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**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
ON THE PERFORMANCE OF ITS ACTIVITIES
IN THE PERIOD FROM 8 JULY 2006 TO 29 JUNE 2007**



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1. ORGANISATIONAL MATTERS

1.1. The Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) is the executive organ of the OPCW. The Council promotes the effective implementation of, and compliance with, the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”). It also supervises the activities of the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”), cooperates with the National Authority of each State Party, and facilitates consultations and cooperation amongst States Parties at their request.

1.2. The following tables show, by regional grouping, the composition of the Council for the period from 12 May 2006 to 11 May 2007, and from 12 May 2007 to 11 May 2008.

TABLE 1: COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL FROM 12 MAY 2006 TO 11 MAY 2007

Regional Group	States Parties
Africa	Algeria, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Morocco, South Africa, Sudan, and Tunisia
Asia	China, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, and Thailand
Eastern Europe	Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Poland, Romania, and Russian Federation
Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Guatemala, Mexico, and Peru
Western European and Other States	Australia, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America

TABLE 2: COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL FROM 12 MAY 2007 TO 11 MAY 2008

Regional Group	States Parties
Africa	Algeria, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Morocco, South Africa, Sudan, and Tunisia
Asia	China, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, and Thailand
Eastern Europe	Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, and Russian Federation
Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Guatemala, Mexico, and Peru
Western European and Other States	Australia, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America

1.3. At its Eleventh Session, the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) adopted decisions on 16 matters the Council had referred to it, and referred 1 matter to the Council for consideration.

Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Council

- 1.4. The Council at its Forty-Eighth Session elected Ambassador Romeo A. Arguelles of the Philippines as its Chairperson, and the representatives to the Council of Algeria, Chile, Ireland, and Russian Federation as its Vice-Chairpersons, for the period from 12 May 2007 to 11 May 2008.
- 1.5. The following table lists the dates on which the Council held its regular sessions during the period under review.

TABLE 3: DATES OF REGULAR SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Session	Dates
Forty-Seventh	7 – 10 November 2006
Forty-Eighth	13 – 16 March 2007
Forty-Ninth	26 – 29 June 2007

- 1.6. The Council held one Meeting, its Twenty-Sixth, during the reporting period. The Meeting took place on 4, 7, and 8 December 2006.

Accreditation of representatives to the Council

- 1.7. The most recent examination of credentials, which the Director-General conducted and reported on to the Council at its Forty-Ninth Session in accordance with Rule 4 of its Rules of Procedure (EC-49/DG.14, dated 14 June 2007, and Add.1, dated 26 June 2007), established that the credentials of the representatives of 38 members of the Council met the requirements of Rule 3. In accordance with Rule 5 of those Rules, representatives whose credentials had not yet been presented by the date of the aforementioned report were seated provisionally with the same rights as other representatives.

Application of the Rules of Procedure of the Council

- 1.8. During the period under review, observer States Parties participated actively in all sessions of the Council and in its Twenty-Sixth Meeting, with an average of 28 present at each session or meeting. Each request by observers to present their views was granted under Rule 22 of the aforementioned Rules of Procedure.
- 1.9. The Council at its Forty-Eighth Session, bearing in mind the provisions of Rules 50 and 22 of those Rules, considered a request from Iraq, a State not Party, and, accordingly, invited it to participate in that Session as an observer. This decision of the Council was not intended to create a precedent. The Council at this same Session noted that any possible future requests of a similar nature would be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Working methods of the Council

- 1.10. During the period under review, the Chairperson of the Council, working in consultation with its Vice-Chairpersons and its members, reviewed and published plans for Council activities (EC-47/INF.2, dated 25 October 2006; EC-48/INF.2,

dated 5 March 2007; and EC-49/INF.1, dated 31 May 2007). The first annex to each plan lists clusters of issues under consideration by the Council.

- 1.11. The Chairpersons of the Council acted as coordinators for the Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism, the Open-Ended Working Group on the Establishment of an OPCW Office in Africa, and the Working Group on the Implementation of the OPCW Headquarters Agreement. The Vice-Chairpersons of the Council were designated as coordinators for chemical weapons issues, chemical-industry and other Article VI issues, administrative and financial issues, and legal, organisational, and other issues. Facilitators were also appointed for many of the issues requiring resolution. The second annex to each plan of activities lists all key meetings and consultations that took place during the period under review.

2. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

Statements and reports by the Director-General

- 2.1 In his opening statement to each session of the Council during the period under review, the Director-General elaborated, *inter alia*, on aspects of compliance by States Parties with the requirements of the Convention, and on related activities undertaken by the Secretariat. He also submitted numerous reports to the Council, either in fulfilment of various requirements of the Convention or in response to requests by the Council or the Conference.

Draft report of the OPCW for 2006

- 2.2 The Council at its Forty-Ninth Session considered the draft report of the OPCW for 2006 (EC-49/CRP.1, dated 16 April 2007) and referred it to the Conference for its consideration at its Twelfth Session. Following a decision by the Conference at its Tenth Session and by the Council at its Forty-Ninth, the Secretariat posted this draft report on the OPCW Web site, clearly indicating that the draft had yet to be considered and approved by the Conference.

Agreements on the privileges and immunities of the OPCW

- 2.3 The Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered and concluded agreements between the OPCW and two States Parties on the privileges and immunities of the OPCW: Burkina Faso (EC-47/DEC.11, dated 8 November 2006); and the Eastern Republic of Uruguay (EC-47/DEC.12, dated 8 November 2006).
- 2.4 The Council at its Forty-Eighth Session considered and concluded an agreement between the OPCW and the Republic of Chile on the privileges and immunities of the OPCW (EC-48/DEC.4, dated 14 March 2007).

Universality-related activities

- 2.5 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 plan, and to keep the Council regularly

informed, so that the Conference and the Council might review progress and monitor its implementation effectively. The Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered the annual report (which had been submitted to it and to the Conference) on the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention from 11 November 2005 to 25 September 2006 (EC-47/DG.5 C-11/DG.4, dated 29 September 2006). The Council at its Twenty-Sixth Meeting considered and adopted a recommendation on this issue for consideration by the Conference at its Eleventh Session (EC-M-26/DEC.3, dated 4 December 2006).

Verification Implementation Report

- 2.6 Further to its consideration of this issue at its Forty-Sixth Session, the Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered and noted the 2005 Verification Implementation Report (VIR) (EC-46/HP/DG.1, dated 22 June 2006, and Corr.1, dated 10 October 2006) and the supplement to it (EC-47/HP/DG.1*, dated 13 September 2006). The Council also received and considered the comments and views that States Parties had submitted on the 2005 VIR (EC-47/HP/DG.2, dated 10 October 2006).
- 2.7 At its Forty-Seventh Session the Council noted the Chairperson's summary of the consultations that had been held on 11 October 2006 on the 2005 VIR (EC-47/2/Rev.1, dated 6 November 2006), and decided to consider further at its next regular Session the issues identified in paragraph 4 of the summary. The Council at its Forty-Eighth Session considered and noted a Note by the Director-General on this matter (EC-48/DG.14, dated 6 March 2007).
- 2.8 The Secretariat submitted to the Council at its Forty-Ninth Session the 2006 Verification Implementation Report (EC-49/HP/DG.1, dated 7 May 2007, and Corr.1, dated 22 June 2007). The Council considered it, as well as both the comments and views received on it (EC-49/HP/DG.2, dated 12 June 2007, and Add.1, dated 22 June 2007), and the Chairperson's summary of the consultations on it (EC-49/3, dated 18 June 2007), and decided to consider the issue further at its next regular Session.

Implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Technical Secretariat

- 2.9 The Council at its Forty-Eighth Session 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 2006 (EC-48/DG.5, dated 14 February 2007).

Progress made in the implementation of Article VII obligations

- 2.10 The Council at its Forty-Seventh Session took note of a report the Director-General had submitted to it on the status of implementation by States Parties of their Article VII obligations (EC-47/DG.7, dated 18 October 2006, and Add.1, dated 3 November 2006.)

- 2.11 The Council at the same Session considered and approved a decision containing, *inter alia*, a recommendation to the Conference on the matter (EC-47/DEC.15, dated 10 November 2006).
- 2.12 Further to a decision of the Conference at its Eleventh Session on sustaining follow-up to the plan of action regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations (C-11/DEC.4, dated 6 December 2006), the Council at its Forty-Eighth and Forty-Ninth Sessions noted reports by the Director-General on progress made in implementing that decision (EC-48/DG.10, dated 27 February 2007; and EC-49/DG.12, dated 7 June 2007).

Reports on the progress made in meeting the revised deadlines for the destruction of chemical weapons

- 2.13 The Conference at its Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth Sessions adopted decisions on the revised deadlines for the destruction of chemical weapons (C-8/DEC.13, C-8/DEC.14, and C-8/DEC.15, all dated 24 October 2003; C-9/DEC.7 and C-9/DEC.8, both dated 30 November 2004; and C-10/DEC.10, dated 10 November 2005) on the understanding, *inter alia*, that the States Parties concerned would keep the Council informed, at each alternate regular session and with supporting documentation, of the status of their plans to implement their destruction obligations, and that the Director-General would report periodically to the Council on the progress made by these States Parties in destroying their chemical weapons, in accordance with their obligation under the Convention.
- 2.14 The Council at its Forty-Eighth Session noted the progress made by those States Parties that had been granted extensions of deadlines for the destruction of their Category 1 chemical weapons (EC-48/DG.11/Rev.3, dated 14 March 2007). Each of these States Parties also reported to the Council at that Session on the progress it had made in meeting the revised deadlines in question. In addition, some of these States Parties reported to the Council during the Session itself, or submitted additional reports:
- (a) The United States of America, the Russian Federation, and India reported orally to the Council on the progress they had made in meeting these revised deadlines.
 - (b) The Russian Federation distributed a supporting document on the progress it had made in meeting the revised deadlines for the destruction of its chemical weapons (EC-48/NAT.4, dated 13 March 2007).
 - (c) The Council noted a national paper by India entitled “Status of Chemical Weapons Destruction and Destruction of Chemical Weapons Production Facilities” (EC-48/HP/NAT.1, dated 6 March 2007).
 - (d) The Council received information provided by Albania on the progress it had made in destroying its Category 1 and 2 chemical weapons stockpiles (EC-48/NAT.2, dated 8 February 2007; and EC-48/NAT.3, dated 13 March 2007).

- 2.15 The Council at its Forty-Ninth Session considered and noted a Note by the Director-General on modalities for implementation of the obligation of States Parties to report on their destruction activities during the extension period after 29 April 2007 (EC-49/DG.1, dated 8 March 2007).
- 2.16 At the same Session the Council also noted a report by the Director-General on the progress that had been made by Albania in destroying its Category 1 and 2 chemical weapons stockpiles (EC-49/DG.4, dated 24 April 2007), and also received information by Albania on this matter (EC-49/NAT.1, dated 2 May 2007; EC-49/NAT.2, dated 11 June 2007; and EC-49/NAT.4, dated 20 June 2007). It reiterated its concern at the further delays reported. It also noted that the completion of destruction of Albania's chemical weapons was imminent, and requested Albania, under the terms of Article VIII, paragraph 36, of the Convention, to take measures to redress the situation by meeting its obligation to complete destruction of its Category 1 and 2 chemical weapons without any further delay, and to keep it informed on an ongoing basis of its progress. It also requested the Secretariat to inform it promptly of the completion of destruction of Albania's chemical weapons stockpiles.
- 2.17 The Council at the same Session noted the contributions of international assistance to Albania's destruction programme, as well as the importance of planned, coordinated, targeted, and effectively utilised international assistance for the destruction by Albania of its chemical weapons in accordance with the Convention. It also emphasised the exceptional nature of this case, and stressed that it shall not set a precedent for the future, nor in any other way affect the legally binding obligations of the possessor States Parties to destroy their chemical weapons in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, and within the deadlines extended by the Conference at its Eleventh Session. It decided to remain seized of the matter and to consider it at its next regular Session.

Extension of deadlines for the destruction of chemical weapons stockpiles

- 2.18 The Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered a request by Albania for extensions of the intermediate deadlines for the destruction of its Category 1 chemical weapons stockpiles (EC-47/NAT.2, dated 23 October 2006), as an exception that shall not set a precedent, and approved a recommendation on this request for consideration by the Conference at its Eleventh Session (EC-47/DEC.3, dated 7 November 2006).
- 2.19 The Council at its Forty-Seventh Session and its Twenty-Sixth Meeting reaffirmed the understanding that nothing in the decisions of the Conference (C-8/DEC.13 and C-8/DEC.15) shall prejudice any of the obligations the States Parties in question have under the terms of the Convention, including, with respect to the 100% deadline, paragraphs 26, 27, and 28 of Part IV(A) of the Verification Annex to the Convention (hereinafter "the Verification Annex").
- 2.20 Further to its consideration of this issue at its Forty-Fifth, Forty-Sixth, and Forty-Seventh Sessions, and taking into account the decision by the Conference at its Eighth Session (C-8/DEC.15), the Council at its Twenty-Sixth Meeting considered a draft decision on a request by the United States of America for the establishment of a revised date for the final deadline for destroying all of its Category 1 chemical

weapons, and approved a recommendation on this request for consideration by the Conference at its Eleventh Session (EC-M-26/DEC.7, dated 8 December 2006).

- 2.21 Further to its consideration of this issue at its previous Sessions, and taking into account the decision by the Conference at its Eighth Session (C-8/DEC.13), the Council at its Twenty-Sixth Meeting considered a draft decision on a proposal by the Russian Federation on setting a specific date for completion of the destruction of its stockpiles of Category 1 chemical weapons, and approved a recommendation on this request for consideration by the Conference at its Eleventh Session (EC-M-26/DEC.6, dated 8 December 2006).

Visits by representatives of the Executive Council to chemical weapons destruction facilities

- 2.22 Further to its consideration of this issue at its Forty-Seventh Session, the Council at its Twenty-Sixth Meeting considered and adopted a decision on visits by representatives of the Council to chemical weapons destruction facilities (CWDFs) (EC-M-26/DEC.5, dated 8 December 2006).

Detailed plans for verification of the destruction of chemical weapons

- 2.23 Further to its consideration of this issue at previous Sessions, the Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered and approved the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of chemical weapons at a CWDF in India (EC-47/DEC.6, dated 8 November 2006).
- 2.24 The Council at the same Session also considered and approved amendments to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of chemical weapons at the Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility, Pine Bluff Arsenal, Arkansas, the United States of America (EC-47/DEC.1, dated 7 November 2006).

Conversion of chemical weapons production facilities

- 2.25 The Council at its Forty-Ninth Session noted a Note by the Secretariat on the progress made in converting former chemical weapons production facilities (CWPFs) for purposes not prohibited under the Convention (EC-49/R/S/1, dated 31 May 2007). It also considered a national paper by the Russian Federation entitled "Information on the Measures Being Undertaken to Complete Conversion of the Former Facility for Production of VX-Type Substance and Filling It into Munitions, located at OJSC 'Khimprom', Novocheboksarsk" (EC-49/NAT.3, dated 13 June 2007), and decided to consider it further at its next regular Session.

Detailed plans for the destruction or conversion of chemical weapons production facilities

- 2.26 The Council at its Forty-Eighth Session noted a Note by the Secretariat on corrections to the detailed plans for conversion for the CWPF (production of a VX-type substance and filling it into munitions), Open Joint Stock Company "Khimprom", Novocheboksarsk, the Russian Federation (EC-48/S/1, dated 2 January 2007), and approved said corrections.

- 2.27 The Council at its Forty-Eighth Session also noted a Note by the Secretariat on corrections to the detailed plan for conversion for the CWPF (soman production), Open Joint Stock Company “Khimprom”, Volgograd, the Russian Federation (EC-48/S/3, dated 15 February 2007), and approved said corrections. It also noted a notification by the Russian Federation of changes at the former facility for the production of mustard gas, Chapaevsk, the Russian Federation (EC-48/DG.2, dated 14 November 2006).
- 2.28 The Council at the same Session also noted the Note by the Secretariat on progress in converting a former CWPF for purposes not prohibited under the Convention (EC-48/R/S/1, dated 20 February 2007).

Combined plans for the destruction of chemical weapons production facilities and for the verification of that destruction

- 2.29 Further to its consideration of this issue at its Forty-Sixth Session, the Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered the combined plan for destruction and verification for the HD Production, Distillation, and Fill Facility, Aberdeen Proving Ground-Edgewood Area, Maryland, the United States of America (EC-46/DG.7*, dated 30 June 2006, and Corr.1, dated 6 July 2006), and approved the plan (EC-47/DEC.2, dated 7 November 2006).
- 2.30 The Council at its Forty-Eighth Session considered the combined plan for phase 3 of destruction and verification at the CWPF (lewisite production), Open Joint Stock Company “Kaprolaktam-Dzerzhinsk”, Dzerzhinsk, the Russian Federation (EC-48/DG.1, dated 14 November 2006), and approved a decision approving this plan (EC-48/DEC.1, dated 13 March 2007).

Extension of deadlines for the destruction of old chemical weapons

- 2.31 The Council at its Forty-Eighth Session considered a request by Italy for an extension of the deadlines for the destruction of its old chemical weapons (OCWs) (EC-48/NAT.1, dated 6 November 2006), and approved a decision on the request (EC-48/DEC.2, dated 13 March 2007).

Old chemical weapons: joint proposal by Austria and Germany

- 2.32 The Council at its Forty-Eighth Session took note of information that had been submitted by Austria and Germany regarding three OCWs that Austria had discovered on 28 October 2005 and 30 October 2006 and had declared as OCWs in accordance with Article III, subparagraph 1(b)(i), of the Convention, and with Part IV(B) of the Verification Annex, and also took note of the technical assessment by the Secretariat that the OCWs posed an imminent danger to the environment. It approved a proposal by these States Parties to transport these OCWs to a CWDF in Munster, Germany, in order to destroy them, on the understanding that:
- (a) nothing can alter the general obligation of each State Party as stipulated in Article I of the Convention never under any circumstances to transfer chemical weapons, directly or indirectly, to anyone, or the obligation of each

State Party that declares OCWs to destroy them under the terms of the Convention;

- (b) the OCWs discovered by Austria shall remain under the ownership and control of Austria during the process of destruction;
- (c) these OCWs shall be destroyed as soon as possible, but no later than the Forty-Ninth Session of the Council;
- (d) the Secretariat would continuously monitor the whole process and report to the Council at its Forty-Ninth Session on the destruction of these OCWs; and
- (e) this case shall not establish a precedent for any future cases.

2.33 The Council at its Forty-Ninth Session noted the Note by the Secretariat on the monitoring of the transport and destruction of these OCWs (EC-49/S/3, dated 16 May 2007).

Facility agreements

2.34 The Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered and approved a facility agreement with the United States of America regarding on-site inspections at the HD Production, Distillation, and Fill Facility (APG-HD), Aberdeen Proving Ground-Edgewood Area, Maryland (EC-47/DEC.5, dated 7 November 2006).

2.35 The Council at the same Session also considered and approved a facility agreement with the Republic of India regarding on-site inspections at a CWDF in that State Party (EC-47/DEC.7, dated 8 November 2006).

2.36 The Council at its Forty-Eighth Session noted a Note by the Director-General updating it on the progress that had been made with Schedule 2 facility agreements (EC-48/DG.6, dated 16 February 2007), and requested the Secretariat to submit an updated report for consideration at its Forty-Ninth Session. Because no new information had been provided by States Parties by the Forty-Ninth Session, the update will be submitted to the Council for consideration at its Fiftieth Session.

2.37 The Secretariat submitted to the Council at its Forty-Eighth Session a Note on amendments to the facility agreement with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland regarding on-site inspections at a single small-scale facility (EC-48/S/4, dated 15 February 2007, and Corr.1, dated 14 March 2007). A version of the facility agreement with amendments and modifications showing (in red-lining for ease of reference) was annexed to the Note. The amendments were submitted separately to the Council. Further to its consideration of this issue at its Forty-Eighth Session, the Council at its Forty-Ninth Session considered and approved the amendments (EC-49/DEC.6, dated 28 June 2007).

2.38 The Council at its Forty-Ninth Session considered and approved two facility arrangements with the Italian Republic, each regarding on-site inspections at a Schedule 2 plant site in that State Party: Archimica S.R.L., located in Isso

(EC-49/DEC.1, dated 27 June 2007), and Sandoz Industrial Products S.P.A., located in Rovereto Trento (EC-49/DEC.2, dated 27 June 2007).

- 2.39 At that Session the Council also considered and approved two facility arrangements with the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, each regarding on-site inspections at a Schedule 2 plant site in that State Party: Fluon Plant – AGC Chemicals Europe, Ltd, located in Thornton Cleveleys, Lancashire (EC-49/DEC.7, dated 28 June 2007), and Albemarle Chemicals (UK) Limited, located at Avonmouth Works, Avonmouth, Bristol (EC-49/DEC.8, dated 28 June 2007).

Amendments to facility agreements and agreed detailed plans for verification

- 2.40 The Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered and approved amendments to the facility agreement regarding on-site inspections at the Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility, Pine Bluff Arsenal, Arkansas, the United States of America, and to the agreed detailed plan for verification for that facility (EC-47/DEC.4, dated 7 November 2006).
- 2.41 The Council at its Twenty-Sixth Meeting considered and approved amendments to the facility agreement regarding on-site inspections at the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility, Oregon, the United States of America (EC-M-26/DEC.2, dated 4 December 2006), and to the agreed detailed plan for verification of the destruction of chemical weapons at that CWDF (EC-M-26/DEC.1, dated 4 December 2006).
- 2.42 The Council at its Forty-Ninth Session considered and noted modifications to a facility agreement with the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding on-site inspections at a Schedule 1 protective-purposes facility (EC-49/S/5, dated 11 June 2007).

Transfer of Schedule 3 chemicals to States not Party

- 2.43 Further to its consideration of this issue at its Forty-Sixth Session, the Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered and approved a decision on measures regarding the transfer of Schedule 3 chemicals to States not Party (EC-47/DEC.8, dated 8 November 2006).

OPCW Central Analytical Database

- 2.44 The Council at its Forty-Eighth and Forty-Ninth Sessions considered a Note by the Director-General on the lists of new validated data for approval by the Council for inclusion in the OPCW Central Analytical Database (OCAD) (EC-48/DG.3, dated 2 February 2007). At its Forty-Ninth Session it approved the list of mass-spectrometry (MS) data (EC-49/DEC.4, dated 27 June 2007), and decided to consider further at its next regular Session the list of approved MS data for analytical derivatives of scheduled chemicals, and the list of approved gas-chromatography (retention-index) data for analytical derivatives of scheduled chemicals (tables 2 and 3 in the Annex to EC-48/DG.3).
- 2.45 The Council at its Forty-Ninth Session considered another Note by the Director-General on lists of new validated data for approval by the Council for

inclusion in the OCAD (EC-49/DG.7, dated 7 May 2007), and decided to consider them further at its next regular Session.

Optimisation of verification activities

- 2.46 The Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered and noted a Note by the Secretariat on the optimisation and efficiency of verification activities (EC-47/S/3, dated 31 October 2006), along with a classified Note by the Secretariat on the same subject (EC-47/HP/S/2, dated 1 November 2006).

Readiness for a challenge inspection

- 2.47 The First Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the First Review Conference”) requested the Secretariat to “continue maintaining a high standard of readiness to conduct a challenge inspection in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, to keep the Council informed about its readiness, and to report any problems that might arise in relation to maintaining the necessary level of readiness to conduct a challenge inspection” (paragraph 7.91 of RC-1/5, dated 9 May 2003). It also requested the Council to continue deliberations on a number of issues related to challenge inspections that had yet to be resolved, in order to expeditiously resolve them. Accordingly, the Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered and noted a Note submitted to it at its Forty-Sixth Session by the Director-General on the readiness of the Secretariat from June 2005 to June 2006 to conduct a challenge inspection (EC-46/DG.6, dated 26 June 2006). At its Forty-Ninth Session it noted a Note by the Director-General on the Secretariat’s readiness from July 2006 to May 2007 (EC-49/DG.11, dated 1 June 2007).

Revisions to the specifications for items of approved inspection equipment

- 2.48 The Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered a Note by the Director-General on further revisions to the specifications for two items of approved inspection equipment (EC-47/DG.3, dated 6 September 2006), and approved the revisions proposed (EC-47/DEC.9, dated 8 November 2006).
- 2.49 The Council at its Forty-Eighth Session considered and approved a Note by the Secretariat on corrections to revised specifications for two items of approved equipment (EC-48/S/2, dated 6 February 2007).
- 2.50 The Council at its Forty-Ninth Session considered a Note by the Director-General on revisions to the specifications for three items of approved inspection equipment (EC-49/DG.2, dated 5 April 2007), and approved the revisions proposed (EC-49/DEC.3, dated 27 June 2007).

Status of implementation of Article X

- 2.51 Further to its consideration of this issue at its Forty-Eighth Session, the Council at its Forty-Ninth Session noted a report by the Director-General on the status of implementation of Article X of the Convention as at 31 December 2006

(EC-48/DG.13, dated 6 March 2007; Corr.1, dated 8 March 2007; and Add.1, dated 7 May 2007).

Status of implementation of Article XI

- 2.52 Further to its consideration of this issue at its Forty-Eighth Session, the Council at its Forty-Ninth Session considered a report by the Director-General on the status of implementation of Article XI of the Convention as at 31 December 2006 (EC-48/DG.12, dated 5 March 2007, and Corr.1, dated 8 March 2007), and decided to consider it further at its Fiftieth Session.

Administrative and financial matters

Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2007, and all items pertaining to it

- 2.53 Further to its consideration of this issue at its Forty-Sixth and Forty-Seventh Sessions, the Council at its Twenty-Sixth Meeting considered the Draft Programme and Budget for 2007, which the Director-General had submitted to it in accordance with Financial Regulation 3.4; it transmitted it, with amendments, to the Conference at its Eleventh Session, together with its recommendation (EC-M-26/DEC.4, dated 7 December 2006); and, having received at its Forty-Sixth Session the Draft Medium-Term Plan for the period from 2007 to 2009, it considered and noted it (EC-46/S/4 C-11/S/1, dated 3 July 2006).

Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2008, and all items pertaining to it

- 2.54 At its Forty-Ninth Session, the Council received the Draft Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2008 (EC-49/CRP.2, dated 25 June 2007), and decided to hold consultations on it with a view to considering it further at its Fiftieth Session and transmitting it, with any amendments it deems appropriate, to the Conference at its Twelfth Session. It also received the Draft Medium-Term Plan for the period from 2008 to 2010 (EC-49/S/6 C-12/S/1, dated 25 June 2007).

OPCW income and expenditure

- 2.55 The Council at its Forty-Seventh Session noted a report by the Director-General on OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 30 June 2006 (EC-47/DG.1, dated 31 July 2006), and on OPCW income and expenditure and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 30 September 2006 (EC-47/DG.8 C-11/DG.5, dated 26 October 2006).
- 2.56 The Council at its Forty-Eighth Session noted a report by the Director-General on OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 31 December 2006 (EC-48/DG.9, dated 23 February 2007).
- 2.57 The Council at its Forty-Ninth Session noted a report by the Director-General on OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 31 March 2007 (EC-49/DG.3, dated 23 April 2007, and Corr.1, dated 8 May 2007).

Mechanism for States Parties to regularise the payment of their dues to the OPCW

- 2.58 Bearing in mind Article VIII, paragraph 8, of the Convention, and the need to encourage States Parties, in particular those that are in arrears, to pay their financial contributions promptly and in full, the Conference at its Tenth Session requested the Council to study, as soon as possible, a mechanism that would offer States Parties the flexibility to regularise the payment of their dues to the OPCW, and to make a recommendation on this matter to the Conference at its Eleventh Session.
- 2.59 The Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered and approved a decision recommending, *inter alia*, that the Conference at its Eleventh Session approve the use of multi-year payment plans as a mechanism to encourage States Parties that are in arrears to regularise the payment of their outstanding advances to the Working Capital Fund or annual contributions, and to eliminate those arrears (EC-47/DEC.13, dated 8 November 2006).
- 2.60 At its Eleventh Session the Conference adopted a decision on a mechanism to encourage States Parties that are in arrears to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions (C-11/DEC.5, dated 7 December 2006). Pursuant to this decision, the Council at its Forty-Ninth Session considered a proposal from the Republic of Moldova for a multi-year payment plan to regularise the payment of its outstanding annual contributions (EC-49/DG.8, dated 7 May 2007), approved the proposal (EC-49/DEC.5, dated 27 June 2007), and encouraged other States Parties that are in arrears to follow suit by submitting proposals for multi-year payment plans to the Secretariat.

Transfer of funds between programmes

- 2.61 The Council at its Forty-Eighth Session noted a Note by the Director-General on a transfer of funds that was made in 2006 (EC-48/DG.7 C-12/DG.1, dated 16 February 2007).

Adjustment to the Director-General's gross salary

- 2.62 In accordance with a decision of the Conference at its First Special Session (C-SS-1/DEC.4, dated 25 July 2002) stipulating that the terms of appointment of the Director-General shall be subject to adjustments by the Council to keep them in line with those of other executive heads within the United Nations (UN) system, the Council at its Forty-Eighth Session adopted a decision adjusting the Director-General's gross salary (EC-48/DEC.3, dated 14 March 2007).

Implementation of the OPCW policy on tenure

- 2.63 The Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered a Note by the Director-General on the future implementation of the OPCW policy on tenure (EC-47/DG.2, dated 30 August 2006), and approved a recommendation on the matter for the consideration of the Conference at its Eleventh Session (EC-47/DEC.14, dated 8 November 2006).

- 2.64 The Council at its Forty-Ninth Session considered and noted a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the OPCW policy on tenure in 2006 (EC-49/DG.13, dated 11 June 2007).

Alignment of OPCW Staff Regulation 3.2(a) with the corresponding United Nations Staff Regulation

- 2.65 The Council at its Forty-Eighth and Forty-Ninth Sessions considered the proposed alignment of OPCW Staff Regulation 3.2(a) with the corresponding UN Staff Regulation (EC-48/DG.4, dated 14 February 2007, and Add.1, dated 16 May 2007), and decided at its Forty-Ninth Session to consider it further at its Fiftieth.

Establishment of an entitlement to paternity leave corresponding to that in the United Nations common system

- 2.66 The Council considered and noted a Note by the Director-General on the establishment of an entitlement to paternity leave corresponding to that in the UN common system (EC-49/DG.15, dated 18 June 2007).

Report of Security Audit Team IV

- 2.67 The Council noted a Note by the Director-General on a report by Security Audit Team IV (EC-47/DG.9, dated 27 October 2006).

Report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities

- 2.68 The Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered and approved its report on the performance of its activities in the period from 2 July 2005 to 7 July 2006 (EC-47/3 C-11/2, dated 8 November 2006), and submitted it to the Conference at its Eleventh Session.

Establishment of an OPCW Office in Africa

- 2.69 The Conference at its Tenth Session adopted a decision (C-10/DEC.13, dated 10 November 2005) recommending to the Council that it establish an *ad hoc* open-ended working group to examine the administrative, financial, and legal aspects of a proposal to establish an OPCW Office in Africa, and requested the Council to promote the process identified in paragraphs 2 and 3 of that decision with a view to forwarding a recommendation on the matter to the Conference at its Eleventh Session.
- 2.70 In accordance with a recommendation of the Council at its Twenty-Sixth Meeting, the Conference at its Eleventh Session adopted a decision on the establishment of an OPCW Office in Africa (C-11/DEC.10, dated 8 December 2006), in which it extended to its Twelfth Session the provisions of C-10/DEC.13 and requested the Secretariat to continue its efforts to assist the Council in implementing it. During the reporting period, the working group held consultations on the matter. At each of its Sessions during this same period, the Council considered this issue, and decided to consider it further at its next regular Session.

3. OTHER DECISIONS AND ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

Reports on the implementation of the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight

- 3.1 The Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered and noted a Note by the Director-General on the implementation in 2006 of the recommendations made in the 2005 annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight (OIO) (EC-47/DG.4, dated 26 September 2006).
- 3.2 The Council at its Forty-Eighth and Forty-Ninth Sessions considered a report by the Director-General on the implementation in the second half of 2006 of the recommendations of the OIO (EC-48/DG.8, dated 22 February 2007), and at its Forty-Ninth Session decided to consider it further at its Fiftieth.

Report of the External Auditor and the audited financial statements of the OPCW for 2006

- 3.3 The Council at its Forty-Ninth Session considered the financial statements of the OPCW for the year ending 31 December 2006, and the report of the External Auditor for the same period, and decided to consider them further at its next regular Session with a view to forwarding both, together with its comments, to the Conference at its Twelfth Session.

Implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor

- 3.4 The Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered and noted a report on the implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor in the first half of 2006 (EC-47/S/4, dated 31 October 2006).
- 3.5 The Council at its Forty-Eighth and Forty-Ninth Sessions considered a Note by the Secretariat on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the External Auditor (EC-48/S/5, dated 22 February 2007), and at its Forty-Ninth Session decided to consider it further at Fiftieth.

4. MATTERS REFERRED TO THE COUNCIL BY THE CONFERENCE AT ITS ELEVENTH SESSION

- 4.1 For ease of reference, this section presents material that also appears elsewhere in the present report.

Fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities

- 4.2 At its Tenth Session the Conference adopted a decision on the full implementation of Article XI (C-10/DEC.14, dated 11 November 2005) in which, *inter alia*, it requested the Council to keep the issue under consideration and to report on the full implementation of that Article to the Conference at each regular annual session. At its Forty-Fifth Session, the Council noted the report by the Director-General on the status of implementation of Article XI of the Convention as at 31 December 2005

(EC-45/DG.12, dated 11 May 2006). The report of the Director-General on the status of implementation of Article XI of the Convention in 2006 was submitted to the Council at its Forty-Eighth Session (EC-48/DG.12, dated 5 March 2007, and Corr.1).

- 4.3 The Conference at its Eleventh Session recommended that the Council enhance its deliberations on this agenda item and, as a matter of priority, appoint a facilitator to start informal consultations to explore all options and submit concrete measures for the full implementation of Article XI, and that it present a report to the Conference at its Twelfth Session.

Implementation of the Headquarters Agreement

- 4.4 Following a request by the Conference at its Tenth Session, the Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered and approved a recommendation that the Conference at its Eleventh Session establish a Committee on Relations with the Host Country (EC-47/DEC.10, dated 8 November 2006).

Composition of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

- 4.5 The Chairperson of the Council informed it at its Forty-Eighth Session of the composition of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, which followed the criteria set out in a decision on the matter by the Conference at its Eleventh Session (C-11/DEC.9, dated 7 December 2006). The Committee members are as follows:

- (a) the Chairperson of the Council;
- (b) two representatives of each regional group:
 - (i) Africa: Algeria and South Africa;
 - (ii) Asia: the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan;
 - (iii) Eastern Europe: Croatia and the Russian Federation;
 - (iv) Latin America and the Caribbean: Guatemala and Mexico; and
 - (v) Western Europe and Other States: Switzerland and the United States of America;
- (c) a representative of the Host Country: Ambassador Maarten Lak; and
- (d) the Director-General.

Establishment of an OPCW Office in Africa

- 4.6 The Conference at its Tenth Session adopted a decision (C-10/DEC.13) recommending to the Council that it establish an *ad hoc* open-ended working group to examine the administrative, financial, and legal aspects of a proposal to establish an OPCW Office in Africa, and requested the Council to promote the process identified

in paragraphs 2 and 3 of that decision with a view to forwarding a recommendation on the matter to the Conference at its Eleventh Session.

- 4.7 The Council at its Twenty-Sixth Meeting recommended that the Conference at its Eleventh Session:
- (a) extend to its Twelfth Session the provisions of C-10/DEC.13; and
 - (b) request the Secretariat to continue its efforts to assist the Council in implementing that decision.

5. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION OR ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE AT ITS TWELFTH SESSION¹

- 5.1 For ease of reference, this section presents material that also appears elsewhere in the present report.

Draft report of the OPCW for 2006

- 5.2 The Council at its Forty-Ninth Session considered the draft report of the OPCW for 2006 (EC-49/4 C-12/CRP.1, dated 27 June 2007), and referred it to the Conference for consideration at its Twelfth Session.

6. MATTERS UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE COUNCIL

- 6.1 The Council's Open-ended Working Group on Terrorism continued its work.
- 6.2 The Council's Working Group on the Preparation of the Second Review Conference, which is to be convened in accordance with Article VIII, paragraph 22, of the Convention, continued its work.
- 6.3 The following is a list of other matters that were under consideration by the Council at the end of the reporting period:

Chemical weapons issues

- (a) general and annual plans for the destruction of CWPFs and annual reports on destruction, and detailed and combined plans for the conversion of CWPFs;
- (b) the meaning of "primarily for the development of chemical weapons"; declaration criteria for former chemical weapons development facilities (facilities designed, constructed, or used since 1 January 1946 primarily for the development of chemical weapons);
- (c) old and abandoned chemical weapons (OACWs):
 - (i) guidelines for determining the usability of chemical weapons produced between 1925 and 1946;

¹ This section includes only those matters that were forwarded by the Council to the Conference within the period covered by this report: 8 July 2006 to 29 June 2007.

- (ii) destruction and verification requirements for OACWs;
- (iii) draft section E of the Declaration Handbook, “Old Chemical Weapons before 1925”;
- (iv) draft section G of the Declaration Handbook, “Abandoned Chemical Weapons”; and
- (v) the attribution of costs related to inspections of old chemical weapons;
- (d) general and annual plans for the destruction of chemical weapons, and annual reports on destruction;
- (e) reports on progress in meeting revised deadlines for the destruction of chemical weapons;
- (f) assistance and protection against chemical weapons;
- (g) deadlines for the submission of information on CWDFs;
- (h) guidelines for determining the frequency of systematic on-site inspections of chemical weapons storage facilities and CWPFs;
- (i) criteria for toxicity and corrosiveness, and, if applicable, other technical factors to be taken into account in regard to the conversion of CWPFs;
- (j) developments in relation to additional chemicals that may be relevant to the Convention, and the assessment, *inter alia*, of whether these compounds should be considered in the context of the schedules of chemicals;
- (k) optimisation of verification activities at chemical weapons stockpiles, as well as of their destruction and its effectiveness; and
- (l) the status of conversion of former CWPFs for purposes not prohibited under the Convention, and a concept for verification measures for such converted facilities;

Chemical industry and other Article VI issues

- (m) recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB);
- (n) industry issues:
 - (i) harmonisation of the reporting of aggregate national data on the production of Schedule 3 chemicals;
 - (ii) transfer discrepancies;
 - (iii) past Schedule 1 production above one metric tonne per annum for purposes not prohibited under the Convention;

- (iv) the implementation of Part IX, section B, of the Verification Annex, including the methodology for selecting other chemical production facilities;
 - (v) understandings on access to records during Schedule 2 and Schedule 3 inspections, and inspections of plant sites producing discrete organic chemicals containing phosphorus, sulfur, or fluorine;
 - (vi) assessment of the risk posed by Schedule 2 plant sites to the object and purpose of the Convention;
 - (vii) the frequency of inspections at Schedule 1 facilities and Schedule 2 plant sites;
 - (viii) verification at Schedule 1 facilities;
 - (ix) consideration of the need to establish other measures regarding transfers of Schedule 3 chemicals to States not Party under Part VIII, paragraph 27, of the Verification Annex;
 - (x) applicable concentration limits for mixtures of chemicals containing Schedule 2A and 2A* chemicals;
 - (xi) guidelines for the number, intensity, duration, timing, and mode of inspections of single small-scale Schedule 1 facilities;
 - (xii) guidelines for the number, intensity, duration, timing, and mode of inspections for other Schedule 1 facilities;
 - (xiii) consideration of whether to require submissions of information when plants or plant sites that have been declared as undertaking activities in relation to Schedule 2 or Schedule 3 cease to do so;
 - (xiv) consideration of a *de minimis* rule for the notification of transfers of Schedule 1 chemicals;
 - (xv) improvements in the submission and handling of industry declarations;
 - (xvi) refinements in the conduct of inspections to improve the consistency, effectiveness, and efficiency of industry inspections;
 - (xvii) a study of the need for a recommendation about the future treatment of salts of Schedule 1 chemicals that are not explicitly mentioned in Schedule 1; and
 - (xviii) late submission of declarations;
- (o) industrial-facility agreements;

Administrative and financial issues

- (p) confidentiality issues:
 - (i) possible national jurisdiction after national immunity is waived;
 - (ii) the application of national jurisdiction;
 - (iii) compensation for losses caused by breaches of confidentiality;
 - (iv) guidelines regarding the long-term handling of confidential information;
- (q) the Draft OPCW Programme and Budget for 2008;
- (r) the OPCW Interim Staff Rules and amendments to Staff Regulation 3.3;
- (s) classification of posts;
- (t) reports on the implementation of the recommendations of the OIO and of the External Auditor; and
- (u) amendments to the OPCW Policy on Confidentiality;

Legal, organisational, and other issues

- (v) the full implementation of Article XI of the Convention;
- (w) challenge inspections:
 - (i) further operational requirements for equipment in challenge inspections;
 - (ii) costs associated with the abuse of challenge inspections;
 - (iii) the timing of notifications in connection with challenge inspections;
 - (iv) lists of activities and elements of preliminary findings and final inspection reports; and
 - (v) consequences of abusing the right to a challenge inspection;
- (x) the indication of specific types of equipment for certain types of inspection;
- (y) sampling procedures;
- (z) requirements for reporting information to the Council on verification activities, including inspection results;
- (aa) the effectiveness of verification activities and their optimisation;

- (bb) agreements on privileges and immunities, and agreements with international organisations; a draft memorandum of understanding between the OPCW and the World Customs Organization;
- (cc) the report of the Council on the performance of its activities;
- (dd) verification-implementation reports;
- (ee) guidelines for on-site monitoring instruments;
- (ff) progress reports on the implementation of the plan of action regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations;
- (gg) guidelines on international-cooperation programmes, to be applied during the evaluation of reports by the Secretariat on existing programmes, as well as proposals for new cooperation programmes; and
- (hh) progress report on the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention.

7. REPORTS TO THE COUNCIL

Reports of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters

- 7.1 The Council at its Forty-Seventh Session considered and noted the report of the Twenty-First Session of the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters (ABAF), which took place from 11 to 13 September 2006 (ABAF-21/1, dated 13 September 2006).
- 7.2 The Council at its Forty-Ninth Session considered and noted the report of the Twenty-Second Session of the ABAF, which took place from 11 to 15 June 2007 (ABAF-22/1, dated 15 June 2007).

Appointments to the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters

- 7.3 The Council at its Forty-Seventh Session approved the appointment of Mr Vladimir Iossifov to the ABAF for another three-year term.
- 7.4 At its Forty-Eighth Session, the Council approved the appointment of Mr Takayuki Kitagawa to the ABAF to replace Ms Chiho Komuro, retroactive to the date of Mr Kitagawa's letter of nomination (4 December 2006); noted the resignation of Mr Jae-woong Lee; approved the appointment of Mr Dong-gy Lee, retroactive to the date of his letter of nomination (6 February 2007); noted the resignation of Mr Hadi Farajvand; approved the appointment of Mr Ali Reza Hajizadeh, retroactive to the date of his letter of nomination (2 March 2007); and noted the resignation of Ms Emily Spencer.
- 7.5 At its Forty-Ninth Session, the Council approved the appointment of Mr John Fox to the ABAF, retroactive to 7 May 2007, the date of his letter of nomination; noted the resignation of Mr Zhang Shen from the ABAF; and approved the appointment of Mr Gao Huijun, retroactive to 31 May 2007, the date of his letter of nomination.

Reports of the Scientific Advisory Board

- 7.6 The Council at its Forty-Ninth Session considered the reports of the Ninth and Tenth Sessions of the SAB (SAB-9/1, dated 14 February 2007; and SAB-10/1, dated 23 May 2007, and Corr.1, dated 22 June 2007). The Council also considered a Note by the Director-General on the reports of the two aforementioned Sessions of the SAB (EC-49/DG.16, dated 21 June 2007). It decided to consider all three documents at its Fiftieth Session.

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight for 2006

- 7.7 The Council at its Forty-Ninth Session considered the annual report of the OIO for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2006, as well as the accompanying Note by the Director-General (EC-49/DG.6, dated 4 May 2007), which had been submitted to it by the Director-General in accordance with Regulation 12.5 of the OPCW Financial Regulations. The Council decided to consider the report and the Note further at its Fiftieth Session with a view to transmitting it, together with its comments, to the Conference at its Twelfth Session.

Annex:

Actions Taken by the Conference of the States Parties at its Eleventh Session in Response to Recommendations Made by the Executive Council at its Forty-Seventh Session and its Twenty-Sixth Meeting

Annex

**ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES AT
ITS ELEVENTH SESSION IN RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS
MADE BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AT ITS FORTY-SEVENTH
SESSION AND ITS TWENTY-SIXTH MEETING**

Report of the Council on the performance of its activities

1. The Conference at its Eleventh Session noted the report of the Council on the performance of its activities in the period from 2 July 2005 to 7 July 2006 (EC-47/3 C-11/2, dated 8 November 2006), which the Council at its Forty-Seventh Session had submitted to it. The report was introduced by the Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Hlengiwe Buhle Mkhize of South Africa, who also introduced the recommendations that the Council had made after the cut-off date for the above report and that required the attention of the Conference.

Extension of deadlines for the destruction of Category 1 chemical weapons stockpiles

2. Based on a recommendation of the Council at its Forty-Seventh Session (EC-47/DEC.3, dated 7 November 2006), the Conference at its Eleventh Session considered and approved a decision granting to Albania, based on certain understandings, extensions of the phase 1, 2, and 3 intermediate deadlines by which it must destroy its Category 1 chemical weapons, and establishing new interim deadlines for the completion of the destruction by this State Party of those chemical weapons (C-11/DEC.19, dated 8 December 2006).

Recommendation to the Conference concerning follow-up to the plan of action regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations

3. The Conference at its Eighth Session approved a plan of action regarding the implementation of Article VII of the Convention (C-8/DEC.16, dated 24 October 2003); at its Ninth Session it approved a decision on further action under the plan (C-9/DEC.4, dated 30 November 2004); and, at its Tenth, it adopted a decision on follow-up to the plan (C-10/DEC.16, dated 11 November 2005), in which decision, *inter alia*, it requested the Secretariat to provide a comprehensive report on the status of implementation of Article VII to the Council, which the Council, along with its recommendations, would submit to the Conference for consideration at its Eleventh Session.
4. The Conference at its Eleventh Session took note of a report on the status of implementation of Article VII as at 1 November 2006 (C-11/DG.6, dated 23 November 2006), and, based on the recommendations of the Council at its Forty-Seventh Session (EC-47/DEC.15, dated 10 November 2006), considered and approved a decision on the matter (C-11/DEC.4, dated 6 December 2006).

Ensuring the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention

5. The Conference at its Eleventh Session noted the annual report by the Director-General on the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention from 11 November 2005 to 25 September 2006 (C-11/DG.4 dated 29 September 2006), and, in accordance with a recommendation of the Council at its Twenty-Sixth Meeting (EC-M-26/DEC.3, dated 4 December 2006), adopted a decision on the implementation of that plan (C-11/DEC.8, dated 7 December 2006).

OPCW Programme and Budget for 2007, and all items pertaining to it

6. In accordance with Article VIII, subparagraph 21(a), of the Convention, and with Financial Regulation 3.6(a), the Conference at its Eleventh Session considered and adopted the OPCW Programme and Budget for 2007, which the Council at its Twenty-Sixth Meeting had submitted to it (C-11/DEC.11, dated 8 December 2006).
7. The Conference at its Eleventh Session noted the Medium-Term Plan for 2007 to 2009 (EC-46/S/4 C-11/S/1, dated 3 July 2006), which the Council at its Forty-Sixth Session had forwarded to it.

Consideration of a mechanism for States Parties to regularise the payment of their dues to the OPCW

8. Bearing in mind Article VIII, paragraph 8, of the Convention, and the need to encourage States Parties, in particular those that are in arrears, to pay their financial contributions promptly and in full, the Conference at its Eleventh Session, based on a recommendation of the Council at its Forty-Seventh Session (EC-47/DEC.13, dated 8 November 2006), considered and approved a decision establishing a mechanism to encourage States Parties that are in arrears to regularise the payment of their outstanding contributions (C-11/DEC.5, dated 7 December 2006).

Future implementation of the OPCW policy on tenure

9. Based on a recommendation of the Council at its Forty-Seventh Session (EC-47/DEC.14, dated 8 November 2006), the Conference at its Eleventh Session decided to amend subparagraph 1(c) of C-SS-2/DEC.1, dated 30 April 2003, the decision it took on the tenure policy of the OPCW (C-11/DEC.7, dated 7 December 2006).

Establishment of a Host Country Committee

10. Based on a recommendation of the Council at its Forty-Seventh Session (EC-47/DEC.10, dated 8 November 2006), the Conference at its Eleventh Session adopted a decision (C-11/DEC.9, dated 7 December 2006), whereby, *inter alia*, it established a Committee on Relations with the Host Country, composed of the following members:
 - (a) the Chairperson of the Council;

- (b) two representatives of each regional group;
- (c) a representative of the Host Country, to be appointed by that State Party; and
- (d) the Director-General.

Establishment of an OPCW Office in Africa

11. At its Tenth Session the Conference adopted a decision (C-10/DEC.13) recommending to the Council that it establish an *ad hoc* open-ended working group to examine the administrative, financial, and legal aspects of a proposal to establish an OPCW Office in Africa, and requesting the Council to promote the process identified in paragraphs 2 and 3 of that decision with a view to forwarding a recommendation on the matter to the Conference at its Eleventh Session.
12. In accordance with a recommendation of the Council at its Twenty-Sixth Meeting, the Conference at its Eleventh Session considered and adopted a decision on the establishment of an OPCW Office in Africa (C-11/DEC.10).

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