



**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA¹
FOR THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION
OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES
26 – 30 NOVEMBER 2012**

This annotated provisional agenda has been prepared by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) to guide and assist Member States in their substantive preparations for the Seventeenth Session of the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”). It lists the items of business for the session in the sequence in which they appear in the provisional agenda set out for it (see paragraph 4 below) (C-17/1*, dated 11 July 2012).

1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session

The Conference at its Twelfth Session decided to hold its Seventeenth Session from 26 to 30 November 2012 (paragraph 22.2 of C-12/7, dated 9 November 2007). The Seventeenth Session will open on 26 November 2012 at 10:30 in the World Forum Theater in the World Forum Convention Center (WFCC). The Chairperson of the Conference for its Sixteenth Session, Ambassador Paul Arkwright of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, will open the Seventeenth Session.

2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Election of the Chairperson

Paragraph 15 of Article VIII of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) provides, inter alia, that the Conference shall elect its Chairperson at the beginning of each regular session, and that the Chairperson shall hold office until a new Chairperson is elected at the next regular session.

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

According to Rule 34 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the Conference shall elect 10 Vice-Chairpersons of the Conference, the Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole, and such other officers as it may decide to elect, having due regard to equitable geographical representation. Rule 35 states that such officers of the Conference shall hold office until their successors are elected at its next regular session.

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This document is issued for information purposes only and does not supersede in any way the provisional agenda for the Seventeenth Session of the Conference of the States Parties, or prejudice the outcome of its deliberations.



4. AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Adoption of the agenda

According to Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, any request for the inclusion in the agenda of supplementary items must be received not later than 30 days before the date set for the opening of any regular session. Because the Director-General had received no such request by 27 October 2012, the Conference is **requested**, subject to the recommendation of the General Committee, to approve the following agenda, which was circulated in C-17/1*.

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 2011

AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Annual report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities for the period from 16 July 2011 to 13 July 2012

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

AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2013, 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 2011

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 – Reports of subsidiary bodies

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-ONE – Any other business

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

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-THREE – Closure

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

The Conference is **requested** to consider such recommendations as the General Committee may make to it in accordance with Rule 43(b) of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, and to take such action as it deems appropriate.

6. AGENDA ITEM SIX – Appointment of the Credentials Committee

Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference provides that a Credentials Committee shall be appointed at the beginning of each session of the Conference; that it shall consist of 10 members, who shall be appointed by the Conference on the proposal of its Chairperson; that it shall elect its own officers; and that it shall examine the credentials of all representatives and report without delay to the Conference.

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

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

8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – General debate

Detailed information concerning statements in the general debate is contained in paragraph 8 of the information handbook on the Seventeenth Session of the Conference, which has been made available to all delegations. Delegations wishing to make a statement in a language other than the six official languages of the OPCW are required to provide their own interpretation into one of the official languages. To facilitate interpretation, at least 10 copies of each statement must be made available before it is delivered. Delegations wishing their statements to be made available to other delegations are requested to provide the Secretariat with at least 250 copies before the statement is delivered.

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 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 is **requested** to consider and note the report by the Director-General on the “Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 27 July 2012: Article VII(1)(a) to (c) and Other Obligations” (EC-70/DG.3 C-17/DG.6, dated 28 August 2012); the report by the Director-General on the “Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 27 July 2012: Further Obligations Pursuant to Article VII” (EC-70/DG.4 C-17/DG.7, dated 28 August 2012); and the Note by the Director-General on the “Overview of the Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 27 July 2012” (EC-70/DG.5 C-17/DG.8, dated 28 August 2012).

Subitem 9(b): Implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Technical Secretariat in 2011

9.2 The Conference is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Secretariat in 2011 (EC-67/DG.8 C-17/DG.1, dated 1 February 2012).

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

9.3 Pursuant to a decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (subparagraph 3(f) of C-16/DEC.11, dated 1 December 2011), the Conference is **requested** to undertake an annual review of the implementation of this decision at a specially designated meeting(s) of the Conference.

9.4 Pursuant to the provisions of the same subparagraph of the above-mentioned decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session, each possessor State concerned is to provide an annual report to the Conference, and provide an annual briefing at a closed meeting of the Conference, on the progress in the destruction of its remaining stockpiles of chemical weapons and identifying progress made since the last briefing in order to meet planned completion date. These reports, and briefings, are to also include:

- (a) Reporting on any specific measures undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes.
- (b) Information on the projected schedule for destruction activities to meet the planned completion date.

9.5 Further to the same decision by the Conference at its Sixteenth Session (subparagraph 3(g) of C-16/DEC.11), the Director-General is to provide an annual written report to the Conference on the overall destruction progress by the possessor States concerned that is based on the independent information that is received by the Secretariat

from the Organisation's inspectors undertaking verification in accordance with Part IV(A) D of the Verification Annex and that is to include information on:

- (a) The progress achieved to meet the planned completion date(s).
- (b) The effectiveness of any specific measures that have been undertaken to overcome problems in the destruction programmes.

Subitem 9(d): Chemical industry and other Article VI issues

- 9.6 Pursuant to a recommendation by the Executive Council (hereinafter "the Council") at its Sixty-Seventh Session (paragraph 4.4 of EC-67/3, dated 27 March 2012), the Conference is **requested** to consider the issue of salts of scheduled chemicals (subitem II.1(i) of EC-67/INF.1, dated 28 October 2011) closed and requiring no further action.
 - 9.7 Pursuant to a recommendation by the Council at its Seventieth Session (paragraph 4.2 of EC-70/5, dated 28 September 2012), the Conference is **requested** to consider the issue of "Understanding on access to records during Schedule 2, Schedule 3, and DOC/PSF plant-site inspections" (item II.3 of EC-70/INF.1, dated 30 July 2012) closed and not requiring any further action.
 - 9.8 Pursuant to a recommendation by the Council at its Seventieth Session (EC-70/DEC.4, dated 28 September 2012), the Conference is **requested** to adopt a decision on guidelines for the number, intensity, duration, timing and mode of inspections at Schedule 1 single small-scale facilities and at other Schedule 1 facilities (C-17/DEC/CRP.4, dated 31 October 2012).
- 10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – Annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2011**

The Conference is **requested** to consider and approve the draft report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2011 (EC-69/3 C-17/CRP.1, dated 11 July 2012), which was considered and forwarded to it by the Council at its Sixty-Ninth Session (paragraph 7 of EC-69/4, dated 13 July 2012).

11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Annual report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities in the period from 16 July 2011 to 13 July 2012

The Conference is **requested** to note the report of the Council on the performance of its activities in the period from 16 July 2011 to 13 July 2012, 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 Sixteenth Session in Response to Recommendations Made by the Executive Council in the Period Prior to That Session" (EC-70/4 C-17/2, dated 28 September 2012). The report will be introduced by the Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Bhaswati Mukherjee of India, who will also brief the Conference on any developments that have 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 the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the Conference is **requested** to elect 21 members to serve on the Council for a term of two years, starting on 12 May 2013. 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 to be as follows:

Africa:	five elective places
Asia:	five elective places
Eastern Europe:	two elective places
Latin America and the Caribbean:	four elective places
Western Europe and other States:	five elective places

13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2013, submitted by the Executive Council, and all items pertaining to this Budget

13.1 The Conference is **requested**, pursuant to Financial Regulation 3.6(a) and the recommendation of the Council at its Seventieth Session (EC-70/DEC.3, dated 28 September 2012), to consider and adopt a decision on the OPCW Draft Programme and Budget for 2013 based on recommendations forwarded to it by the Council at its Seventieth Session (C-17/DEC/CRP.2, dated 19 October 2012).

13.2 The Medium-Term Plan for the period from 2013 to 2015 (EC-70/S/1 C-17/S/1, dated 28 June 2012 and Corr.1, dated 19 July 2012) has been circulated to the Member States, along with the Draft Programme and Budget for 2013.

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

The Conference is **requested** to adopt a decision on the scale of assessments to be paid by States Parties for the financial year 2013 (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – External Auditor’s report on the audited financial statements of the OPCW for 2011

At its Seventieth Session, the Council considered and noted the financial statements of the OPCW and the report of the External Auditor for the year ending 31 December 2011 (EC-70/DG.1 C-17/DG.4, dated 10 July 2012 and Corr.1, dated 28 September 2012). In accordance with Regulation 13.10 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, the report is being forwarded to the Conference, which is **requested** to note it.

16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Administrative and financial matters

Subitem 16(a): OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 30 June 2012; and the cash situation and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 31 August 2012

- 16.1 The Council at its Seventieth 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 2012 (EC-70/DG.2 C-17/DG.5, dated 19 July 2012 and Corr.1, dated 7 September 2012). The Conference is **requested** to note this report.
- 16.2 The Conference at its Sixteenth Session adopted a decision on the Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2012, and requested the Director-General to report, through the Council, to the Conference at its Seventeenth Session on the details of transfers from, and the replenishment of, the Working Capital Fund in 2012 (subparagraph 3(n) of C-16/DEC.12, dated 2 December 2011). The Council at its Seventieth Session considered and forwarded to the Conference at its Seventeenth Session 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 2012 (EC-70/DG.11 C-17/DG.12, dated 12 September 2012). The Conference is **requested** to note this Note.

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 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.
- 16.4 The Conference is **requested** to consider and note the report that the Council at its Seventieth Session considered and forwarded to it pursuant to the above-mentioned decision (EC-70/DG.6 C-17/DG.9, dated 4 September 2012).

Subitem 16(c): Report of the Office of Internal Oversight for 2011

- 16.5 In accordance with Regulation 12.5 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, the Council at its Sixty-Ninth 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 2011, and the accompanying Note by the Director-General (EC-68/DG.1 C-17/DG.3, dated 20 March 2012). The Conference is **requested** to note this report.

Subitem 16(d): Transfers of funds between programmes in 2011

- 16.6 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 is **requested** to note the Note by the Director-General on this matter (EC-67/DG.12 C-17/DG.2, dated 10 February 2012).

Subitem 16(e): Amendments to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the OPCW

- 16.7 The Council at its Seventieth Session considered the Note by the Director-General on proposed amendments to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the OPCW (EC-70/DG.8 dated 12 September 2012) and recommended that the Conference at its Seventeenth Session approve the proposals contained therein (EC-70/DEC.1, dated 26 September 2012). The Conference is **requested** to adopt a draft decision containing the said proposals (C-17/DEC/CRP.3, dated 23 October 2012).

Subitem 16(f): Amendment to the OPCW Staff Regulations

- 16.8 The Council at its Seventieth Session considered the amendment to the OPCW Staff Regulations that had been submitted to it (EC-70/DG.7, dated 12 September 2012), adopted a decision on this matter (EC-70/DEC.2, dated 28 September 2012) and forwarded it to the Conference for consideration at its Seventeenth Session. Pursuant to Staff Regulation 12.1, the Conference is **requested** to adopt the proposed amendment (C-17/DEC/CRP.1, dated 17 October 2012).

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

- 17.1 At its Sixteenth Session, the Conference adopted a decision on the full implementation of Article XI of the Convention, in which it requested the Secretariat to report to each annual session of the Conference on the progress made in implementing this decision, and on the status of implementation of Article XI (subparagraph 4(a) of C-16/DEC.10, dated 1 December 2011).

- 17.2 The Conference is **requested** to note a report by the Director-General entitled “Progress Report on and the Status of Implementation of Article XI of the Chemical Weapons Convention for the Period 1 January to 15 August 2012” (EC-70/DG.10/Rev.1 C-17/DG.11/Rev.1, dated 26 September 2012).

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

- 18.1 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 the Director-General, inter alia, to submit to the Conference at its regular sessions an annual report on the implementation of the action plan, and to keep the Council regularly informed, so that the Conference and the Council may review progress and monitor its implementation effectively.

- 18.2 The Conference at its Sixteenth Session decided to continue with the action plan, and requested the Secretariat to continue to provide and keep current information on activities related to promoting the universality of the Convention and the progress being made thereon, including in an annual report to the Conference at its Seventeenth Session (paragraphs 5 and 6 of C-16/DEC.16, dated 2 December 2011).

- 18.3 The Conference is **requested** to note the annual report by the Director-General on the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention during the period from 16 September 2011 to 15 August 2012 (EC-70/DG.14 C-17/DG.13, dated 18 September 2012), and to take any further steps it might consider necessary.

19. AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN – The OPCW Programme for Africa

The Conference is **requested** to note a Note by the Director-General on the Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention (EC-70/DG.9 C-17/DG.10, dated 12 September 2012).

20. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY – Reports of subsidiary bodies

Committee of the Whole

- 20.1 The Committee of the Whole is expected to report on the results of its consideration of those agenda items that the Conference refers to it at the recommendation of the General Committee.

General Committee

- 20.2 The Conference is **requested** to note the reports that the General Committee will prepare in accordance with Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, and to take such action as it deems appropriate.

Confidentiality Commission

- 20.3 The Conference is **requested** to note the report of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Commission for the Settlement of Disputes Related to Confidentiality (hereinafter “the Confidentiality Commission”) (CC-14/1, dated 25 May 2012).
- 20.4 The Conference is **requested** to elect 20 members of the Confidentiality Commission for a term of two years. According to Rule 2(b) of the Operating Procedures of the Confidentiality Commission (C-III/DEC.10/Rev.1, dated 2 December 2004), the States Parties belonging to each of the five regions specified in paragraph 23 of Article VIII of the Convention shall select four candidates from among the persons nominated by the States Parties in their region, to serve in a personal capacity. The same Rule also states that the States Parties in each of the regional groups shall do their utmost, through a process of consultation, to reach consensus on their selection; that a list of 20 candidates reflecting the selection of the regional groups shall be submitted to the Conference; and that the decision on appointment shall be taken by the Conference as a matter of substance, in accordance with paragraph 18 of Article VIII of the Convention. Rule 3 of the aforementioned operating procedures stipulates that members shall take up their appointment for a period of two years starting from 1 January in the year immediately following the session of the Conference at which they were appointed, and that anyone who has completed three consecutive terms as a member of the Confidentiality Commission shall not be eligible for immediate reappointment.

Credentials Committee

- 20.5 The Conference is **requested** to consider and approve the report of the Credentials Committee on the credentials of Representatives to the Seventeenth Session of the Conference (this document will be assigned an official reference number when it is made available to delegations).

Committee on Relations with the Host Country

- 20.6 At its Eleventh Session, the Conference adopted a decision establishing a Committee on Relations with the Host Country (C-11/DEC.9, dated 7 December 2006). Pursuant to this decision, the Conference is **requested** to consider and note a report by the Committee on the performance of its activities, for the period from September 2011 to January 2012 (EC-67/HCC/1 C-17/HCC/1, dated 14 February 2012) and another report for the period from February to August 2012 (EC-70/HCC/1/Rev.1 C-17/HCC/2/Rev.1, dated 27 September 2012).

- 21. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-ONE – Any other business**
- 22. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-TWO – Adoption of the report of the Conference of the States Parties**
- 23. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-THREE – Closure**