



**OPCW**

**Conference of the States Parties**

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Twenty-Ninth Session  
25 – 29 November 2024

C-29/5  
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**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
TWENTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES**

The Chairperson of the Twenty-Ninth Session of the Conference of the States Parties (the Conference) issues this report under the general powers of the presiding officer (Rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference). As explained in paragraph 25 herein, the Conference finalised its proceedings without considering and adopting a report of its Twenty-Ninth Session.

All decisions adopted by the Conference at its Twenty-Ninth Session, referenced in this report, remain legally valid and binding on all States Parties.



**1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session**

- 1.1 The Twenty-Ninth Session of the Conference of the States Parties (the Conference) was opened on 25 November 2024 at 10:12 in the King Willem-Alexander Theater of the World Forum in The Hague by the Chairperson of the Conference for its Twenty-Eighth Session, Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar of Pakistan.
- 1.2 The following 152 States Parties participated in the Twenty-Ninth Session: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, the Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, the Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, the Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, the State of Palestine, the Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
- 1.3 In accordance with Rule 29 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the following signatory State participated in this session of the Conference as an observer: Israel.
- 1.4 In accordance with Rule 30 of its Rules of Procedure, and pursuant to a decision of the Conference on the matter (C-29/DEC.1, dated 25 November 2024), the following non-signatory State was accorded observer status: South Sudan.
- 1.5 In accordance with Rules 31 and 32 of its Rules of Procedure, and pursuant to a decision of the Conference on the matter (C-29/DEC.2, dated 25 November 2024), six international organisations, specialised agencies, and other international bodies attended and participated in the Twenty-Ninth Session.

1.6 In accordance with the recommendations of the Third Review Conference<sup>1</sup> (RC-3/3\*, dated 19 April 2013), and pursuant to a decision of the Conference on the matter (C-29/DEC.3, dated 25 November 2024), the Conference **invited** representatives of the global chemical industry and scientific community to attend and participate its Twenty-Ninth Session.

1.7 In accordance with Rule 33 of its Rules of Procedure, and pursuant to a decision of the Conference on the matter (C-29/DEC.4, dated 25 November 2024), 118 non-governmental organisations were invited to attend and participate in the Twenty-Ninth Session.

## 2. **AGENDA ITEM TWO – Election of the Chairperson**

In accordance with Rules 34 and 35 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference **elected** as its Chairperson Ambassador Almir Šahović of Bosnia and Herzegovina, who shall hold office until a new Chairperson is elected at the next regular session of the Conference.

## 3. **AGENDA ITEM THREE – Election of Vice-Chairpersons and other officers**

3.1 In accordance with Rules 34 and 35 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference **elected** the following 10 States Parties as Vice-Chairpersons of the Conference, to hold office until their successors are elected at its next regular session: Algeria, Cameroon, China, Costa Rica, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, Japan, Lithuania, and Türkiye.

3.2 The delegation of the Russian Federation made a statement under this agenda item.

3.3 Also in accordance with Rules 34 and 35 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference **elected** as Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole Ambassador Hadi Farajvand of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who shall hold office until his successor is elected at the next regular session of the Conference.

## 4. **AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Adoption of the agenda**

4.1 The provisional agenda for the Twenty-Ninth Session of the Conference was circulated under cover of C-29/1 (dated 9 July 2024).

4.2 The Conference **approved** the following agenda for its Twenty-Ninth Session:

AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session

AGENDA ITEM TWO – Election of the Chairperson

AGENDA ITEM THREE – Election of Vice-Chairpersons and other officers

AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Adoption of the agenda

AGENDA ITEM FIVE – Organisation of work and establishment of subsidiary bodies

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

AGENDA ITEM SIX – Appointment of the Credentials Committee

AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Opening statement by the Director-General

AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – General debate

AGENDA ITEM NINE – Status of implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention

AGENDA ITEM TEN – Annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in 2023

AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Annual report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities

AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Election of Member States to membership in the Executive Council

AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Mid-biennium Draft Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2025, submitted by the Executive Council, and all items pertaining to this Budget

AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Scale of assessments for 2025

AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – External Auditor's report on the audited Financial Statements of the OPCW and the Provident Fund for 2023

AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Appointment of the External Auditor

AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Administrative and financial matters

AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN – Fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities

AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN – Ensuring the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY – The OPCW Programme for Africa

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-ONE – Engagement with the chemical industry and the scientific community

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-TWO – Follow-up to the Review Conferences

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-THREE – Reports of subsidiary bodies

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FOUR – Any other business

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FIVE – Adoption of the report of the Conference of the States Parties

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-SIX – Closure

**5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – Organisation of work and establishment of subsidiary bodies**

- 5.1 The Conference **considered** and **adopted** the recommendations of the General Committee that were reported to it in accordance with Rule 43(b) of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference.
- 5.2 Upon request of the delegation of Ghana (on behalf of the African Group), a paper entitled “Irregular Voting Procedure at the OPCW” has been circulated to the Conference (C-29/WP.3, dated 22 November 2024).
- 5.3 Upon request of the delegation of Guatemala, a paper entitled “Observations of the Delegation of Guatemala Concerning the Procedure for the Election of OPCW Executive Council Members” has been circulated to the Conference (C-29/WP.4, dated 22 November 2024).
- 5.4 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: Ghana (on behalf of the African Group), Guatemala, the State of Palestine, Belgium, Chile, Uganda, Germany, South Africa, Japan, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, India, China, the Syrian Arab Republic, Nigeria, Cuba, Burkina Faso, the Russian Federation, Eswatini, the United States of America, Canada, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Brazil, Poland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Czech Republic (on behalf of the Czech Republic, Estonia, and Latvia), the Republic of Korea, France, South Africa, and Italy.
- 5.5 The delegation of New Zealand delivered a joint statement under this agenda item on behalf of Andorra, Australia, Austria, Canada, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Romania, and San Marino.
- 5.6 The Conference **requested** the General Committee to define and establish an appropriate inclusive format for discussions on the current implementation of the rules governing elections of members of the Executive Council (the Council) with the assistance of the Office of the Legal Adviser. The established format should be set up by the end of the first quarter of 2025 and should report to the General Committee on its work and recommendations at the latest one month before the next session of the Conference.

**6. AGENDA ITEM SIX – Appointment of the Credentials Committee**

In accordance with Rule 27 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference, on the recommendation of its Chairperson, **appointed** 10 members of the Credentials Committee, to hold office until new members are appointed at the next regular session of the Conference: Colombia, Ecuador, Ghana, Indonesia, Malta, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Slovakia, and the United Republic of Tanzania.

**7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Opening statement by the Director-General**

The Conference **noted** the opening statement by the Director-General (C-29/DG.17, dated 25 November 2024).

## **8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – General debate**

- 8.1 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: El Salvador (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group), Ghana (on behalf of the African Group), the Philippines (on behalf of the Asian Group), Uganda (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and China), Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, the State of Palestine, the Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), and Viet Nam.
- 8.2 In accordance with decision C-29/DEC.2, the following international body made a statement during the general debate: the European Union (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, and Ukraine).
- 8.3 Fiji delivered a joint statement on behalf of Australia, the Cook Islands, Fiji, Tonga, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, and Vanuatu.
- 8.4 Oman delivered a joint statement on behalf of Algeria, Bahrain, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, China, Cuba, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, the State of Palestine, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Türkiye, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), and Yemen.
- 8.5 The following signatory State made a statement during the general debate: Israel.
- 8.6 The following delegations made statements, exercising their right of reply: the Syrian Arab Republic, the State of Palestine, the Russian Federation, and the Islamic Republic of Iran.
- 8.7 The following signatory State made a statement, exercising its right of reply: Israel.
- 8.8 In accordance with decision C-29/DEC.2, the following international organisation made a statement during the general debate: the World Health Organization.
- 8.9 In accordance with decision C-29/DEC.4, the following non-governmental organisations gave presentations at the plenary meeting: the African Center for Science and International Security (AFRICISIS), AiXist-Consortium for AI & Existential Risks, Bagmati UNESCO Club, the Chemical Weapons Convention Coalition, the Harvard Sussex Program, and the Tehran Peace Museum.

**9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – Status of implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention**

**Subitem 9(a): Progress report on the implementation of the plan of action regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations**

9.1 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 Conference **considered** and **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).

**Subitem 9(b): Implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Technical Secretariat in 2023**

9.2 The Conference **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Technical Secretariat (the Secretariat) in 2023 (EC-105/DG.11 C-29/DG.1, dated 20 February 2024).

**Subitem 9(c): Implementation of the Conference of the States Parties and Executive Council decisions on destruction-related issues**

9.3 The delegation of Japan provided an update to the Conference on its destruction-related activities. The delegation of China also provided an update to the Conference on its destruction-related activities (the presentation was posted on the external server of the OPCW), and made a further statement.

9.4 The Conference **welcomed** the decision of the Council at its Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012) 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 its annex 3 and adopted by the Council at its 101st Session, bearing in mind that the destruction progress was less than expected in the previous destruction plan attached to the decision “The Deadline of 29 April 2012 and Future Destruction of the Chemical Weapons Abandoned by Japan in the People’s Republic of China” (EC-67/DEC.6), and **encouraged** continued cooperation between China and Japan in the implementation of EC-67/DEC.6.

9.5 The Conference **recalled** the provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention) that the Abandoning State Party undertakes to destroy all chemical weapons it abandoned on the territory of another State Party and shall provide all necessary financial, technical, expert, facility as well as other resources, **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. The Conference **reaffirmed** that the Territorial State Party shall provide appropriate cooperation.

- 9.6 The Conference **also reaffirmed** the obligation of the Abandoning State Party to provide all available information including, to the extent possible, the location, type, and quantity as well as information on the abandonment in accordance with relevant provisions of the Convention, so as to facilitate the expedited destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China.
- 9.7 The Conference **recalled** that the destruction plan beyond the year 2022 for the chemical weapons abandoned by Japan in the People's Republic of China (EC-101/DEC.2) stipulated the common recognition regarding the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons (ACW) with the Mobile Destruction Facility, the destruction of ACW in Haerbaling (Jilin Province), the destruction of other ACW, including consultation 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.
- 9.8 The Conference **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\*), which reaffirmed the role of the Council, 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.
- 9.9 The Conference **welcomed** that a total of 11 on-site inspections of the ACW facilities in 2024 had been successfully conducted.
- 9.10 The Conference **welcomed** that the visit by the Chairperson of the Council, 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, at the joint invitation of China and Japan, had been successfully conducted, 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.
- 9.11 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: the United States of America, the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and Cuba.



**Subitem 9(d): Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use**

- 9.12 The Conference at its Fourth Special Session adopted a decision entitled “Addressing the Threat from Chemical Weapons Use” (C-SS-4/DEC.3, dated 27 June 2018). Since the previous regular session of the Conference, and pursuant to paragraph 24 of the above-mentioned decision, the following documents have been circulated to the Council: EC-105/DG.14 (dated 27 February 2024); EC-106/DG.15 (dated 27 June 2024); and EC-107/DG.21 (dated 30 September 2024).
- 9.13 At its Twenty-Fifth Session, the Conference adopted a decision entitled “Addressing the Possession and Use of Chemical Weapons by the Syrian Arab Republic” (C-25/DEC.9, dated 21 April 2021). Since the previous regular session of the Conference, and pursuant to paragraph 8 of the above-mentioned decision, the following documents have been circulated to the Council: EC-105/DG.3 (dated 22 December 2023); EC-105/DG.6 (dated 24 January 2024); EC-105/DG.12 (dated 23 February 2024); EC-106/DG.2 (dated 25 March 2024); EC-106/DG.5 (dated 24 April 2024); EC-106/DG.7 (dated 24 May 2024); EC-106/DG.14 (dated 24 June 2024); EC-107/DG.5 (dated 24 July 2024); EC-107/DG.8 (dated 23 August 2024); EC-107/DG.20 (dated 24 September 2024); EC-108/DG.1 (dated 25 October 2024); and EC-108/DG.2 (dated 25 November 2024).
- 9.14 At its Twenty-Eighth Session, the Conference adopted a decision entitled “Addressing the Threat from Chemical Weapons Use and the Threat of Future Use” (C-28/DEC.12, dated 30 November 2023). The Secretariat is reporting on the elements in the decision in accordance with existing reporting obligations, including through the reports listed above.

**Elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme**

- 9.15 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: New Zealand (on behalf of Australia, Canada, and New Zealand), the Netherlands, Ireland, China, the Russian Federation, the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Denmark (on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden), the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Türkiye, Switzerland, France, the Syrian Arab Republic, Cuba, the Czech Republic, Austria, Italy, Spain, and Romania.
- 9.16 In accordance with decision C-29/DEC.2, the European Union made a statement under this agenda item (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Türkiye, and Ukraine).
- 9.17 The following delegations made statements, exercising their right of reply: the Syrian Arab Republic, China, Australia, and Türkiye.

**Other related issues**

- 9.18 The following delegations made further statements under this agenda item: the State of Palestine, the Czech Republic, Canada (on behalf of Australia, Canada, and New Zealand), Norway (on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden), Poland, China, the United States of America, Germany, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Ukraine, the Russian Federation, Ireland, Japan, Italy, the Syrian Arab Republic, Cuba, France, Austria, New Zealand, and the Republic of Korea.

- 9.19 The delegations of Lithuania and the Bahamas made a further joint statement under this agenda item on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Austria, the Bahamas, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, the Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and Vanuatu.
- 9.20 The delegation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a further joint statement under this agenda item on behalf of Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, the State of Palestine, the Syrian Arab Republic, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
- 9.21 In accordance with decision C-29/DEC.2, the European Union made a further statement under this agenda item (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, and Ukraine).
- 9.22 The following delegations made further statements under this agenda item, exercising their right of reply: the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, Australia, and Poland.
- 9.23 The delegations of the State of Palestine and the Syrian Arab Republic made a point of order. The following signatory State made a statement under this agenda item, exercising its right of reply: Israel.
- 9.24 The Director-General made a statement (C-29/DG.18, dated 28 November 2024).
- 9.25 Upon the request of the delegation of the Russian Federation, Note Verbale No. 66 (dated 12 November 2024), Note Verbale No. 68 (dated 19 November 2024) and Note Verbale No. 71 (dated 22 November 2024) were circulated to the Conference (C-29/HP/NAT.1, dated 12 November 2024; C-29/NAT.1 and C-29/NAT.2, both dated 19 November 2024; and C-29/NAT.4, dated 22 November 2024).
- 10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – Annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in 2023**
- 10.1 The Conference **considered** the draft report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2023 (EC-106/2 C-29/CRP.1, dated 11 July 2024), which was considered and submitted to it by the Council at its 106th Session.
- 10.2 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Syrian Arab Republic, and China.
- 10.3 The delegation of Germany made a statement, exercising its right of reply.
- 10.4 The Conference **adopted** the above-mentioned report (C-29/4, dated 28 November 2024).

10.5 The delegations of China, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Russian Federation disassociated themselves from the adoption of the above-mentioned report in its current form.

**11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Annual report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities**

11.1 The Conference **noted** the annual report of the Council on the performance of its activities for the period from 15 July 2023 to 11 May 2024, its Attachment entitled “Note by the Technical Secretariat: The Destruction of Chemical Weapons Abandoned by Japan in the People’s Republic of China”, and its Annex entitled “Actions Taken by the Conference of the States Parties at its Twenty-Eighth Session in Response to Recommendations Made by the Executive Council” (EC-106/3 C-29/2, dated 9 July 2024). The report was introduced by the Acting Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Salima Abdelhak of Algeria, who also briefed the Conference on any developments that have taken place since the cut-off date for the report (the briefing was posted on the external server of the OPCW).

11.2 The delegation of the Russian Federation made a statement under this agenda item.

**12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Election of Member States to membership in the Executive Council**

12.1 In accordance with paragraph 23 of Article VIII of the Convention and with Rule 83 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the Conference **elected**, by acclamation, the following 19 members to serve on the Council for a term of two years, starting on 12 May 2025. To ensure that the Council is constituted in accordance with paragraph 23 of Article VIII, the regional distribution of the elective places to be filled is as follows:

Africa:	Angola, Cameroon, Morocco, Rwanda, the Sudan
Asia and the Pacific:	China, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia
Latin America and the Caribbean:	Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Panama
Western Europe and Other States:	France, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America

12.2 The delegations of the Czech Republic, North Macedonia, and the Russian Federation presented their candidacies for the two elective places pertaining to the Eastern European Group.

12.3 In accordance with Rules 79 and 81 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the Conference **elected**, by secret ballot, the following two States Parties from the Eastern European Group to serve on the Council for a term of two years, starting on 12 May 2025: the Czech Republic and North Macedonia.

**13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Mid-biennium Draft Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2025, submitted by the Executive Council, and all items pertaining to this Budget**

- 13.1 At its 107th Session, 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).
- 13.2 In accordance with subparagraph 32(a) of Article VIII of the Convention, the Council at its 107th Session 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, to the Conference at its Twenty-Ninth Session (EC-107/DEC.9, dated 10 October 2024).
- 13.3 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: the Russian Federation and China.
- 13.4 In accordance with decision C-29/DEC.2, the European Union made a statement under this agenda item (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, Türkiye, and Ukraine).
- 13.5 In accordance with subparagraph 21(a) of Article VIII of the Convention and Regulation 3.7(a) of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, the Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2025 (C-29/DEC.11, dated 25 November 2024).
- 13.6 The delegation of the Russian Federation disassociated itself from the consensus.

**14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Scale of assessments for 2025**

The Conference **adopted**, pursuant to Regulations 3.7(b) and 5.2 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, a decision on the scale of assessments to be paid by States Parties for the financial year 2025 (C-29/DEC.5, dated 25 November 2024).

**15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – External Auditor’s report on the audited Financial Statements of the OPCW and the Provident Fund for 2023**

At its 107th Session, the Council noted 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). In accordance with Regulation 13.10 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, the report was forwarded to the Conference, which **noted** it.

**16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Appointment of the External Auditor**

- 16.1 In accordance with Regulation 13.1 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, the Conference shall appoint the External Auditor, who shall be the Auditor-General (or an officer holding an equivalent title) of a State Party, and such appointment shall be in the manner and for the period determined by the Conference and for a single period of not less than two years, but not exceeding six years.

- 16.2 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.
- 16.3 At its 107th Session, the Council considered the report of the Evaluation Panel for the Appointment of the External Auditor of the OPCW (EC-107/WP.1, dated 6 September 2024). The Council at the same session also considered and adopted a decision entitled “Appointment of the External Auditor of the OPCW” and transmitted it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Ninth Session (EC-107/DEC.11, dated 10 October 2024).
- 16.4 The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the appointment of the External Auditor of the OPCW (C-29/DEC.6, dated 25 November 2024).

**17. AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Administrative and financial matters**

**Subitem 17(a): Multi-year payment plans to regularise the payment by some States Parties of their outstanding annual contributions**

- 17.1 At its Eleventh Session, the Conference adopted a decision (C-11/DEC.5, dated 7 December 2006) on a mechanism to encourage States Parties that are in arrears to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions through the use of multi-year payment plans, requesting the Secretariat to submit a report to it each year, through the Council, on the status of implementation of agreed multi-year payment plans as at the end of the quarter that falls immediately before the session of the Council that precedes the session of the Conference.
- 17.2 The Conference **considered** and **noted** 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) that the Council, at its 107th Session, considered and forwarded to it pursuant to the above-mentioned decision.
- 17.3 Also pursuant to C-11/DEC.5, the Council at its 107th Session recommended that the Conference at its Twenty-Ninth Session approve the payment plan submitted by the Dominican Republic to regularise the payment of its outstanding annual contributions (EC-107/DEC.5, dated 8 October 2024). The Conference **considered** and **approved** the plan (C-29/DEC.7, dated 25 November 2024).

**Subitem 17(b): Transfers of funds during 2023**

- 17.4 In accordance with Regulation 4.5 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, all transfers between budget programmes shall be reported to the Conference. The Conference **noted** a Note by the Director-General on this matter (EC-106/DG.3/Rev.1 C-29/DG.2/Rev.1, dated 25 June 2024).

**Subitem 17(c): Annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight for 2023**

- 17.5 In accordance with Regulation 12.5 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, the Director-General transmitted to the Conference, through the Council, the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2023, and the accompanying Note by the Director-General (EC-106/DG.6 C-29/DG.3, dated 24 April 2024), along with his own comments and any other comments made by the Council. The Conference **noted** this report.

**Subitem 17(d): Tenure policy**

- 17.6 At its Twenty-Eighth Session, the Conference adopted a decision entitled “Amendment of the OPCW Tenure Policy” (C-28/DEC.10, dated 30 November 2023).
- 17.7 Pursuant to C-28/DEC.10, the Conference **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the tenure policy in 2023 (EC-106/DG.8 C-29/DG.4, dated 3 June 2024 and Add.1, dated 3 October 2024).
- 17.8 The following delegation made a statement under this agenda item: Bangladesh.

**Subitem 17(e): Rehiring of inspectors**

- 17.9 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.
- 17.10 At its 107th Session, the Council adopted a decision recommending to the Conference that it extend 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. The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the matter (C-29/DEC.8, dated 25 November 2024).

**Subitem 17(f): Implementation of the Action Plan on Geographical Representation**

- 17.11 At its Twenty-Eighth Session, the Conference adopted a decision entitled “Action Plan on Geographical Representation” (C-28/DEC.11, dated 30 November 2023), and tasked the Secretariat with submitting an implementation programme to the Council with a view to its adoption at its 105th Session. The Conference further decided to review, at its Twenty-Ninth Session and annually thereafter, the progress made by the Secretariat and the States Parties in the implementation of the action plan.
- 17.12 At its 105th Session, the Council, in its decision on the “Implementation of the Action Plan on Geographical Representation” (EC-105/DEC.3, dated 7 March 2024), adopted the deliverables proposed by the Secretariat as contained in Note by the Secretariat EC-105/S/6 (dated 26 February 2024).
- 17.13 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: Chile, the United States of America, Algeria, India, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, China, the Bahamas, and Brazil.
- 17.14 The Conference **noted** the “Annual Report on the Implementation of the Action Plan on Geographical Representation” (C-29/DG.16, dated 19 November 2024).

**Subitem 17(g): Participation of the OPCW in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund**

- 17.15 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), which authorised the Secretariat to conclude an agreement to join the UNJSPF, 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, for approval by the Conference at its Twenty-Ninth Session.

- 17.16 At its 107th Session, 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).
- 17.17 Also at its 107th Session, the Council adopted a decision on the matter (EC-107/DEC.6, dated 8 October 2024) containing recommendations to the Conference at its Twenty-Ninth Session.
- 17.18 The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision entitled ”Participation of the OPCW in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund” (C-29/DEC.9, dated 25 November 2024).

**Subitem 17(h): Amendments to the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules**

- 17.19 At its 107th Session, the Council adopted a decision entitled “Amendments to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the OPCW” (EC-107/DEC.4, dated 8 October 2024), and transmitted it to the Conference for approval at its Twenty-Ninth Session. The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the matter (C-29/DEC.10, dated 25 November 2024).

**18. AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN – Fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities**

- 18.1 The Conference at its Sixteenth Session adopted a decision regarding components of an agreed framework for the full implementation of Article XI of the Convention (C-16/DEC.10, dated 1 December 2011), and requested the Secretariat to report to the Conference at each annual session on the progress of concrete measures undertaken in implementing the decision, and on the status of implementation of Article XI.
- 18.2 The Conference **received** a report by the facilitator for Article XI issues, Mr Jamal Nasir of Pakistan, on activities held during the intersessional period.
- 18.3 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: the State of Palestine, Brazil, the United States of America, Algeria, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Syrian Arab Republic, Morocco, China, the Russian Federation, Australia, Cuba, and the Islamic Republic of Iran.
- 18.4 The delegation of Belarus made a joint statement under this agenda item on behalf of Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, the State of Palestine, the Syrian Arab Republic, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
- 18.5 In accordance with decision C-29/DEC.2, the European Union made a statement under this agenda item (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, Türkiye, and Ukraine).
- 18.6 In accordance with decision C-29/DEC.2, the European Union made a further statement under this agenda item.

18.7 The Conference **noted** a report by the Director-General on the progress made and review of the status of implementation of Article XI of the Convention for the period from 26 August 2023 to 25 August 2024 (EC-107/DG.7 C-29/DG.7, dated 21 August 2024 and Corr.1, dated 6 September 2024).

**19. AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN – Ensuring the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention**

19.1 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, inter alia, the Director-General 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.

19.2 The Conference **noted** the annual Note by the Director-General reporting on the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention during the period 16 August 2023 to 15 August 2024 (EC-107/DG.19 C-29/DG.13, dated 20 September 2024).

19.3 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: the Syrian Arab Republic and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

19.4 In accordance with decision C-29/DEC.2, the European Union made a statement under this agenda item (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, Türkiye, and Ukraine).

**20. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY – The OPCW Programme for Africa**

The Conference **noted** a Note by the Director-General on the Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention (EC-106/DG.9 C-29/DG.5, dated 17 June 2024).

**21. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-ONE – Engagement with the chemical industry and the scientific community**

The Conference **noted** a Note by the Director-General on engaging the chemical industry associations (C-29/DG.15, dated 14 November 2024).

**22. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-TWO – Follow-up to the Review Conferences**

22.1 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).



### **Developments in science and technology: Emerging technologies**

- 22.2 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).
- 22.3 The “Global Conference on the Role of Artificial Intelligence in Advancing the Implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention” was held in Rabat, Morocco, from 22 to 24 October 2024.
- 22.4 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: Morocco, the United States of America, Mexico (on behalf of Mexico, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Türkiye, and Australia (MIKTA)), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, China, the Islamic Republic of Iran, India, France, Pakistan, Algeria, the Russian Federation, and Ghana.
- 22.5 In accordance with decision C-29/DEC.2, the European Union made a statement under this agenda item (on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, Türkiye, and Ukraine).

### **Engagement with civil society**

- 22.6 A working paper entitled “Report by H.E. Ambassador Arnaldo Brenes Castro of Costa Rica and H.E. Ambassador Thomas Schieb of Germany on the Consultations on Engagement with Civil Society” was circulated to the Conference (C-29/WP.1, dated 22 November 2024).
- 22.7 The delegations of Germany and Costa Rica provided an oral report to the Conference on consultations on engagement with civil society.
- 22.8 The delegations of the Netherlands and Ireland delivered a joint statement under this agenda item on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America.
- 22.9 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: the Islamic Republic of Iran, China, Australia (on behalf of Australia, Canada, and New Zealand), Türkiye, the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic, France, and Costa Rica.

### **Organisational governance**

- 22.10 At its Twenty-Eighth Session, the Conference adopted a decision entitled “Amendment of the OPCW Tenure Policy” (C-28/DEC.10, dated 30 November 2023) providing the Director-General the authority to issue for up to 10 staff members one-year contract extensions, for a period of no more than three years beyond the seven-year total length of service otherwise provided for in Staff Regulations 4.4(b) and 4.4(d).
- 22.11 Upon request of the delegations of New Zealand and Mexico, a paper entitled “Amendment of the OPCW Tenure Policy to Allow Rehiring on an Exceptional Basis” was circulated to the Conference (C-29/WP.2, dated 25 November 2024).
- 22.12 The following delegations made statements under this agenda item: New Zealand, Mexico, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Panama, El Salvador, Morocco, the Czech Republic, Ghana, China, Japan, Poland, Algeria, Bangladesh, the Russian Federation, and India.
- 22.13 The Chairperson concluded that the Conference had exhausted its discussions on this matter and that it would not adopt a decision during this session. Accordingly, it will be for the Council, at its next session, to decide on this matter. The Conference agreed to such conclusion.

### **23. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-THREE – Reports of subsidiary bodies**

#### **Committee of the Whole**

- 23.1 The Conference **noted** that, during this session, no items had been allocated to Committee of the Whole.

#### **General Committee**

- 23.2 The Conference **noted** the reports of the General Committee, and **took action** as required.

#### **Commission for the Settlement of Disputes Related to Confidentiality**

- 23.3 The Conference **noted** the report of the Twenty-Sixth Meeting of the Commission for the Settlement of Disputes Related to Confidentiality (the Confidentiality Commission) (CC-26/1, dated 17 May 2024).
- 23.4 The Conference **welcomed** the appointment of Colonel Amadou Ba of Senegal on 15 March 2024 as member of the Confidentiality Commission to fill the vacancy in the African Group for the remainder of the current term of office of the members of the Commission, ending on 30 April 2025.
- 23.5 The Conference **also welcomed** the appointment of Professor Dr Christoph Vedder of Germany on 18 April 2024 as member of the Confidentiality Commission to fill the vacancy in the Western European and Others Group for the remainder of the current term of office of the members of the Commission, ending on 30 April 2025.

23.6 In accordance with Rule 2(b) of the Operating Procedures of the Confidentiality Commission (C-III/DEC.10/Rev.3, dated 30 November 2022), the Conference **elected** 20 members of the Confidentiality Commission for a term of two years, starting from 1 May 2025:

Africa:	Ms Ghalia Benziouche (Algeria) Dr Christian Pout Bepi (Cameroon) Mr Muriithi Micheni (Kenya) Mr El Mehdi Boui (Morocco)
Asia and the Pacific:	Mr Qi Zuo (China) Dr Reza Najafi (Iran (Islamic Republic of)) Dr Akinaga Yoshida (Japan) Mr Mohd Ishrin bin Mohd Ishak (Malaysia)
Eastern Europe:	Mr Eduard Klobouček (Czech Republic) Mr Andrius Namavičius (Lithuania) Mr Ioan Tudor (Romania) Ms Anna Kogteva (Russian Federation)
Latin America and the Caribbean:	Ambassador Sandra Moira Wilkinson (Argentina) Mr Diego García González (Chile) Mr Carlos Ernesto Álvarez Pérez (Cuba) Mr Isaac Morales Tenorio (Mexico)
Western Europe and Other States:	Professor Dr Christoph Vedder (Germany) Mr Kieran Houlihan (Ireland) Mr Paul van Rhijn (Netherlands) Mr Jack Marsh (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

### **Credentials Committee**

23.7 The Conference **considered** and **approved** the report of the Credentials Committee on the credentials of representatives to the Twenty-Ninth Session of the Conference, which was presented to it by the Chairperson of the Credentials Committee, Ambassador Caroline Kitana Chipeta of the United Republic of Tanzania (C-29/3, dated 25 November 2024).

23.8 The Conference **further noted** and **approved** the Chairperson's oral report informing it that, following the close of the Credentials Committee meeting, additional original credentials had been received from Bhutan, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Denmark, Lithuania, the Marshall Islands, Mozambique, South Africa, and Tunisia.

23.9 The Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement under this agenda item.

### **Committee on Relations with the Host Country**

23.10 At its Eleventh Session, the Conference adopted a decision establishing a Committee on Relations with the Host Country (the Host Country Committee) (C-11/DEC.9, dated 7 December 2006).

- 23.11 The Acting Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Salima Abdelhak of Algeria, reported to the Conference on the status of the work of the Host Country Committee.

**Advisory Board on Education and Outreach**

- 23.12 The Conference **considered** and **noted** a Note by the Director-General reporting on the activities of the Advisory Board on Education and Outreach (ABEO) covering the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 (EC-107/DG.18\* C-29/DG.12, dated 19 September 2024).
- 23.13 The Secretariat circulated a Note by the Director-General on the membership of the ABEO (C-29/DG.14, dated 8 November 2024).
- 23.14 The Chairperson of the ABEO, Professor Magda Bauta Solés, addressed the Conference.

**Scientific Advisory Board**

- 23.15 The Chairperson of the Scientific Advisory Board, Mr Günter Povoden, addressed the Conference.

**24. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FOUR – Any other business**

The State of Palestine made a statement under this agenda item.

**25. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FIVE – Adoption of the report of the Conference of the States Parties**

Due to logistical, technical, and time constraints, the Conference finalised its proceedings without considering and adopting a report of its Twenty-Ninth Session. Instead, the Chairperson concluded that a Chairperson's report on the proceedings reflecting the outcomes of the session would be made available to the delegations. The Conference agreed to such conclusion.

**26. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-SIX – Closure**

The Chairperson closed the session at 15:51 on 29 November 2024.