
- 6.10 The following delegations made statements: Algeria, Qatar, Bangladesh, the Russian Federation (observer), the Syrian Arab Republic (observer), Cuba (observer), and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (observer).

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

- 6.11 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.
- 6.12 As stated in Note by the Director-General EC-81/DG.5 (dated 25 January 2016), all of the chemicals declared by the Syrian Arab Republic that had been removed from its territory in 2014 have been destroyed. The Secretariat has also verified the destruction of all 27 chemical weapons production facilities declared by the Syrian Arab Republic (EC-89/DG.1, dated 24 July 2018).
- 6.13 The Secretariat provided a briefing to the States Parties on 1 October 2024 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.
- 6.14 The Council **noted** three 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; EC-107/DG.8, dated 23 August 2024; and EC-107/DG.20, dated 24 September 2024).
- 6.15 The Council **noted** three 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; EC-107/P/NAT.2, dated 14 August 2024; and EC-107/P/NAT.3, dated 16 September 2024).
- 6.16 The following delegations made statements: Hungary (observer) (on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Türkiye, and Ukraine), Italy, Denmark (on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden), France, the Islamic Republic of Iran, China, Ukraine, Qatar, Japan, the United States of America, the Syrian Arab Republic (observer), the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (observer), Cuba (observer), the Russian Federation (observer), Austria (observer), Türkiye (observer), the Netherlands (observer), and Australia (observer) (on behalf of Australia, Canada, and New Zealand).
- 6.17 The following delegations exercised their right of reply: New Zealand, the Syrian Arab Republic (observer), the Russian Federation (observer), and Australia (observer).
- 6.18 The Council **noted** a Note by the Director-General entitled “Report on the Work of the Declaration Assessment Team” (EC-107/HP/DG.2, dated 4 October 2024).

Subitem 6(d): Other verification-related issues

- 6.19 The Secretariat updated the Council on its other verification-related activities (the presentation was posted on the external server of the OPCW).

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

- 6.20 The Council **considered** and **approved** 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 (EC-107/DEC.7, dated 9 October 2024).
- 6.21 The Council **considered** and **approved** an agreed detailed plan for the verification of the destruction of chemical weapons declared as abandoned, at GEKA mbH, Munster, Germany (EC-107/DEC.8, dated 9 October 2024).
- 6.22 The following delegations made statements: the Islamic Republic of Iran and Germany.

Subitem 6(f): Verification Implementation Report for 2023

- 6.23 The Council **considered** and **noted** the Verification Implementation Report for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2023 (EC-107/HP/DG.1, dated 2 August 2024 and Corr.1, dated 3 October 2024).
- 6.24 The following delegations made statements: the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Russian Federation (observer).

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

- 6.25 The Council **noted** 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) (EC-107/DG.21, dated 30 September 2024).
- 6.26 The following delegations made statements: the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, France, China, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Russian Federation (observer), the Syrian Arab Republic (observer), Australia (observer) (on behalf of Australia, Canada, and New Zealand), and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (observer).
- 6.27 The following delegations made statements on other issues under this agenda item: Hungary (observer) (on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, and Ukraine), Denmark (on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden), New Zealand (on behalf of Australia, Canada, and New Zealand), Ukraine, Germany, China, Italy, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Lithuania, France, the United States of America, the Russian Federation (observer), the Syrian Arab Republic (observer), the Czech Republic (observer), and Austria (observer).
- 6.28 The following delegations exercised their right of reply: the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Germany, and the Russian Federation (observer).
- 6.29 The Director-General made a statement.
- 6.30 The Legal Adviser provided a legal opinion.

- 6.31 Upon the request of the delegation of the Russian Federation, Note Verbale No. 53 (dated 3 October 2024) was circulated to the members of the Council (EC-107/NAT.3, dated 3 October 2024).
- 6.32 Upon the request of the delegation of Germany, Note Verbale No. 36/2024 (dated 9 October 2024) was circulated to the members of the Council (EC-107/NAT.5, dated 9 October 2024).
- 6.33 Upon the request of the delegation of the Russian Federation, Note Verbale No. 51 (dated 3 October 2024), Note Verbale No. 54 (dated 9 October 2024), and Note Verbale No. 56 (dated 10 October 2024) were circulated to the members of the Council (EC-107/NAT.4 and EC-107/HP/NAT.4, both dated 3 October 2024; EC-107/NAT.6, dated 9 October 2024; and EC-107/NAT.7, dated 10 October 2024).
- 6.34 The Secretariat circulated Note Verbale No. NV/ODG-601/24 (dated 7 October 2024) (EC-107/S/7, dated 7 October 2024) and Note Verbale No. NV/ODG-603/24 (dated 10 October 2024) (EC-107/S/8, dated 10 October 2024).

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

- 6.35 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 **noted** 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 **submitted** 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

- 6.36 The Council **considered** and **noted** 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).
- 6.37 The following delegations made statements: Qatar, the Islamic Republic of Iran, China, Algeria, the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, New Zealand, Cuba (observer), Austria (observer), the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (observer), the Syrian Arab Republic (observer), Australia (observer), and Canada (observer).

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

- 6.38 The Council at its Twenty-Third Meeting adopted an action plan for the universality of 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.
- 6.39 The Council **considered** and **noted** 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 had been submitted to both the Council and the Conference (EC-107/DG.19 C-29/DG.13, dated 20 September 2024).

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

- 6.40 The Council **noted** a status report on the Verification Information System (EC-107/S/5, dated 19 September 2024).

7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – OPCW Central Analytical Database

- 7.1 The Council **considered** 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 **adopted** a decision on the matter (EC-107/DEC.1 dated 8 October 2024).
- 7.2 The Council **considered** 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 **adopted** a decision on the matter (EC-107/DEC.2, dated 8 October 2024).
- 7.3 The Council **considered** 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 **adopted** a decision on the matter (EC-107/DEC.3, dated 8 October 2024).

8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – Countering chemical terrorism

- 8.1 The Chairperson of the Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism (OEWG-T), Ambassador Vusimuzi Philemon Madonsela of South Africa, briefed the Council on the work of the OEWG-T during the intersessional period.
- 8.2 The following delegations made statements: Morocco, China, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Algeria, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Qatar, the Syrian Arab Republic (observer), the Czech Republic (observer), and the Russian Federation (observer).

9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – Education and outreach

The Council **considered** and **noted** 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 (EC-107/DG.18* C-29/DG.12, dated 19 September 2024).

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 Director-General made a statement.

10.3 The following delegations made statements: Hungary (observer) (on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, Türkiye, and Ukraine), Mexico (on behalf of Mexico, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Türkiye, and Australia (MIKTA)), Morocco, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Pakistan, India, the United States of America, Algeria, Germany, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Ukraine, China, the Islamic Republic of Iran, El Salvador, Bangladesh, Italy, and the Russian Federation (observer).

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 **noted** 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 **appointed** Ms Shiho Bamba of Japan to replace Ms Yoko Sakurai of Japan, as of 8 October 2024.

11.2 The Council **noted** a Note by the Secretariat on a nomination for membership of the ABAF (EC-107/S/2, dated 13 September 2024), and **appointed** Mr Satendra Singh of India to replace Mr Ashutosh Jindal of India, as of 8 October 2024.

11.3 The Council **noted** a Note by the Secretariat on a nomination for membership of the ABAF (EC-107/S/3, dated 17 September 2024), and **appointed** 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 8 October 2024.

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

11.4 The Council **considered** and **noted** 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 **noted** a Note by the Secretariat on “Proposed Amendments to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the OPCW” (S/2320/2024, dated 16 September 2024), **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the matter (EC-107/DEC.4, dated 8 October 2024), and **transmitted** 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 Mr Ramann, Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General of India, made a statement on the Financial Statements of the OPCW and report of the External Auditor for the year ending 31 December 2023 (EC-107/DG.12 C-29/DG.11, dated 27 August 2024).
- 11.7 The Council **noted** the Financial Statements of the OPCW and the report of the External Auditor for the year ending 31 December 2023 and **forwarded** them to the Conference for consideration at its Twenty-Ninth Session.

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

- 11.8 The Council **considered** and **noted** a report on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor (EC-107/S/4, dated 19 September 2024).
- 11.9 The facilitator for this issue, Mr Paul Neville of the United States of America, reported to the Council on the consultations carried out during the intersessional period (the report was posted on the external server of the OPCW).

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 **noted** 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 The Council **noted** a Note by the Director-General entitled “Financial Status of the Special Fund for Cybersecurity, Business Continuity, and Physical Infrastructure Security” (EC-107/DG.15, dated 12 September 2024).
- 11.12 The co-facilitator for the Programme and Budget of the OPCW, Mr Jorge Francisco de la Lama Rebollo of Mexico, reported to the Council on consultations during the intersessional period carried out with his co-facilitator, Mr Jerzy Gierasimiuk of Poland.

- 11.13 The following delegations made statements: Hungary (observer) (on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, Türkiye, and Ukraine), India, Japan, Spain, Brazil, and the Russian Federation (observer).
- 11.14 In accordance with subparagraph 32(a) of Article VIII of the Convention, the Council **considered** the Draft Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2025 (EC-107/DG.4, dated 2 July 2024 and Corr.1, dated 20 September 2024) and **submitted** it, together with its recommendation (EC-107/DEC.9, dated 10 October 2024), 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

- 11.15 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Eleventh Session (C-11/DEC.5, dated 7 December 2006), the Council **considered** and **forwarded** 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).
- 11.16 In light of the above-mentioned decision, the Council **considered** 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), **approved** it (EC-107/DEC.5, dated 8 October 2024), and **transmitted** 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

- 11.17 The Council **noted** 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

- 11.18 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.
- 11.19 The Council **noted** a Note by the Secretariat entitled "Participation of the OPCW in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund" (EC-107/S/6, dated 20 September 2024) and **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the matter (EC-107/DEC.6, dated 8 October 2024).

Subitem 11(k): Rehiring of inspectors

- 11.20 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.
- 11.21 The Council **considered** and **noted** an addendum to the report by the Director-General on the implementation of the tenure policy in 2023 (EC-106/DG.8/Add.1 C-29/DG.4/Add.1, dated 3 October 2024).
- 11.22 The Council **considered** and **adopted** a decision extending the Director-General's authority to rehire inspectors (EC-107/DEC.10, dated 10 October 2024) and **transmitted** it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Ninth Session.
- 11.23 The following delegations made statements: the Islamic Republic of Iran, India, New Zealand, and China.
- 11.24 The Secretariat made a statement.

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 acting Chairperson of the Evaluation Panel, Ambassador Jose Eduardo E. Malaya III of the Philippines, briefed the Council on the Panel's work.
- 12.3 The Council **considered** 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 **considered** and **adopted** a decision entitled "Appointment of the External Auditor of the OPCW" (EC-107/DEC.11, dated 10 October 2024) and **transmitted** it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Ninth Session.

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

- 13.1 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).

Engagement with civil society

- 13.2 Germany submitted a working paper entitled "Follow-up to the Fifth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention – Engagement with Civil Society" at the 103rd Session of the Council (EC-103/WP.2, dated 4 July 2023).
- 13.3 The delegations of Germany and Costa Rica provided updates to the Council on the ongoing consultations on engagement with civil society.

- 13.4 The following delegations made statements: China, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Canada (observer) (on behalf of Australia, Canada, and New Zealand), the Russian Federation (observer), the Syrian Arab Republic (observer), Norway (observer) (on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden), and Ireland (observer).
- 13.5 The Council **took note** of the continuing consultations regarding engagement with civil society.

Geographical representation

- 13.6 The following delegations made statements: Chile, Mexico, Brazil, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Algeria.

Other issues

- 13.7 The following delegations made statements: New Zealand and Austria (observer).
- 13.8 The Secretariat made a statement.
14. **AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country**

The Chairperson reported 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**

The delegation of the Russian Federation (observer) made a statement.

16. **AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Adoption of the report**

The Council **considered** and **adopted** the report of its 107th Session.

17. **AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Closure**

The Chairperson closed the session at 15:31 on 11 October 2024.