



OPCW

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NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**ADDENDUM TO THE
ANNUAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE ACTION PLAN FOR THE UNIVERSALITY
OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
DURING THE PERIOD FROM 3 SEPTEMBER 2007 TO 25 SEPTEMBER 2008**

1. This addendum is meant to provide an update to the Note by the Director-General containing the annual report on the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) (EC-54/DG.13 C-13/DG.5, dated 29 September 2008).
2. The Director-General delivered his annual address to the United Nations (UN) General Assembly’s First Committee, as well as his biennial address to the UN General Assembly on the theme of the “Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons”. On both occasions, the Director-General drew the attention of the Member States of the UN to the priority that OPCW Member States attach to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention, and urged States that had not yet done so, to join the Convention at the earliest.
3. In the margins of those meetings, the Director-General also met with representatives of States not Party. In particular, the Director-General met with the Permanent Representatives of Egypt, Iraq, and Somalia to the UN, with the Acting Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the UN, and with a representative from the Israeli Permanent Representation in Geneva. This provided the Director-General with the opportunity to continue his dialogue and interaction with those States not Party in the context of promoting their early ratification of, or accession to, the Convention.

Developments in Africa

4. The Ambassador of Angola in Brussels attended the Eighth Induction Workshop for Diplomatic Personnel held at OPCW Headquarters on 30 and 31 October 2008.



Developments in Asia

5. The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) sponsored two representatives from Myanmar to attend the subregional training course for customs authorities in Southeast Asia on technical aspects of the transfers regime, held in Malacca, Malaysia, from 6 to 9 October 2008.

Developments in the Mediterranean Basin and the Middle East

6. In response to the letters addressed by the Director-General to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Egypt, and of Israel, both countries have indicated their agreement to receive good-will missions by a team from the Secretariat to their respective capitals on dates to be agreed upon. Israel also registered to participate, as an observer delegation, in the Thirteenth Session of the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”), to be held in The Hague, the Netherlands, from 2 to 5 December 2008.
7. The Iraqi law on accession to the Convention was published on the Official Gazette of Iraq on 29 September 2008. The Secretariat was further informed that the instrument of accession had been signed and was in the process of being deposited with the Secretary-General of the UN.
8. At the same time, it is the Secretariat’s understanding that the President of Lebanon has signed the instrument of accession, and that the instrument is expected to be deposited with the UN Secretary-General shortly.
9. A representative from the Embassy of Lebanon to the Netherlands attended the Eighth Induction Workshop for Diplomatic Personnel held at the OPCW Headquarters on 30 and 31 October. Representatives of the Lebanese Embassy in the Netherlands will also attend the Tenth Annual Meeting of National Authorities, to be held in The Hague, from 28 to 30 November 2008, together with a representative of the Lebanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who will receive sponsorship by the Secretariat. Lebanon has also registered to participate as an observer in the Thirteenth Session of the Conference.

Developments in the Caribbean

10. During his meeting with the Acting Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the UN on 4 November 2008, the Director-General was informed that that State’s Chamber of Deputies had approved the bill on ratification of the Convention.
11. The Government of the Bahamas invited the Deputy Director-General for a high-level visit to Nassau on 11 December 2008. This is expected to be followed by a consultation meeting relating to the ratification and implementation of the Convention among national stakeholders, in which representatives of the Secretariat will provide their expert input.