



OPCW

Conference of the States Parties

Fourteenth Session
30 November – 4 December 2009

C-14/5
4 December 2009
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**REPORT OF THE FOURTEENTH SESSION
OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES
30 NOVEMBER – 4 DECEMBER 2009**

1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session

- 1.1 The Fourteenth Session of the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) was opened at 10:45 on 30 November 2009 by the Chairperson of the Thirteenth Session of the Conference, Ambassador Minoru Shibuya of Japan. The Conference received a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
- 1.2 The following 122 States Parties participated in the Fourteenth Session: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Holy See, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, and Zambia.
- 1.3 In accordance with Rule 29 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the following signatory States participated in this session of the Conference as observer: Israel and Myanmar.



- 1.4 In accordance with Rules 31 and 32 of these Rules of Procedure, and pursuant to a decision of the Conference on the matter (C-14/DEC.1, dated 30 November 2009), eight international organisations, specialised agencies, and other international bodies attended the Fourteenth Session.
- 1.5 The Conference **approved** the participation of 30 non-governmental organisations in its Fourteenth Session (C-14/DEC.2, dated 30 November 2009).

2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Election of the Chairperson

In accordance with Rules 34 and 35 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference, by acclamation, **elected** as its Chairperson Ambassador Vaidotas Verba of Lithuania, who shall hold office until his successor 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** representatives of 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, Germany, Guatemala, Peru, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, and United States of America.
- 3.2 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 Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry of Pakistan, who shall hold office until a new Chairperson 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 Fourteenth Session was circulated under cover of C-14/1, dated 16 July 2009.
- 4.2 The Conference **approved** the following agenda for its Fourteenth 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

AGENDA ITEM SIX – Appointment of the Credentials Committee

AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Statement by the Director-General

AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – General debate

AGENDA ITEM NINE – Status of implementation of the Convention

AGENDA ITEM TEN – Annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2008

AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Annual report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities in the period from 28 June 2008 to 17 July 2009

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

AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2010, submitted by the Executive Council, and all items pertaining to this Budget

AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Scale of assessments to be paid by States Parties

AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – External Auditor's report on the audited financial statements of the OPCW for 2008

AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Administrative and financial matters

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

AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN – Ensuring the universality of the Convention

AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN – The OPCW Programme for Africa

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY – Appointment of the Director-General

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-ONE – Reports of subsidiary bodies

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-TWO – Any other business

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

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FOUR – Closure

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

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.

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** the following 10 members of the Credentials Committee to hold office until new members are appointed at the next regular session of the Conference: Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Greece, Morocco,

Saudi Arabia, Sudan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, and United Arab Emirates.

7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Statement by the Director-General

The Conference **noted** the opening statement by the Director-General (C-14/DG.13, dated 30 November 2009).

8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – General debate

The following delegations made statements during the general debate: Sweden (on behalf of the European Union and associated countries), Cuba (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and China), Argentina, South Africa (on behalf of the Africa Group), India, United States of America, Russian Federation, Yemen, Mexico, Singapore, Japan, Switzerland, Bosnia and Herzegovina, New Zealand, Thailand, Turkey, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Algeria, Brazil, Canada, China, Lebanon, Philippines, Israel (observer), Australia, Nigeria, Indonesia, Peru, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam, United Arab Emirates, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia, Serbia, Norway, Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Colombia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Guatemala, Qatar, Chile, Bahrain, San Marino, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Zambia, Iraq, Kenya, Mongolia, and Costa Rica (on behalf of GRULAC and on its own behalf).

9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – Status of implementation of the Convention

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

9.1 The Conference at its Thirteenth Session adopted a decision regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations (C-13/DEC.7, dated 5 December 2008), in which it requested the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”), inter alia, to provide its annual report on the status of implementation of Article VII obligations to the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) at its Fifty-Eighth Session. In its decision, the Conference also requested the Council to submit the report to it at its Fourteenth Session, along with its recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration.

9.2 The Conference **considered** and **noted** a report on the status of implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) as at 19 August 2009 (C-14/DG.9, dated 21 October 2009).

9.3 The Conference also **adopted** a decision on the matter (C-14/DEC.12, dated 4 December 2009).

Subitem 9(b): Implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Technical Secretariat in 2008

9.4 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 Secretariat in 2008 (EC-55/DG.6 C-14/DG.1, dated 27 January 2009).

Subitem 9(c): Progress made in meeting revised deadlines for the destruction of chemical weapons

- 9.5 Pursuant to a decision by the Conference at its Eleventh Session (paragraph 9.12(b) of C-11/5, dated 8 December 2006), the Conference **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the progress made by those States Parties that have been granted extensions of deadlines for the destruction of their Category 1 chemical weapons (C-14/DG.11, dated 19 November 2009).
- 9.6 Pursuant to the decisions by the Conference at its Eleventh Session on the final extended destruction deadline, the Conference **noted with concern** that the final extended destruction deadline of 29 April 2012 may not be fully met. While noting that significant progress has been made, the Conference **also noted** that over 48% of chemical weapons stockpiles remain to be destroyed as of 1 December 2009. In this regard, the Conference **urged** all possessor States Parties to take every necessary measure with a view to ensuring their compliance with the final extended destruction deadline.
- 9.7 The Conference **welcomed** the request by the Council at its Fifty-Eighth Session for its Chairperson to engage in informal consultations on how and when to initiate discussion by the Council on issues related to meeting the final extended deadlines for the destruction of chemical weapons.

Subitem 9(d): Extension of deadlines for the destruction of Category 1 chemical weapons stockpiles

- 9.8 The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the extension of intermediate and final deadlines for the destruction by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya of its Category 1 chemical weapons (C-14/DEC.3, dated 2 December 2009).

Subitem 9(e): Implementation of Article X

- 9.9 The Conference at its Twelfth Session requested the Council to conduct intensive deliberations to develop measures for emergency assistance to Member States, including with regard to the victims of chemical weapons, as provided in Article X of the Convention, and to report to the Conference at its Thirteenth Session, along with any appropriate recommendations (paragraph 21.8 of C-12/7, dated 9 November 2007).
- 9.10 The Conference at its Thirteenth Session requested the Council to continue further intensive deliberations in line with the above-mentioned mandate given to it by the Conference at its Twelfth Session, and to report to the Conference at its Fourteenth Session (paragraph 9.9 of C-13/5, dated 5 December 2008).
- 9.11 Pursuant to the recommendation of the Council at its Fifty-Eighth Session (paragraph 5.27 of EC-58/9, dated 16 October 2009), the Conference requested the Council to continue to deliberate with a view to developing further measures for emergency assistance to Member States, including with regard to the victims of chemical weapons, as provided in Article X of the Convention, and to report back to the Conference at its Fifteenth Session.

Subitem 9(f): Guidelines regarding low-concentration limits for declarations of Schedule 2A and 2A* chemicals

9.12 The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the guidelines regarding low-concentration limits for declarations of Schedule 2A and 2A* chemicals (C-14/DEC.4, dated 2 December 2009).

10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – Annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2008

The Conference **considered** and **approved** the report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2008 (C-14/4, dated 2 December 2009).

11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Annual report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities in the period from 28 June 2008 to 17 July 2009

The Conference **noted** the report of the Council on the performance of its activities in the period from 28 June 2008 to 17 July 2009 (EC-58/8 C-14/2, dated 14 October 2009). The report was introduced by the Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Jorge Lomónaco Tonda of Mexico, who also briefed the Conference on the developments that had taken place since the cut-off date for the report.

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

In accordance with paragraph 23 of Article VIII of the Convention, and with Rule 83 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference **elected** 20 members for the following elective places on the Council for a term of two years, starting on 12 May 2010:

Africa:	Algeria, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, South Africa
Asia:	Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
Eastern Europe:	Albania, Romania, Russian Federation
Latin America and the Caribbean:	Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador
Western Europe and Other States:	Canada, Denmark, Luxembourg, Spain, Turkey

13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2010, submitted by the Executive Council, and all items pertaining to this Budget

13.1 In accordance with subparagraph 21(a) of Article VIII of the Convention, and pursuant to Financial Regulation 3.6(a), the Conference **considered** and **adopted** the Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2010, which the Council had submitted to it (C-14/DEC.8, dated 2 December 2009).

- 13.2 The Medium-Term Plan for the period from 2010 to 2012 (EC-57/S/8 C-14/S/1, dated 10 July 2009 and Corr.1, dated 25 November 2009) was circulated to the Member States, along with the Draft Programme and Budget for 2010.

14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Scale of assessments to be paid by States Parties

In accordance with paragraph 21(b) of Article VIII of the Convention, the Conference **adopted** the scale of assessments to be paid by States Parties for the financial year 2010 (C-14/DEC.10, dated 4 December 2009).

15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – External Auditor’s report on the audited financial statements of the OPCW for 2008

The Conference **noted** the financial statements of the OPCW and the report of the External Auditor for the year ending 31 December 2008 (EC-57/DG.13* C-14/DG.4, dated 24 June 2009 and Corr.1, dated 15 July 2009) which was forwarded to it by the Council in accordance with Regulation 13.10 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules.

16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Administrative and financial matters

Subitem 16(a): OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 30 June 2009; and the cash situation and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 31 August 2009

- 16.1 The Council at its Fifty-Eighth Session considered and forwarded to the Conference a report by the Director-General on OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 30 June 2009 (EC-58/DG.2, dated 7 August 2009 and Corr.1, dated 8 September 2009). The Conference **noted** this report.

- 16.2 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Thirteenth Session (paragraph 14 of C-13/DEC.5, dated 5 December 2008), the Conference **noted** a Note by the Director-General on the cash situation and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 31 August 2009 (EC-58/DG.6 C-14/DG.6, dated 28 September 2009).

Subitem 16(b): Status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions

- 16.3 Pursuant to a decision by the Conference at its Eleventh Session (C-11/DEC.5, dated 7 December 2006), the Conference **considered** and **noted** the Note by the Director-General on status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans (EC-58/DG.7 C-14/DG.7, dated 28 September 2009).

Subitem 16(c): Report of the Office of Internal Oversight for 2008

- 16.4 In accordance with Regulation 12.5 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, the Council at its Fifty-Sixth Session considered and forwarded to the Conference the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight for the period from 1 January to

31 December 2008, and the accompanying Note by the Director-General (EC-56/DG.6 C-14/DG.3, dated 3 April 2009). The Conference **noted** this report.

Subitem 16(d): Transfers of funds between programmes in 2008

- 16.5 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** the Note by the Director-General on this matter (EC-55/DG.7 C-14/DG.2, dated 2 February 2009).

Subitem 16(e): Adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards

- 16.6 The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (C-14/DEC.5, dated 2 December 2009).

17. AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities

- 17.1 At its Thirteenth Session, the Conference requested the Council to continue to work, pursuant to previous decisions, to intensify consultations at regular intervals to develop concrete measures within an agreed framework to ensure the full implementation of Article XI, and to report back to the Conference at its Fourteenth Session (paragraph 17.3 of C-13/5).

- 17.2 The Conference also **adopted** a decision on the matter (C-14/DEC.11, dated 4 December 2009).

18. AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN – Ensuring the universality of the Convention

- 18.1 The Conference **noted** the annual report by the Director-General on the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention during the period from 19 November 2008 to 11 September 2009 (EC-58/DG.9 C-14/DG.8, dated 29 September 2009).

- 18.2 The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the universality of the Convention and the further implementation of the universality action plan (C-14/DEC.7, dated 2 December 2009).

19. AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN – The OPCW Programme for Africa

The Conference **noted** the Note by the Director-General on the Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa (C-14/DG.12, dated 18 November 2009).

20. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY – Appointment of the Director-General

The Conference **appointed** Mr Ahmet Üzümcü as the Director-General of the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, for a term of office beginning on 25 July 2010, and ending on 24 July 2014 (C-14/DEC.6, dated 2 December 2009).

21. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-ONE – Reports of subsidiary bodies

Committee of the Whole

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

General Committee

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

Confidentiality Commission

- 21.3 The Conference **noted** the report of the Eleventh Meeting of the Commission for the Settlement of Disputes Related to Confidentiality (CC-11/1, dated 26 May 2009).

Credentials Committee

- 21.4 The report of the Credentials Committee (C-14/3, dated 2 December 2009) was presented by its Chairperson, Ambassador Abuelgasim Abdelwahid Sheikh Idris of Sudan. The Chairperson reported orally that, following the close of the Credentials Committee meeting, a copy of credentials was received from Ecuador. The Conference **noted** this additional information and **approved** the report.

Committee on Relations with the Host Country

- 21.5 The Conference **considered** and **noted** a report by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country on the performance of its activities December 2008 – October 2009 (EC-58/HCC/1 C-14/HCC/1, dated 9 October 2009).

22. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-TWO – Any other business

Terms of office of members of the Scientific Advisory Board

Pursuant to the proposal contained in a Note by the Director-General on the terms of office of members of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) (EC-57/DG.14 C-14/DG.5, dated 1 July 2009), the Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the matter (C-14/DEC.9, dated 2 December 2009).

23. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-THREE – Adoption of the report of the Conference of the States Parties

The Conference **considered** and **adopted** the report of its Fourteenth Session.

24. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-FOUR – Closure

The Chairperson closed the Fourteenth Session of the Conference at 22:07 on 4 December 2009.