



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF  
PURE AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY

Advancing Chemistry Worldwide

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Moscow, 23 November 2016

H.E. Mr. Ahmet Üzümcü  
Director-General  
Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons  
Johan de Wittlaan 32  
2517 JR - The Hague  
The Netherlands

Dear Mr. Üzümcü:

As President of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, I am writing to express the concerns of IUPAC regarding recent reports of use of chemicals, particularly chlorine, as weapons in Syria and other locations.

The mission of the OPCW is to implement the provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention to achieve the OPCW's vision of a world that is free of chemical weapons and of the threat of their use.

IUPAC partners with the OPCW on important initiatives including conferences on the impact of scientific developments on the Chemical Weapons Convention and on education and outreach regarding the CWC and the dual uses of chemicals. IUPAC's core values include upholding the highest standards of transparent, responsible and ethical behavior.

Therefore, IUPAC encourages and supports the OPCW's efforts to investigate and report these allegations, and IUPAC offers its assistance in any way appropriate.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Natalia Tarasova  
President, International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry

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