

Symposium on

MEDICAL TREATMENT OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS VICTIMS, CHALLENGES AND HOPES

Programme

28-29 June 2018

OPCW



OPCW

Organisation for
the Prohibition of
Chemical Weapons

Provisional programme

Thursday 28 June

09:00 – 09:30	Registration: Reception desk
09:30 – 09:45	Opening Session
09:30 – 09:40	Opening remarks by H.E. Mr Ahmet Üzümcü, Director General of the OPCW
09:40 – 10:10	An eye witness account: Mrs Fara Shafee, Victim of Chemical Warfare, Sardasht
10:10 – 10:30	<i>Film Screen : Ich Liebe Dich (I love you) by: Mr Eric Vander Borgh, Filmmaker</i> From the OPCW's Fires documentary project
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee/Tea Break</i>
10:45 – 11:00	Update on the activities under the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons: Shawn DeCaluwe, Head of Assistance and Protection Branch,
11:00 – 12:30	Session 1: Overview and Epidemiology
11:00- 12:30	Chairperson: Dr Bob Mathews <i>Speakers:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Dr Bob Mathews, Australia:</i> Overview of the CW casualties caused by different classes of Chemical Warfare Agents, the role of the OPCW 'Practical Guide' to medical practitioners, and possible next steps- <i>Dr Leo Van Bergen, Netherlands:</i> Questions and problems concerning longitudinal medical research. A medical historian's point of view- <i>Dr Azad Mustafa, Iraq:</i> Health status of chemical warfare victims in Iraqi Kurdistan- <i>Dr Batool Mousavi, Iran:</i> Human cost of chemical warfare during 1980's- <i>Prof. Levent kenar, Turkey:</i> a medical overview on recent CW events in Syria Iraq-Turkey triangle, lessons learned
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break

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13:45 – 15:30

Session 2: Clinical Aspects

13:45- 15:30

Chairperson: Prof. Balali-Mood

Speakers:

- *Dr Zhang Xigang, China* : China 's Practice & Experience in Medical Treatment of JACW Victims
- *Prof. Mostafa Ghanei, Iran*: Mustard Lung; clinical description, diagnosis, treatment
- *Dr Joane Meran Talbani, UK*: Long-term health effects of CWs on children of Iraqi Kurdistan following a single heavy exposure
- *Prof Balali Mood, Iran*: Three decades of research on long term health effects of sulphur mustard poisoning in Iranian veterans
- *Dr Paul Rice, UK*: Mustard Burns - Pathophysiology & New Approaches to Treatment
- *Dr Sermet Sezigen, Turkey*: Bone marrow depression and further complications in victims of latest Sulfur Mustard attacks

15:30 – 15:45

Coffee/Tea Break

15:45 – 17:15

Session 3: Cellular and Molecular aspects

15:45 – 17:15

Chairperson: Prof Peter Blain

Speakers:

- *Dr Kai Kehe, Germany*: Long-Term Effects of Sulfur Mustard , Molecular Mechanisms
- *Dr Paul Jowsey, UK*: DNA Damage Responses in Cells Exposed to Sulphur Mustard
- *Prof Franz Worek, Germany*: Medical management of nerve agent poisoning: Challenges and impact on outcome
- *Prof. Kouki Inai, Japan*: Late effects of mustard-gas (MG) exposure , experience of Okunojima in Japan
- *Prof.Slavica Vucinic, Serbia*: Medical management of acute and delayed OP-NA poisoning, report of the OPCW Scientific Advisory Board working group
- *Prof. Peter Blain, UK*: Jitter (SFEMG) changes following OP exposure

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Friday 29 June

09:00 – 10:15

Session 4: Psychosocial aspects

09:00 – 10:15

Chairperson: Prof Alastair Hay

Speakers:

- *Mr Zimnako Ali, Halabja, Iraq:* Zimnako's story, how my life was affected by chemical weapons
- *Dr Batool Mousavi, Iran:* psychosocial health and well-being of chemical warfare survivors
- *Prof Alastair Hay, UK:* Psychosocial effects of chemical weapons: why are adult males the only apparent victims?
- *Dr Azad Mustafa, Iraq:* Psychosocial support for CW victims in Halabja

10:15-11:30

Session 5: Role of International Organizations and NGOs

10:15 – 11:30

Chairperson: Dr Paul F. Walker

Speakers:

- *Dr Sabri Gmach, WHO:* "WHO and the Interface between Public Health and Security"
- *Dr Johnny Nehme, ICRC:* "CW victims pre-clinical management, reality check! Mossul case study", International Committee of the Red Cross, Head of CBRN Sector
- *Mrs Kathryn Millett, Biosecure:* Victim assistance: lessons and approaches from humanitarian disarmament regimes on understanding needs and building capacities to assist chemical weapons victims
- *Mr Salah Ahmad, Jiyan Foundation:* Non-governmental Services for Survivors of Chemical Weapons in Halabja and Kurdistan-Iraq: Offering Specialized Mental Health and Medical Support
- *Dr. Paul Walker, Green Cross International and CWC Coalition:* The Role of the CWC Coalition -- Giving Voice to Civil Society and Chemical Weapons Victims.

11:30 – 11:45

Coffee/Tea Break

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11:45 – 12:30	Concluding session: The way ahead & Recommendations / Adoption of the Symposium Declaration <i>Chairperson: Mr Shawn DeCaluwe, Head of Assistance and protection Branch, OPCW</i>
12:30 – 13:00	Closing session Remarks by Mr Hamza Khelif, Director of International Cooperation and Assistance Division , OPCW
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>

End of the Symposium

Speakers & Panellists

Mrs Fara Shafee



Mrs Shafee is a Chemical Laboratory Technologist and holds a Bachelor of Applied Petroleum Engineer. She is currently working at the Medical Laboratory Technology at Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT) in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Fara was born and lived in the Kurdish town of Sardasht until 1990. Sardasht is located in western Iran near border with Iraq, population was about 20,000. She Left Iran in 1990. She immigrated to Canada in Oct 26, 1992. Fara was 4 months shy of her 23rd birthday on the day of Sardasht Chemical bombing – 28 June 1987 and her son was 21 months old. During Iran-Iraq war, like majority of people, Fara along with her husband Jafar and their son Ramiar spent many years escaping to small towns where it seemed safer. On June 20th 1987 they returned to Sardasht after Jafar's father convinced them over the phone that Sardasht was now safe. Jafar and Fara cleaned up their apartment of debris and settled in. June 28, 1987: around 3:30pm, Fara's older sister Farideh came over with her 3 daughters Shabnam (not yet 6), Shahla (3 1/2) and Naheed (about 15 months) for a visit after years of separation. Shortly after, Fara saw Iraqi's airplane through the window bombing a house right across the street. "They're bombing," Fara screamed, and everyone ran downstairs to the basement which was already full of people.

Mr Shawn DeCaluwe

Shawn DeCaluwe has served as the Head of the Assistance and Protection Branch of the OPCW since August 2013. The Branch is responsible for the implementation of Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention, related to the coordination and delivery of assistance to States Parties and the provision of expert advice on means of protection. He joined the OPCW following a 27-year military career with the Canadian Forces, where he served as a combat arms officer in the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps and, subsequently, as a legal advisor with the Office of the Judge Advocate General. He received a Baccalaureate with Honours from the Collège militaire royal du Canada and was conferred the degree of Juris Doctor with distinction from the University of Western Ontario.



Dr Robert (Bob) Mathews



Robert (Bob) Mathews is an honorary Associate Professor at the University of Melbourne Law School, and until recently was Head of the NBC Arms Control Unit at the Australian Defence Science and Technology Group.

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Robert spent his early years at DSTO undertaking scientific research in the detection and analysis of chemical warfare agents, including 6 years of international collaboration with UK, USA and Canada on the development of the Chemical Agent Monitor (CAM). He served as Scientific Adviser to the Australian Delegation to the UN Conference on Disarmament in the negotiation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) in Geneva from 1984, and since 1993 has provided scientific support to the Australian delegation to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), based in The Hague. He also served on the OPCW Scientific Advisory Board from 2005 until 2011.

Robert has also provided support to Australia's efforts towards non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including the efforts to strengthen the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC). In 2014, he received the OPCW–The Hague award for his efforts towards the achievement of a world free of chemical weapons.

Dr Leo van Bergen



Dr Leo van Bergen (1959) is a Dutch medical historian mainly concerned in tropical medicine and the relationship between war and medicine. He for instance wrote a medical history of the First World War (*Before my Helpless Sight*) including ample attention to chemical warfare. He is now working at a history of Dutch military medicine from Napoleon up until the war of decolonisation. Van Bergen is also editor of the peer-reviewed magazine *Medicine, Conflict and Survival*.

Dr Azad Mustafa Qadir

Dr Azad Mustafa Qadir is a medical doctor and a trained psychologist. He has worked in those fields for more than ten years. He is a human rights activist with a work background in NGOs. Dr Qadir obtained a certificate to work as a child and youth psychologist by the Hamburg University. He is the local director of Jiyan Foundation for Human Rights in Halabja, which is dedicated to the rehabilitation of the chemical attack victims. Recently, he has been appointed as the General Director of Health\Halabja.



Dr Batool Mousavi

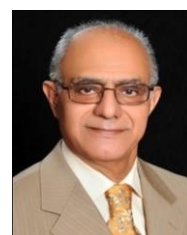
Dr Batool Mousavi is a specialist in community and preventive medicine. Since 2004, she serves as the Head of Prevention Department in Janbazan Medical and

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Engineering Research Centre (JMERC), Iran. Since 2006, she is member of the Iranian National Peace Organization. Dr Mousavi's experience includes primary care and medical services; acute and chronic health problems in veterans and survivors of the Iran-Iraq war, especially chemical warfare victims; investigation of patients with severe/non-severe conditions; diagnosing illnesses and injuries; maintaining patient records; assessment of the health difficulties (especially psychosocial wellbeing and quality of life), needs and expectations of the population suffer from war trauma including; and war related injuries and ex-prisoners. She was awarded in 2016 for the research done in the field of chemical warfare survivor's health and quality of life. Recently, she works for the development of M-health (mobile health) tools to better provide health services for war survivors. Dr Batool Mousavi is author/editor of 114 articles, 3 books/chapters and 2 journals.

Prof Mahdi Balali-Mood

Professor Mahdi Balali-Mood (MD, PhD, FTWAS) obtained BSc. (1st class Hon.) in chemistry in 1963 and MD in 1970 from Tehran University, PhD in Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology from Edinburgh University in 1981, then working as a lecturer there until winter 1982, when he returned to Mashhad, Iran, promoted to Professor of Clinical Toxicology at Mashhad University Medical Sciences in 1988.



Prof Balali-Mood has served as a Clinical Toxicology Adviser to WHO and IPCS since 1989. He was a founding member and President of Iranian Society of Toxicology (1970-2001) and also co-founder and President of Asia-Pacific Association of Medical Toxicology (1994-2001). Mahdi was elected as a permanent fellow of The World Academy of Sciences in 1997. He has collaborated with OPCW since 2004, serving as the Vice-Chairman of Scientific Advisory Board (2005-2013) and leader of editorial board members of the OPCW book on Practical guidelines for medical treatment of CWA (2015-2016). Mahdi was awarded 16 prizes, including the National Medical Research Gold Medal, Highest Honorary Medal of Prof Yalda International foundation of Medical Sciences in 2011 and the 2015 OPCW The Hague Award. He is author/editor of 484 articles/abstract, 39 books/chapters and 3 journals and honored as the father of toxicology of Iran in 2016.

Prof Zhang Xigang

Professor Xigang is the Chief Physician at the 307th Hospital of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, Pekin, China. He has worked on emergency medicine nearly 30 years after graduated from The Second Military University in 1989, Shanghai city. He has been appointed director of emergency department in PLA 307th hospital in Beijing for 12 years. His areas of expertise include chemical



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poisoning including pesticides poisoning (organophosphorus insecticide, paraquat, etc.), industrial poisoning (poisonous gas, alcohol preparation, metal and submetallic, etc.), noxious plants poisoning (poisonous mushroom, etc.) and drug intoxication. He repeatedly took part in medical security for JACW storage inspections and destruction and excavation site inspection as medical director, and instructed the wounded treatment in JACW casualties.



Prof Mostafa Ghanei

Dr Ghanei is a professor of pulmonary medicine at the Division of Respiratory Diseases, Department of Medicine, Baqiyatallah University, Tehran, Iran, since 2003. He serves as the Vice Chancellor in Research at Baqiyatallah University of Medical Sciences since 1999. Since 2011, serves as the General Director of Pasteur institute of Iran. Earlier in his career, Prof Ghanei has served as an assistant at the Research and Technology of Ministry of Health, Iran. Professor Ghanei's activities include research projects and publications on long-term respiratory illnesses among Sulphur mustard exposed survivors of Iran-Iraq war.

Dr Joanne Meran Talabani

Dr Joanne Meran Talabani is a Consultant Paediatrician & Neonatologist based at the University hospitals of Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust in UK. Dr Meran Talabani graduated from Baghdad University Medical School in 1975. She moved to Europe in 1976 and obtained postgraduate qualifications of CES de Pediatrie et Peuriculture in France in 1983 prior to moving to the UK and obtaining the MRCP Paediatrics in 1986. She trained for 6 years in Paris in St Vincent-de-Paul, Necker Enfants Malades and Institute of Neonatology of Paris before moving to the UK and completing her registrar/senior registrar training at Hammersmith and Kings College hospitals in London. Subsequently, she became a consultant in Paediatrics and Neonatology in North Middlesex/St Mary's hospitals in London in 1986. She joined her current post, as a consultant Paediatrician/Lead Neonatologist in 1995. She has a Masters in Medical education and has numerous publications including her most recent on "Long Term Health Effects of Chemical Warfare Agents in children following a single heavy exposure" published in the journal of Human and Experimental Toxicology in October 2017. Dr Meran Talabani chairs a UK based charity looking after the welfare of children and single mothers. She is also a trustee in two other charities in UK, including child advocacy international and Swinfen Charitable trust for telemedicine, chaired by Lord and Lady Swinfen and HRH the princess Royal is its patron. She took unpaid leave in 2014/2015 to do voluntary work in different refugee and IDP camps in the



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Kurdistan region of Iraq. Dr Meran Talabani received Post-Graduate award in clinical Leadership (UK) and three clinical excellent awards since 2006.

Dr Paul Rice



Dr Paul Rice (OBE BM FRCPATH FRCP FRSB) is currently Chief Medical Officer at the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl), Ministry of Defence (MoD), United Kingdom. Dr Paul Rice graduated in medicine from Southampton University Medical School in June 1982. He then trained to Consultant level in histopathology and toxicology, gaining Membership of the Royal College of Pathologists in 1993. Since then he has been made a Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists in 2003, was made a special Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in 2007 and appointed as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology in 2010. Today as Chief Medical Officer at Dstl Porton Down, he provides UK MoD with a focus for advice on matters of medicine and clinical toxicology, including the preparation of answers to Parliamentary Questions, drafting briefing notes for Ministers, and interacting with the media on a range of topics including chemical and biological defence, the ethics of human experimentation and the use of animals in research. He has in the past presented expert testimony on the toxicological and medical consequences of the use of tear gases to the US Congress and continues to provide scientific and medical advice to the UK Home Office and Department of Health on matters of chemical & biological defence and CB counter-terrorism.

Dr Levent Kenar

Professor Kenar is currently the Head of Medical CBRN Defense under University of Health Science, Department of Medical CBRN Defense, Ankara, Turkey. Prior to this appointment, he served as the Head of Department of Medical CBRN Defense under GMMA Institute of Health Science in Ankara, from 2008 until August 2016. During his studies, Professor Kenar specialized in



Clinical Biochemistry and he obtained his Doctoral in Medical Aspect of Nuclear, Biological and Chemical. His fields of expertise include clinical laboratory of CBRN causalities; chemical and biological injuries; chemical and biological emergencies; emergency medical response for disasters and CBRN incidents; clinical research on CBRN causalities; protection and security of chemo-bio materials; clinical biochemistry; and management of a medical department. Professor Kenar had participated in various trainings, workshops and other activities under different bodies regarding CBRN causalities and response.

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Dr Sermet Sezigen



Dr Sermet Sezigen is a lecturer on bone marrow depression and further complications in victims of latest sulfur mustard attacks at the University of Health Sciences, Department Of Medical CBRN Defense, Ankara, Turkey. Dr Sezigen served as a flight physician in the Turkish Air Force at the beginning of his military career. He received his PhD from Gulhane Military Medical Academy (GATA) in medical CBRN defense in 2009. He worked 4 years as the senior medical CBRN defense project officer in TUAF. He was working as a postdoctoral fellow at Bundeswehr Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology between 2011 and 2012. He was working between 2014 and 2016 as medical CBRN specialist at GATA Dept. of Medical CBRN Defense. He has been working as Assistant Professor at University of Health Sciences, Dept. of Medical CBRN Defense, Ankara, Turkey since 2016. His main interest concerns bioanalysis of nerve and blister agents. Besides lectures, his current role includes medical CBRN training of civilian/military health professionals, tactical medical CBRN training of first responders. As the co-editor of Turkish version of “OPCW Practical Guide for Medical Management of Chemical Warfare Casualties”, he has trained, supported, and coordinated health professionals for the medical management of Syrian chemical casualties since 2013. He collaborated in training courses which were organized by the OPCW’s Assistance and Protection Branch. Dr Sezigen has also advised numerous government agencies and programs on the medical management of chemical casualties.

Prof Peter Blain

Professor Peter Blain is a physician working in emergency response medicine.

He has been Director of Newcastle University's Medical Toxicology Centre since 2006 and a Consultant in Emergency Response Medicine to the Health Protection Agency/Public Health England and Department of Health and Social Care since 2003. He is a Clinical Consultant to the Ministry of Defence and involved in



defence medical sciences research, operational military medicine and CBRN medical countermeasures. He is also operational medical advisor to a military Medical Support Unit, including the provision of clinical care for CBRN casualties. His research interests are primarily in clinical toxicology and the translation of mechanistic toxicology research to clinical practice and population health protection. He has held major research funding (over £11M since 2006) for projects in neurotoxicology, exposure biomarkers, skin permeability and decontamination, CBRN medical countermeasures and emergency response medical interventions. Professor Blain is also the Director of the NIHR Health Protection Research Unit in Chemical and Radiation Threats and Hazards and a

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co-investigator with the Emergency Preparedness and Response HPRU at Kings College. He is a senior SME in CBRN medicine and sciences to the UK Government.

Prof Franz Worek

Prof Franz Worek is the Deputy Head of the Bundeswehr Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology. Dr Worek is a member of the Bundeswehr Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology since 1989. He studied medicine at University of Regensburg and Technical University Munich. He obtained his Master from the Technical University Munich, and his PhD in Pharmacology and Toxicology from the University Munich. His research area includes medical countermeasures against chemical warfare agents.

Dr Kai Kehe



Dr Kai Kehe is Head of the Medical CBRN Defense Branch, Bundeswehr Medical Academy, Munich, Germany. His area of expertise is Toxicology of Chemical Warfare agents.

Prof Kouki Inai

Emeritus Professor, Hiroshima University, Japan. Prof Kouki Inai is the current Director of Hiroshima Diagnostic Pathology Centre and the President of Institute of Support Centre of Remote Medicine. Areas of expertise: pathology; and medicine.



Prof Alastair Hay



Alastair Hay is Professor (Emeritus) of Environmental Toxicology at the University of Leeds, UK. Alastair has a BSc in Chemistry and PhD in Biochemistry from London University and for most of his research career has worked on biological markers of exposure to chemicals. From 1989 to 2014 Alastair advised the UK Government and latterly the EU on limits for exposure to chemicals in the workplace. Alastair has also had a 40 year involvement with chemical weapons issues. He has conducted 6 investigations of allegations of use of chemical weapons in several countries. More recently Alastair, working with Kurdish colleagues, has investigated long term health effects of

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chemical weapons in a population who were children when exposed. With a particular interest in education Alastair has worked for many years with the UK Royal Society, US National Academy of Sciences, and Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to develop teaching material on chemical and biological weapons. In 2015 Alastair received the OPCW / The Hague award for services to preventing chemical weapons use. Alastair currently helps train academics and students using innovative and engaging approaches to promote the responsible conduct of science.

Mr Zmnako Ahmed

Zmnako Mohammad Ahmed is the birth name given to a baby born in Halabja just three months before the deadly attack of March 16 1988. Two days after the attack he was evacuated to the city of Mashhad, Iran. He was placed in an orphanage and taken care of by a nurse whose name was Kubra Hamidpoor, and she adopted the little child and named him Ali. His adopted mother told him where he came from and while he loved her with all of his heart, he always wondered what happened to his birth parents and members of his extended family in Halabja. On January 7 2005, when Ali was 17 years old, his (adopted) mother died. In 2009, Ali returned to Iraq. During the chemical attack against Halabja, sixty families lost their children. A DNA test was taken to determine exactly who he was. The day arrived and the result was returned. The name of his birth mother, Fatima Hama-Saleh, was read out. His real name was Zmnako. Zmnako now lives with his family in Sulaymaniyah. He is graduated from the American University of Iraq and is working at Ericsson Telecommunication Company as an Integration Engineer.



Dr Paul F. Walker



Dr Paul F. Walker is the International Director of Environmental Security and Sustainability (ESS) for Green Cross International (GCI) and manages its Washington DC office. GCI is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, with national affiliates in over 30 countries. Walker has worked with GCI for over twenty years now. (www.gcint.org) He is a former Professional Staff Member of the Armed Services Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives. Walker holds a Ph.D. in international security studies from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; an M.A. from Johns Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies; a Russian Honors Certificate from the Defense Language Institute of the West Coast; and a Post-Doctoral Fellowship from the Centre for Science and International Affairs at Harvard University. He is also a Vietnam-era U.S. Army veteran. Walker was awarded the Right Livelihood Award, commonly known as the Alternative Nobel Prize, in 2013 “for working tirelessly to rid the world of chemical weapons.” He helped establish the CWC Coalition in 2009 to

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facilitate civil society involvement in the CWC. Walker has worked, spoken, and published widely in the area of international security for over four decades. He has worked closely with the OPCW, US and Russian officials, the US Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR) Program, the G-8 Global Partnership, and other multilateral regimes to help foster cooperative, timely, and safe elimination of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons and related systems.

Dr Sabri Gmach

Medical officer at World Health Organization; Specialization: epidemiology and public health.

Dr Johnny Nehme

Johnny Nehmé graduated with a PhD in biomedical science in 2005 from the University of Paris, and worked for several years at the French atomic energy commission studying the effects of ionizing radiation on the hematopoietic stem cells. After working as scientific researcher for seven years, he joined the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) where he is assigned as the Head of the Chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) sector. He supported the ICRC in developing an operational response to CBRN events, based on a risk management approach, and he is currently coordinating a team of more than 20 experts based all-round the planet performing hazard identification, and risk assessments allowing the ICRC to propose and design preventive measures and response activities.



Mrs Kathryn Millett

Kathryn Millett is the Director of Biosecure Ltd, a private company dedicated to safeguarding the bioeconomy and helping ensure there are resilient, safe and secure environments, frameworks and processes conducive to taking full advantage of biology as a manufacturing technology. Kathryn develops and conducts bespoke biosecurity training for students and professionals in the life sciences and is engaged in a number of international projects and processes relating to education and training in the CBRN field. Trained in law and science policy, Kathryn has over fifteen years of experience in civil society engagement in international disarmament policy processes ranging from biological and chemical security to landmines and cluster munitions. She has been instrumental in forging collaboration across humanitarian disarmament spheres and is active in civil society engagement on issues relating to the Biological and Chemical Weapons Conventions. Kathryn was formerly the Director of the Bio Weapons Prevention Project (BWPP) and is a designated mentor under the Global Health Security Agenda Next Generation network. Kathryn has edited the Mine Action Monitor,

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Cluster Munitions Monitor and the Bioweapons Monitor and reports on CBW issues for Reaching Critical Will's First Committee Monitor.

Mr Salah Ahmad



Salah Ahmad is the founder and president of the Jiyana Foundation for Human Rights, the only institution offering comprehensive medical, psychotherapeutic and social assistance to survivors of human rights violations in Iraq. Mr. Ahmad is a child and youth psychotherapist and systemic family therapist trained in Germany. Throughout his career, he has treated hundreds of traumatized refugees from numerous countries at the Berlin Centre for Torture Victims, Germany.

Having experienced flight and exile himself, Mr. Ahmad has shown lifelong commitment to human rights, the cause of disadvantaged groups, the prevention of violence and victims' improved access to mental health care in Iraq. Consequently, Mr. Ahmad decided to return to his hometown Kirkuk after the fall of the Ba'ath regime, where he established the first treatment centre for survivors of torture in Iraq in 2005. During the following decade, he used his experience and expertise to advance the idea of psychotherapy and trauma care in his home country, to establish a unique network of rehabilitation centres in North Iraq, and to train hundreds of local staff for the benefit of thousands of survivors of human rights abuses. Mr. Ahmad regularly commutes between Germany and Iraq and now holds an exceptional position in the Kurdish region as the success and respected work of the Jiyana Foundation allow him to push for policy changes that in return impact our clients' lives. To honor his tireless work and accomplishments in Iraq, Mr. Ahmad was awarded the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany in February 2015.

Dr Paul Andrew Jowsey

My scientific career has focused on the molecular characterisation of the cellular response to DNA damage using a range of modern cell/molecular biological techniques. Studies have included the identification and functional analysis of novel DNA damage response proteins, protein modifications and protein complexes, as well as investigations into the mechanism of action of genotoxic chemicals (e.g.



sulphur mustard) and ionising radiation. Studies have been published in peer-reviewed journals, documented in detailed reports to government agencies, and findings presented at multiple national and international conferences. I have managed/led projects funded by numerous agencies including the Department of Health, Home Office, NIHR and Health Protection Agency and have strong

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collaborative links with scientists from Newcastle University, Dundee University, Public Health England and the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory.

Dr Thomas Zilker



Professor Thomas is emeritus Head of the Department of Clinical Toxicology at the second Medical Clinic of the University of the Technical University Munich (TUM). He studied medicine at the LMU in Munich. He got his approbation as a medical doctor in 1972. He acquired a doctor's degree for a thesis in endocrinology. Between 1972 and 1978 he specialized in Internal Medicine at the second Medical Clinic of the TU Munich. He gained his post-doctoral lecturer qualification in diabetes research. From 1981 till 1993 he worked as assistant medical director and from 1993 to 2012 as director of the department for Clinical Toxicology and Poison Control Centre at the Technical University Munich (TUM). He received a degree in Endocrinology in 1983, a degree in Environmental Medicine in 1993 and a degree in Psychotherapy in 2003. He was appointed to Professor of Internal Medicine in 1987. From 1991 till 1999 he served as vice-president of the EAPCCT and from 1993-1999 as president of the German Cooperation of Poison Control centres. From 1991-2012 he was member of the editorial board of ClinTox and Notarzt. 2007 he was awarded with the Louis Roche Lecture a honorary lecture of the EAPCCT. He is the author of a book for Intensive Care in Clinical Toxicology and the author of chapters in 20 medical text books. He published 120 articles listed in PubMed thereunder "Medical management of incidents with chemical warfare agents" and 244 abstracts in EAPCCT congresses. He was involved in the treatment of Iranian soldiers wounded by mustard gas in 1984/1985 and the treatment of German victims of the Dubrovka Theater siege in Moskau.

Mr L.C. Kang



Mr L.C. Kang is the Director of Medical Emergency Operation Centre, Armed Forces Medical Command, of the Republic of Korea. Mr Kang has served as the Director of SAVE centre /Armed Forces Medical School (AFMS) from 2015 until Dec 2016. From March 2011 until March 2015, Mr Kang followed a resident course at Seoul National University Hospital (SNUH) Emergency Department. From March 2010, he followed a one year internship at the Armed Forces Capital Hospital (AFCH). Before his medical studies at Seoul National University Medical School, Mr Kang attended the Korea Military Academy (March 2000 – February 2004), he was Leader of the 28th Infantry Division and he served at the Special Forces command from June 2005 until November 2005.

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Dr Kai Xiao

Dr Kai Xiao graduated from The Second Military Medical University, Shanghai, China in 1994. He obtained his PhD from Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica, Chinese Academy of Sciences. He previously visited Duke University Medical Centre as a visiting scholar in the field of toxicology. He is currently working for The Second Military Medical University as a Professor and acting as Director of the Department of Toxicology & Pharmacology of the University. Dr Xiao's research interests focus on toxicological mechanism of chemical warfare agents and biotoxins and antidotes development for chemical warfare agents. He is principal investigators of 12 research projects. He is author or co-author of 4 books and more than 50 journal articles and book chapters. Recently, he found that hydrogen sulfide plays a neglected role in sulfur mustard poisoning. Dr Xiao has participated in "OPCW Advanced Course on Assistance and Protection" training course as instructors or medical instructors since 2014.



Dr Mohammadreza Soroush

Dr. Mohammadreza Soroush finished his studies in the field of medicine in Shahid Behesti medical science university, Tehran in 1995. Since 2000, he is the head of Janbazan Medical and Engineering Research Centre (JMERC) which is the research body of national Foundation for Veterans and Martyrs Affairs in Iran. Previously, he has worked as Deputy Head of Health and Treatment Department, director general of Medical Health Centres for War Victims and director general of Treatment and Rehabilitation of the Foundation. Dr. Soroush has contributed to several projects related to Iranian veterans, specifically survivors of chemical weapons. He has been project manager in research project such as " *Outcomes Following Mustard Gas Exposure -Among The Residents of Sardasht* " and " *Long Term Health Effects Of Mustard Gas On Children*" and has contributed to many more including " *Late Toxic Effects Of Sulfur Mustard On Skin*", " *Carcinogenesis Of Sulfur Mustard*", " *Long Term Psychosocial Effects Of Chemical Warfare Agents*" and " *Cancer Related Mortality Follow-Up Of Iranian Veterans With Wartime Exposure To Mustard Gas*". He is also the co-founder and board president of Tehran Peace Museum, a NGO which works on raising awareness about chemical warfare and peace education with a focus on direct involvement of chemical weapons survivors in its activities.



Speakers & Panellists

Prof Slavica Vucinic MD PhD



Prof. Slavica Vucinic MD PhD, European Registered Toxicologist, is full professor of pharmacology and toxicology at the Medical Faculty University of Defense, and Medical Faculty University of Belgrade, Serbia. She has an active research and teaching programme with a focus on medical management of acute poisonings, CWA, new psychoactive substances and pesticides. She has several projects with collaboration in Europe. She is author/co-author of over 240 papers and numerous book chapters, and she frequently presents her research and keynote lectures at international conferences. She is a specialist of internal medicine and subspecialist of clinical toxicology, with clinical experience of 30 years. She obtained her master's degree in clinical toxicology and her PhD in pharmacology and toxicology from the Military Medical Academy in Belgrade. Since 2006 she has worked as the Head of the Intensive care Unit of the Clinic of Toxicology, and from 2008-2010 as the Head of the Clinic of Toxicology NPCC. She has served as the Head of the National Poison Control Centre in Serbia since 2010. Prof Vucinic is also member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Organization for prohibition of chemical weapons (OPCW), Hague, Netherlands (2009-2015).



OPCW

منظمة حظر الأسلحة الكيميائية

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Organisation pour l'Interdiction des Armes Chimiques

Организация по запрещению химического оружия

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