

## OPCW

Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

## Scientific Advisory Board Recommendations to the Fourth Review Conference

Presented to Industry Cluster The Hague, 9 July 2018

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## **Science and Technology in the Convention**

### **The Conference of States Parties Shall:**

"Review scientific and technological developments that could affect the operation of this Convention and, in this context, direct the Director General to establish a Scientific Advisory Board to enable him, in the performance of his functions, to render specialized advice in areas of science and technology relevant to this Convention, to the Conference, the Executive Council or States Parties."

- Article VIII, Section B, paragraph 21(h)



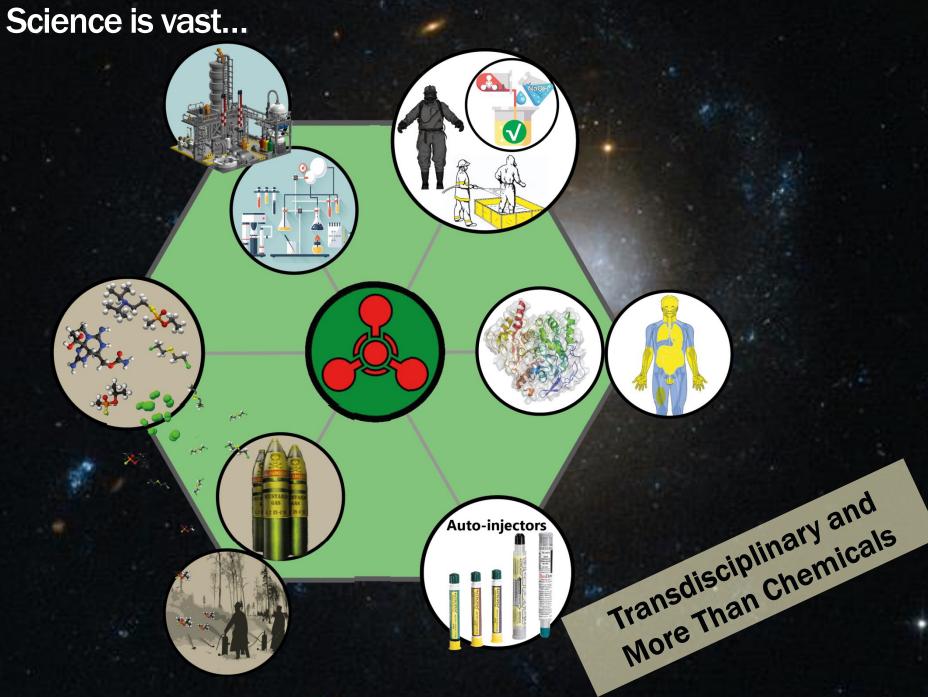
OPCW

CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, STOCKPILING AND USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS



## Science is vast...



# We Cannot Afford to be Afraid...

Recognize "Change" While It Is Happening.

"In undertaking its verification activities the Organization shall consider measures to make use of advances in science and technology"

CWC Article VIII, paragraph 6



aniz<mark>ation shall</mark> science and

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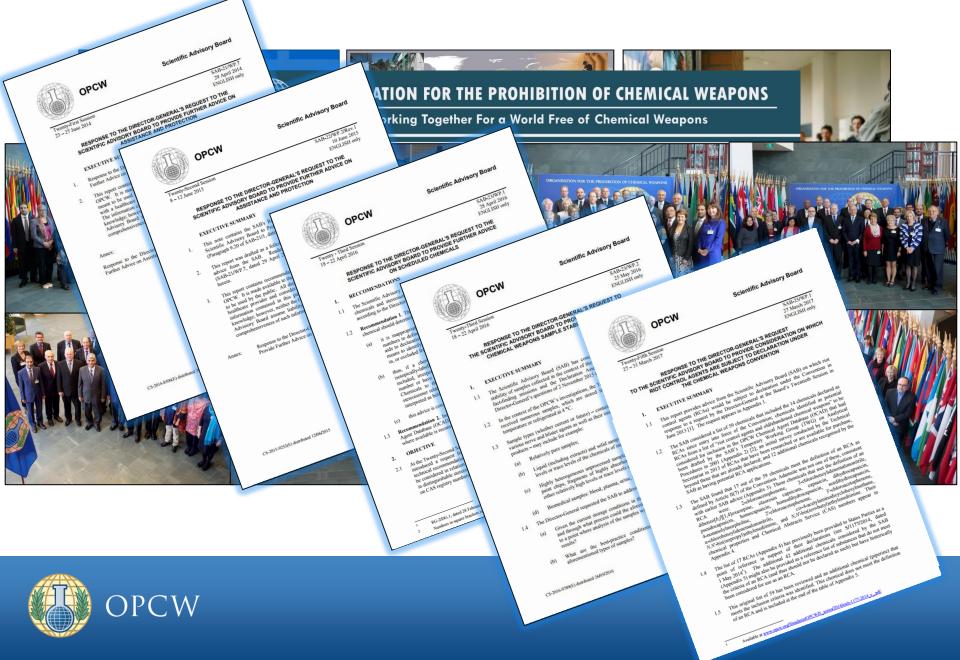
"In undertakin consider mea technology"

**CWC Article VI** 















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**Review Conference** 

Fourth Session 21 – 30 November 2018

OPCW

RC-4/DG.1 30 April 2018 Original: ENGLISH

#### REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD ON DEVELOPMENTS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR THE FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES TO REVIEW THE OPERATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

#### Introduction

- The Scientific Adviso accordance with subpa Weapons Convention Conference of the Sta Council (hereinafter technology relevant to contribution to the Foo Review the Operation Review the Operation Review Conference") prepared this report, w over the past five year considers to be impor future implementation
- This report contains a that may impact the in Secretariat (hereinafte and technology that detailed recommendati
- This is the fourth rep science and technolog presented to the First Review the Operation Review Conference") Parties to Review the "the Second Review Operation of the Second

 RC-1/DG.2, dated 23 Apri RC-2/DG.1, dated 28 Febr

CS-2018-0977(E) distributed 30/04



Scientific Advisory Board's Recommendations to the Fourth Review Conference of the Chemical Weapons Convention



A quick reference guide to the executive summary recommendations of the OPCW Scientific Advisory Board's report on developments in science and technology to the Fource Review Conference (RC-4/DG.1, dated 30 April 2018).





**Review Conference** 

Fourth Session

19 - 30 November 2018

RC-4/DG.2 1 June 2018 Original: ENGLISH

#### NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

RESPONSE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO THE REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD ON DEVELOPMENTS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR THE FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES TO REVIEW THE OPERATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

#### INTRODUCTION

1. Following the practice adopted by the First, Second, and Third Special Sessions of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter "the First Review Conference", "the Second Review Conference", and "the Third Review Conference"), the Director-General has asked the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) to prepare a report on developments in science and technology that States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter "the Convention") may wish to take into account in their review of the operation of the Convention, as provided for in paragraph 22 of Article VIII. That report has been published as RC-4/DG.1 (dated 30 April 2018) and is now available to States Parties.

2. The Director-General encourages States Parties to familiarise themselves with the

executive summ Parties in their changes that mig the Director-Ger

The Director-Ge and thoughtful of Session of the Chemical Weap Director-Genera deliberations th disciplinary bou

3.

RC-1/DG.2, dated 5 March 2008; and A quick reference available at: <u>www.opcw.org/file</u> web.pdf.

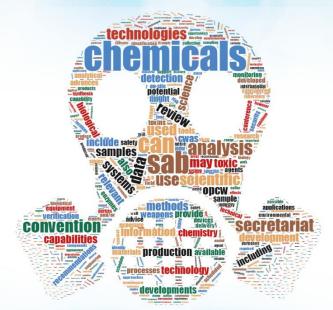
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## **Advice to the Fourth Review Conference**

Scientific Advisory Board's Recommendations to the Fourth Review Conference of the Chemical Weapons Convention



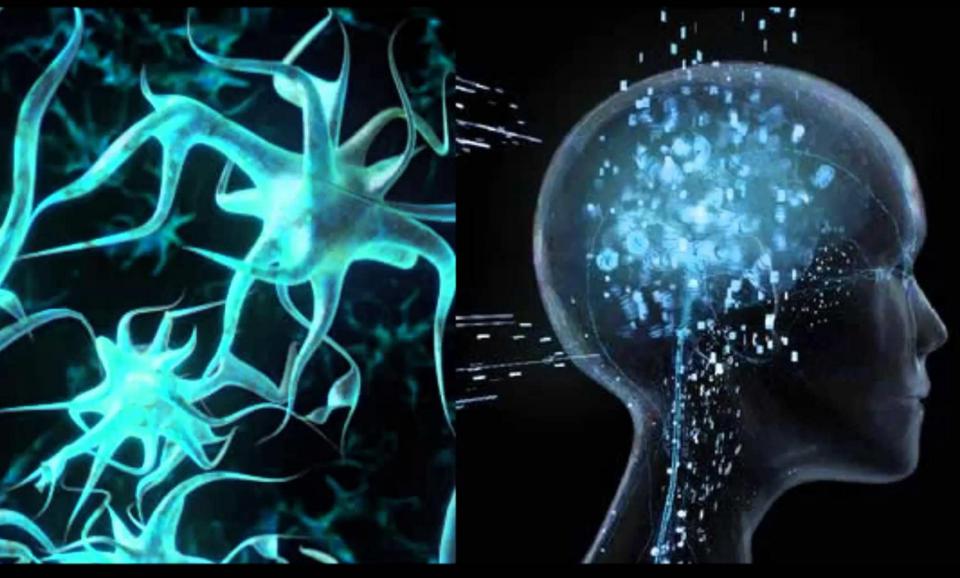
A quick reference guide to the executive summary recommendations of the OPCW Scientific Advisory Board's report on developments in science and technology to the Fource Review Conference (RC-4/DG.1, dated 30 April 2018).



- Advances in Science and Technology
- Chemicals
- Chemical Production and Discovery
- Delivery of Toxic Chemicals and Drugs
- Verification
- Assistance and Protection
- Chemical Security
- Scientific Literacy and Science Advice



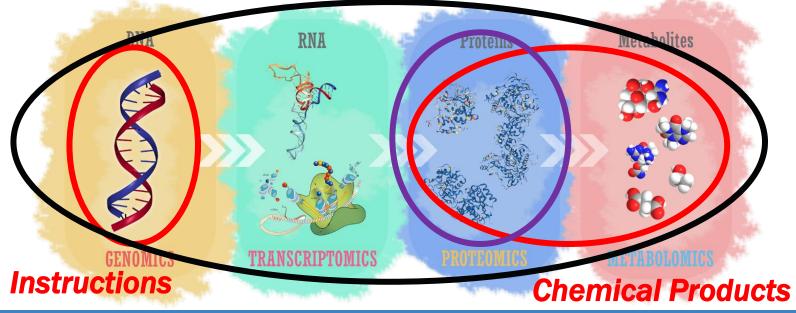
## Advances in Science and Technology (RC-4/DG.1, paragraphs 16-23)



## **Convergence of Chemistry and Biology**

Given the potential impact on the Convention of the convergence of chemistry and biology, the SAB and Secretariat should keep under review developments in *biotechnologies*, as well as any other related aspects it deems relevant to the Convention, and report on their implications for the Convention.

"Molecular Devices" (for example: decontaminants)





## "Biology" and the Convention

### **Engagement with experts from Biological Weapons Convention**

- Share experience support science assessment common needs and concerns
- Biological and/or biomediated processes do not currently appear likely to suitable for production of traditional chemical warfare agents
  - The field is continually changing, advances should be monitored
- "...any process designed for the formation of a chemical substance should be covered by the term "produced by synthesis"
  - Degree of relevance of facilities to the object and purpose of the **Convention?** Advice on chemical production and

these could be considered collectively

verification encompass further views Declarations? OCPFs?, thresholds? Exemptions? relevant to biomediated processes,



## "Convergence" and the Convention

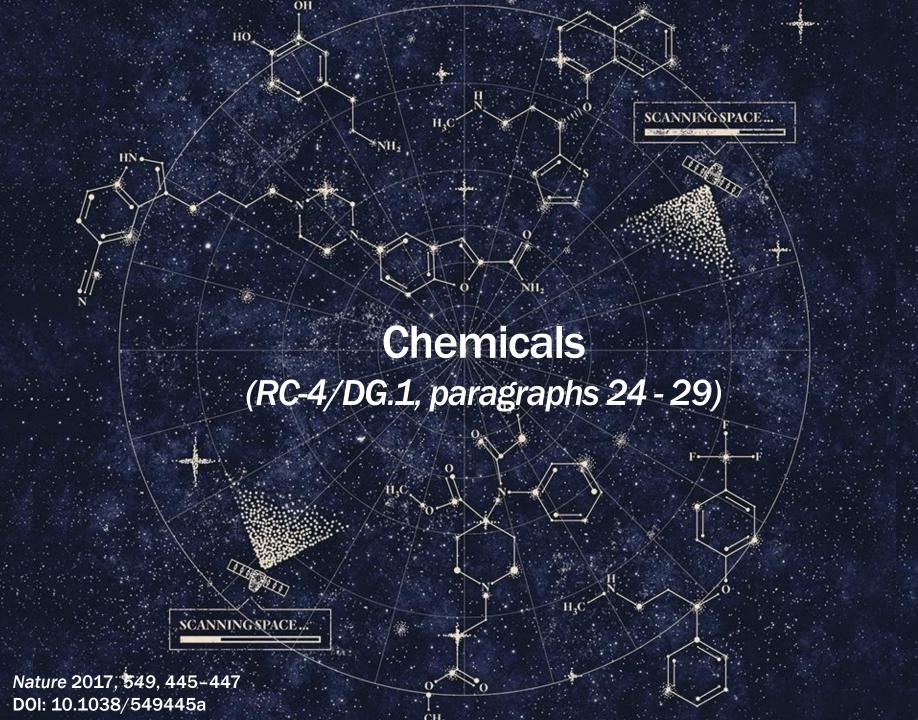
- "...technological change is best considered from a practical perspective, focusing on capabilities relevant to the Convention, irrespective of scientific discipline"
  - Consider opportunities from new technologies and technological capabilities that can benefit the Secretariat and assist States Parties in improving their own capabilities.
  - Technical fields of increasing relevance to the Convention:
    - computational chemistry, Big Data, informatics and artificial intelligence, forensic science, remote sensing, and unmanned automated systems.
- Adopt a systematic approach to continued professional development of Secretariat technical experts to ensure that they possess the knowledge and expertise to identify, evaluate, and apply relevant scientific and technological advances



## From Director-General's Response (RC-4/DG.2) Advances in Science and Technology

In regard to assisting States Parties in improving their own scientific and technological capabilities, as well as in the sharing of scientific knowledge, the Director-General encourages States Parties to carefully assess their own unique needs and expertise. Understanding these needs allows identification of relevant scientific communities in which discussion could be initiated. The Secretariat could then draw upon the SAB's scientific review and its own engagement with scientific communities to facilitate useful connections. RC-4/DG.2, paragraph 9





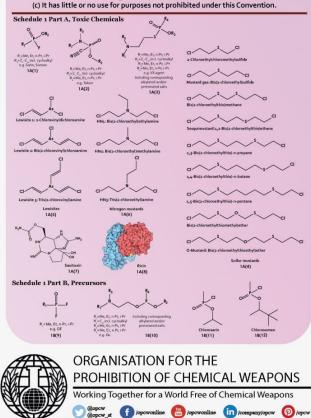
#### Guidelines for Schedule 1

The following criteria shall be taken into account in considering whether a toxic chemical or precursor should be included in Schedule 1:

(a) It has been developed, produced, stockpiled or used as a chemical weapon as defined in Article II;

Schedule 1

- (b) It poses otherwise a high risk to the object and purpose of this Convention by virtue of its high potential for use in activities prohibited under this Convention because one or more of the following conditions are met:
  - It possesses a chemical structure closely related to that of other toxic chemicals listed in Schedule 1, and has, or can be expected to have, comparableproperties;
  - It possesses such lethal or incapacitating toxicity as well as other properties that would enable it to be used as a chemical weapon;
- (iii) It may be used as a precursor in the final single technological stage of production of a toxic chemical listed in Schedule 1, regardless of whether this stage takes place in facilities, in munitions or elsewhere;



### Schedule 2

#### Guidelines for Schedule 2

The following criteria shall be taken into account in considering whether a toxic chemical not listed in Schedule 1 or a precursor to a Schedule 1 chemical or to a chemical listed in Schedule 2, part A, should be included in Schedule 2:

- (a) It poses a significant risk to the object and purpose of this Convention because it possesses such lethal or incapacitating toxicity as well as other properties that could enable it to be used as a chemical weapon;
- (b) It may be used as a precursor in one of the chemical reactions at the final stage of formation of a chemical listed in Schedule 1 or Schedule 2, part A;
- (c) It poses a significant risk to the object and purpose of this Convention by virtue of its importance in the production of a chemical listed in Schedule 1 or Schedule 2, part A;
- (d) It is not produced in large commercial quantities for purposes not prohibited under this Convention.

#### Schedule 2 Part A, Toxic Chemicals 2A(3) ule 2 Part B, Precursors R = Me, Et, n-Pr, i-F R, R, R, R = Me, Et, n-Pc i-P X = Halogens 28(5) 2B(6) R =Me. Et. n-Pr. i-F envl-2-hydroxyacetic acid (S)-(+)-3-Quinuclidi (R)-(+)-3-Quinuclidino 28(10) 28(7) 28(8) 28(9) R, R = Me, Et, n-Pr, i-Pr R =Me. Et. n-Pr. iinacolyl alcoho 2B(12) 28(14) 2B(11) 2B(13) Schedule 3 (Used in production of Schedule 1 chemicals) Schedule 2 CI/ C Schedule 1 Thionyl chloride 3B(14) Thiodiglycol Sulfur mustard 2B(13) 1A(4)

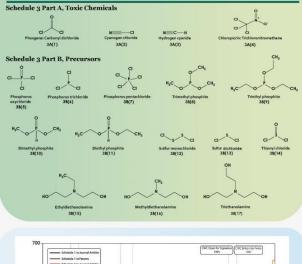
Relationship between Schedules, illustrated with sulfur mustard.

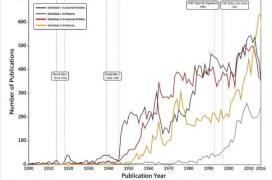
### Schedule 3

#### Guidelines for Schedule 3

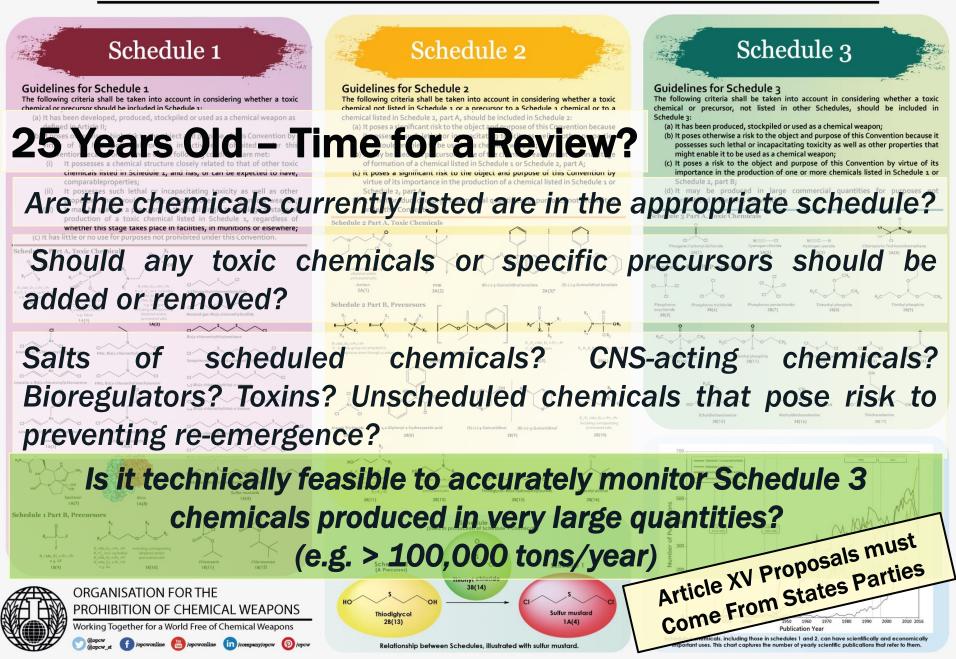
The following criteria shall be taken into account in considering whether a toxic chemical or precursor, not listed in other Schedules, should be included in Schedule 3:

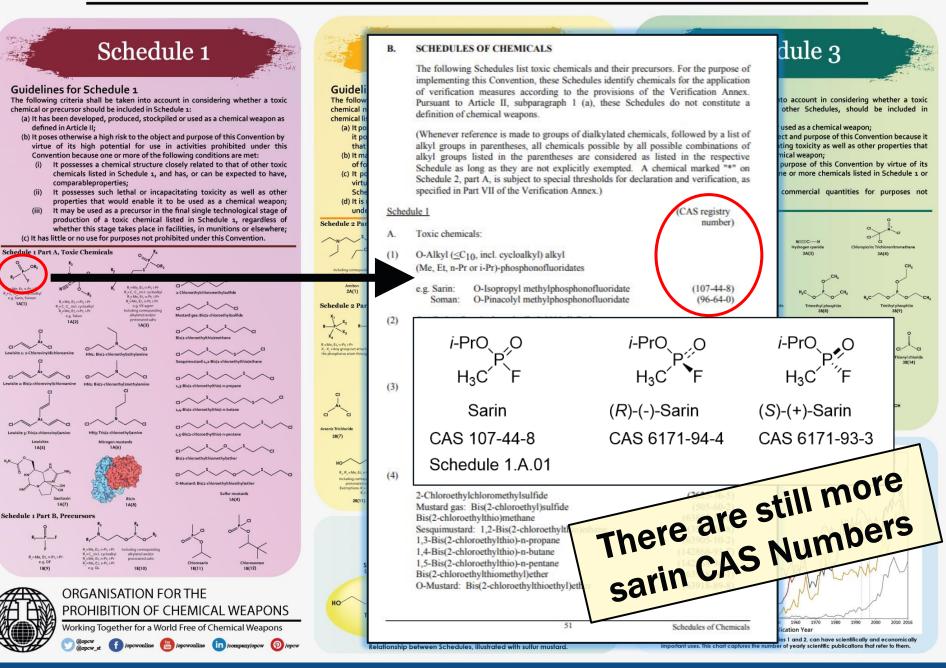
- (a) It has been produced, stockpiled or used as a chemical weapon;
- (b) It poses otherwise a risk to the object and purpose of this Convention because it possesses such lethal or incapacitating toxicity as well as other properties that might enable it to be used as a chemical weapon;
- (c) It poses a risk to the object and purpose of this Convention by virtue of its importance in the production of one or more chemicals listed in Schedule 1 or Schedule 2, part B;
- (d) It may be produced in large commercial quantities for purposes not prohibited under this Convention.





Scheduled chemicals, including those in schedules 1 and 2, can have scientifically and economically important uses. This chart captures the number of yearly scientific publications that refer to them.







Guidelines for Schedule 1 The following criteria shall be taken into account in considering whether a toxic chemical or precursor should be included in Schedule 1: (a) It has been developed, produced, stockpiled or used as a chemical weapon as

> PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS Working Together for a World Free of Chemical Weapons

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#### B. SCHEDULES OF CHEMICALS

Guidel

The follow

chemical

chemical I

The following Schedules list toxic chemicals and their precursors. For the purpose of implementing this Convention, these Schedules identify chemicals for the application of verification measures according to the provisions of the Verification Annex. Pursuant to Article II, subparagraph 1 (a), these Schedules do not constitute a definition of chemical weapons.

Schedules of Chemicals

cation Yea

1 and 2, can have scientifically and economically

early scientific publications that refer to the



to account in considering whether a toxic other Schedules, should be included in

Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) Registry Numbers should not be solely relied on to define chemicals covered by the schedules

If a chemical is included within a schedule, then all possible isotopically-labelled forms and stereoisomers of that chemical should be included, irrespective of whether or not they have been assigned a CAS number or have CAS numbers different to those shown in the Annex on Chemicals to the Convention



#### Schedule 1 dule 3 precursors. For the purpose of chemicals for the application Guidelines for Schedule 1 of the Verification Annex. The following criteria shall be taken into account in considering whether to account in considering whether a toxic hedules do not constitute a chemical or precursor should be included in Schedule 1: other Schedules, should be included in (a) It has been developed, produced, stockpiled or used as a chemical weap ry Numbers should Chemical Abstrac Chemical Weapons Act 1996 als covered by the not be solely reli **CHAPTER 6** schedules ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS We Have Seen Examples of National Guidlines Updates Introduction If a chemical possible isotopic to Reflect These Views in some States Parties that chemical sh or not they be Licences. Information and records Information for purposes of Act. 21. 22. Information and records for purposes of Convention. Identifying persons who have information. 23. PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAP Working Together for a World Free of Chemical Wea Schedules of Chemicals cation Yea s 1 and 2, can have scientifically and economically opcw st 👔 /opcwonline 🛗 /opcwonline 🚺 /or early scientific publications that refer to then

## **Unscheduled Chemicals**

- Develop capabilities to conduct missions involving an alleged use of CNS-acting chemicals for hostile purposes
  - Sampling and analysis, OCAD additions
  - Technical discussions of CNS acting chemicals within the SAB remain exhausted



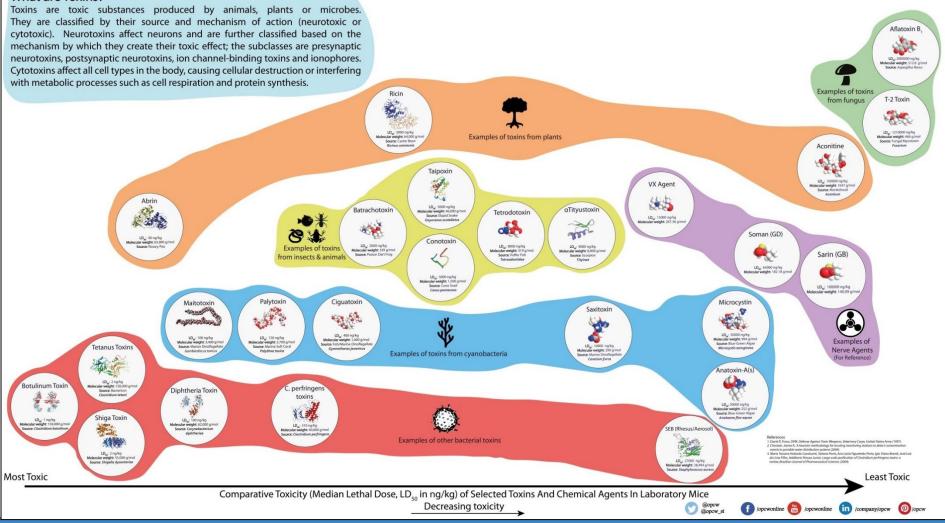


In view of the use of toxic industrial chemicals (TICs) as chemical weapons, seek to identify markers that may be formed through reactions with living tissue or materials.



## **Toxins**

#### What are Toxins?







#### What are Toxins?

Toxins are toxic substances produced by animals, plants or microbes. They are classified by their source and mechanism of action (neurotoxic or cytotoxic). Neurotoxins affect neurons and are further classified based on the mechanism by which they create their toxic effect; the subclasses are presynaptic neurotoxins, postsynaptic neurotoxins, ion channel-binding toxins and ionophores. Cytotoxins affect all cell types in the body, causing cellular destruction or interfering with metabolic processes such as cell respiration and protein synthesis.

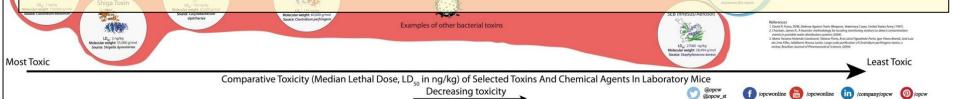


# Strengthen capabilities of international laboratories to identify the hostile use of toxins and analyse samples for toxins.

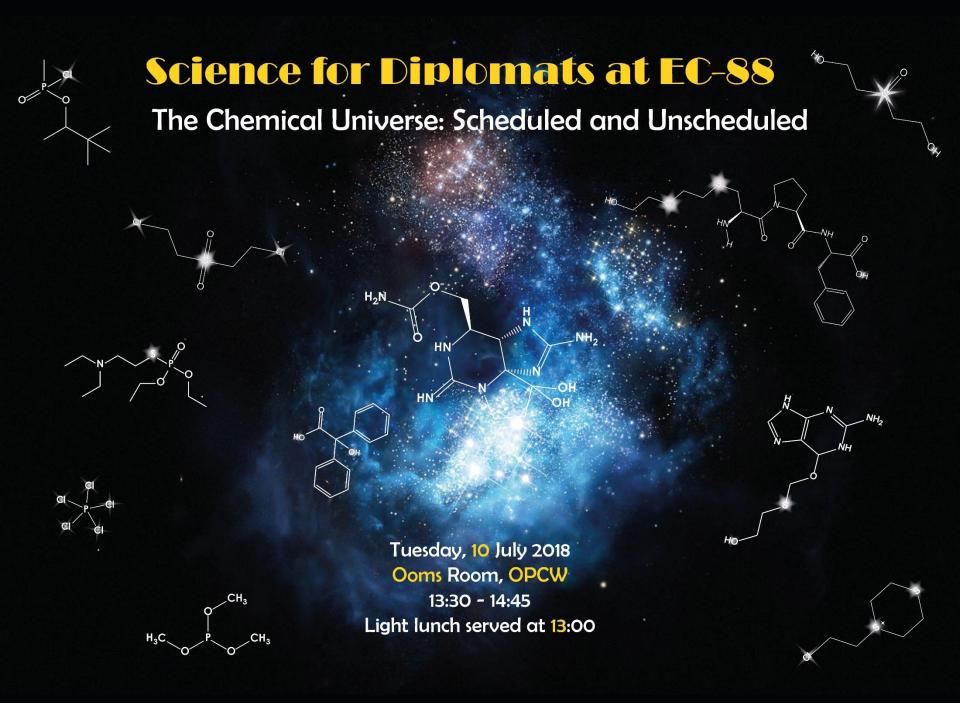
toxin fact-sheets for toxins that are deemed to pose a high risk of potential use as weapons;

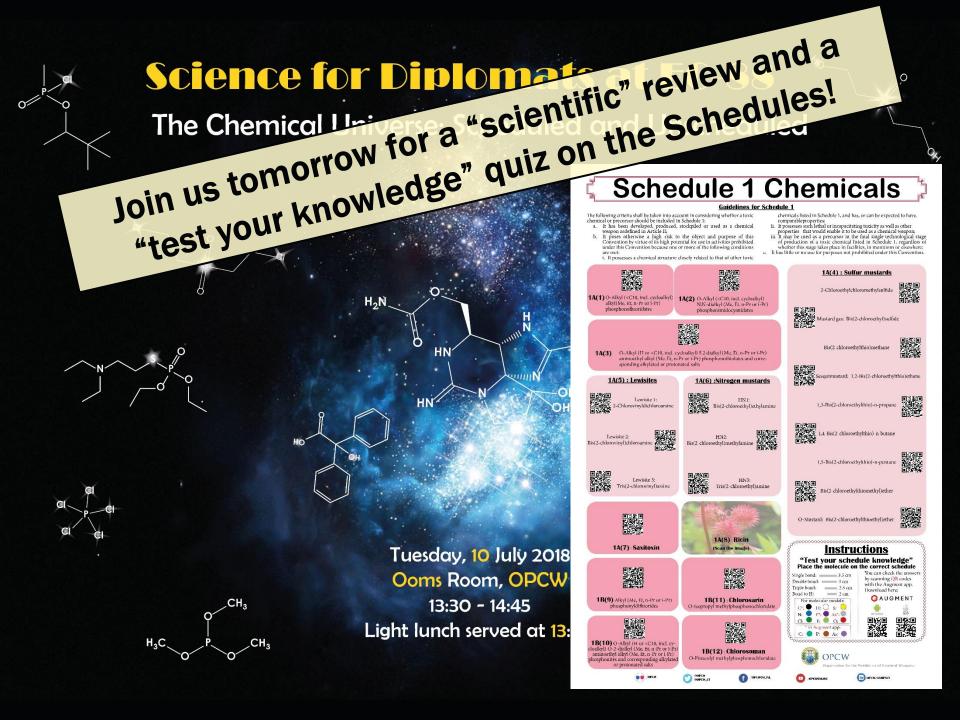
identify a priority set of toxins for the development of analytical methods

### collaborating closely with other networks of laboratories









## From Director-General's Response (RC-4/DG.2) Chemicals

- The Director-General wishes to call States Parties' attention to the SAB's recommendation to review the schedules (paragraph 24 of RC-4/DG.1). RC-4/DG.2, paragraph 18
- The Director-General wishes to draw States Parties' attention to the questions posed by the SAB on whether it is technically feasible to accurately monitor Schedule 3 chemicals that are produced in very large quantities (for example, over 100,000 metric tonnes per year. RC-4/DG.2, paragraph 20
- CNS Acting Chemicals: The SAB Chairperson had presented the compiled outcomes of the Board's deliberations on this topic to States Parties at a side event in the margins of the Twenty-Second Session of the Conference of the States Parties, in 2017. States Parties are encouraged to review this advice to gain insight for further discussion at the Fourth Review Conference. RC-4/DG.2, paragraph 22



## Chemical Production and Chemical Discovery (RC-4/DG-1, paragraphs 30, 33)

## Chemical Production and Chemical Discovery (RC-4/DG-1, paragraphs 30, 33)



## **Building off of the TWG Report on Article VI Verification**



### VERIFICATION

REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD'S TEMPORARY WORKING GROUP



ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

**June 2015** 

- Verification could benefit from risk assessment tools and practices employed in the chemical industry
  - specifically those for safer process and product design, and for regulatory compliance
  - Consider site relevance
  - Review declaration thresholds
- Learn from and adopt industry best practices where beneficial
  - Maintaining technical relevance, knowledge management



## A Thought Exercise: Relevance of 4 Plant Sites\*

Ass					
Plant site	Α	В	С	D	
Number of plants	8	1	2	12	
Production range	1,000-10,000 t	200-1,000 t	>10,000 t	1,000-10,000 t	Information in declaration
PSF	Yes (1)	No	No	Yes (1)	



\* Courtesy of B. Whelan, OPCW INS

## A Thought Exercise: Relevance of 4 Plant Sites\*

Ass					
Plant site	Α	В	С	D	
Process Config.	Continuous/ Batch- dedicated	Batch/ Multipurpose	Continuous	Continuous	
Number of plants	8	1	2	12	
Production range	1,000-10,000 t	200-1,000 t	>10,000 t	1,000-10,000 t	Information in declaration
PSF	Yes (1)	No	No	Yes (1)	
Main chemical(s) on site	Non-toxic	Non-toxic	Very Toxic TIC, examples of use as CW	Non-toxic	
Relevance to CWC	м	н	н	L	Informal pole
Products/ chemicals handled on site	Methanol/ Detergents	Fine Chemicals	Chlorine/H <sub>2</sub> S/ vinyl chloride/ PVC	TFE/HFP/ ETBE/MTBE	



\* Courtesy of B. Whelan, OPCW INS

# A Thought Exercise: Relevance of 4 Plant Sites\*

Assessing the relevance of individual sites					
Plant site	Α	В	С	D	
Process Config.	Continuous/ Batch- dedicated	Batch/ Multipurpose	Continuous	Continuous	
Number of plants	8	1	2	12	
Production range	1,000-10,000 t	200-1,000 t	>10,000 t	1,000-10,000 t	Information in declaration
PSF	Yes (1)	No	No	Yes (1)	
Main chemical(s) on site	Non-toxic	Non-toxic	Very Toxic TIC, examples of use as CW	Non-toxic	
Relevance to CWC	м	н	н	L	Informal pole
Products/ chemicals handled on site	Methanol/ Detergents	Fine Chemicals	Chlorine/H <sub>2</sub> S/ vinyl chloride/ PVC	TFE/HFP/ ETBE/MTBE	
A15	1423	3	2.8	2620	Higher number Higher relevance



\* Courtesy of B. Whelan, OPCW INS

### Recommendation from RC-4/DG.1 Annex

- "...verification thresholds for OCPFs producing highly relevant chemicals, and the possibility of revision of the product group codes, should be addressed by the SAB as well as the industry cluster." Sub-paragraph 132(b)
  - "The Secretariat could reassess which product group codes are highly relevant to the Convention. Facilities declared with these product group codes would be subject to a higher probability to be selected for inspection (which is consistent with the approach used in the A15 site selection algorithm). For facilities in product group codes that are considered less relevant, the Secretariat should identify appropriate mechanisms to augment the declared information with validated and credible sources to allow for an assessment regarding the need for on-site inspection." Subparagraph 132(c)



From Director-General's Response (RC-4/DG.2) Chemical Production and Chemical Discovery

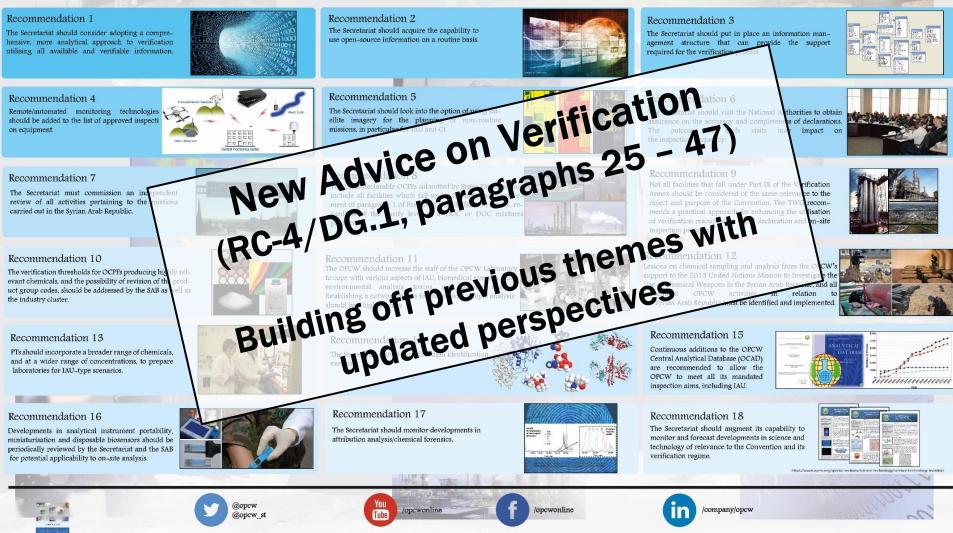
- The Fourth Review Conference might consider biomediated processes as part of a larger review of the Article VI verification regime. Such a review might explore the utility of risk-based approaches to verification (paragraph 30 of RC-4/DG.1), as well as previous SAB recommendations that have not been taken forward, such as:
  - exemption of certain other chemical production facilities (OCPFs) from declaration requirements (recommendation 9a of the TWG on Verification);
  - review and reassessment of the impact of the product group codes in the OCPF site-selection methodology (recommendation 9b of the TWG on verification); and
  - revision of verification thresholds for certain OCPFs (recommendation 10 of the TWG on verification; see also paragraph 33 of RC-4/DG.1).

RC-4/DG.2, paragraph 14





Recommendations From The OPCW Scientific Advisory Board's Report on Verification

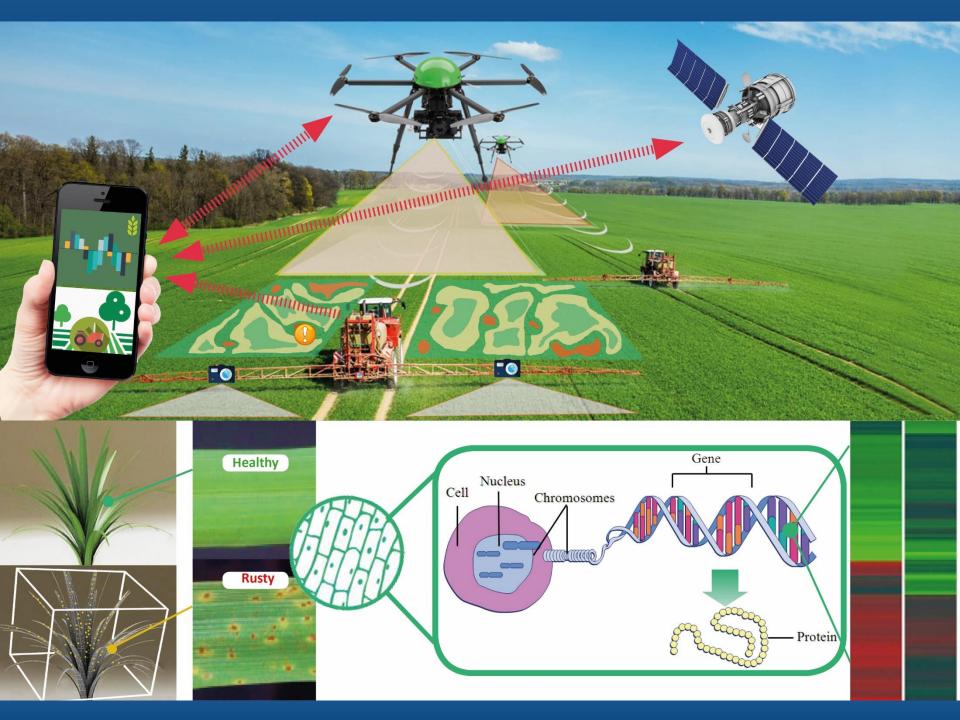


Report available at: https://www.opcw.org/fileadmin/OPCW/SAB/en/Final\_Report\_of\_SAB\_TWG\_on\_Verification\_-\_as\_presented\_to\_SAB.pdf

# **Continuing from the TWG**

- Effective verification requires assessment of all relevant information pertaining to a site and the State Party, not simply the evaluation of a single inspection.
  - Move toward a integrated approach where all of the separate elements of information are combined and analysed systematically
- Review Verification Information System (VIS)
- Develop new templates for Article VI inspection reports to upload the as a searchable document
  - Explore possibilities for secure transmission of documents and data between an inspection site and OPCW Headquarters.



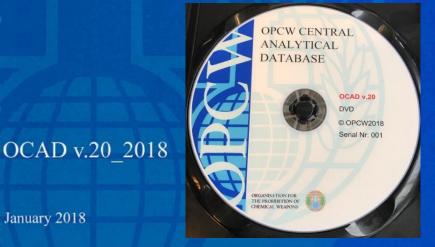


# **Remote Sensing**

- Satellite imagery has proven useful in planning contingency operations. Secretariat consider cooperating with other international organisations and experts to enhance capability to interpret and apply satellite information to non-routine operations.
- Hyperspectral, thermal, and near-infrared imagery may be able to provide information related to chemical changes in the imaged area.
- In order to enable inspection teams to operate in dangerous or remote areas, the Secretariat should review remote and automated monitoring technologies to identify where their capabilities could be beneficial. Corresponding equipment should be added to the list of approved inspection equipment.



# **OPCW CENTRAL** ANALYTICAL DATABASE



January 2018

ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS



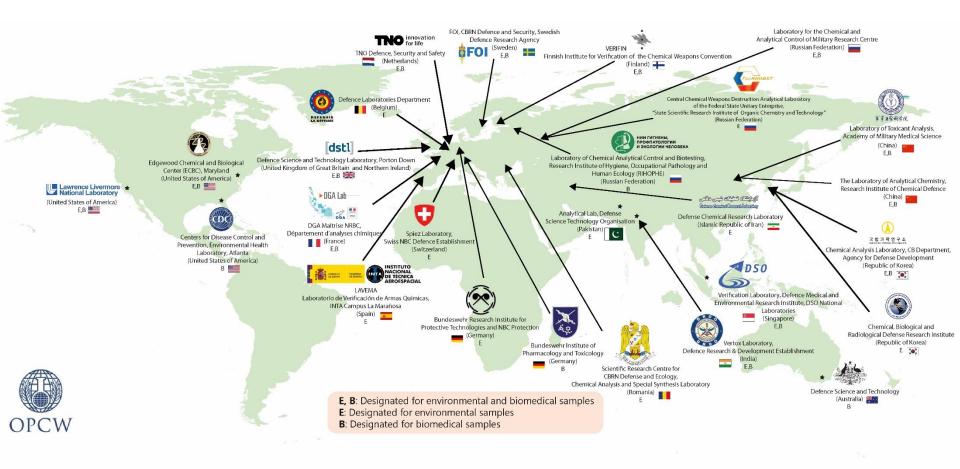


#### **Continue adding to OCAD**

- Isotopically labelled relatives and stereoisomers of scheduled compounds
- Salts of scheduled compounds
- Toxic industrial chemicals (TICs)
- **Riot control agents**
- Bioregulators
- **Toxins**
- Unscheduled chemicals posing a risk to the **Convention**



#### **OPCW and Designated Laboratories**





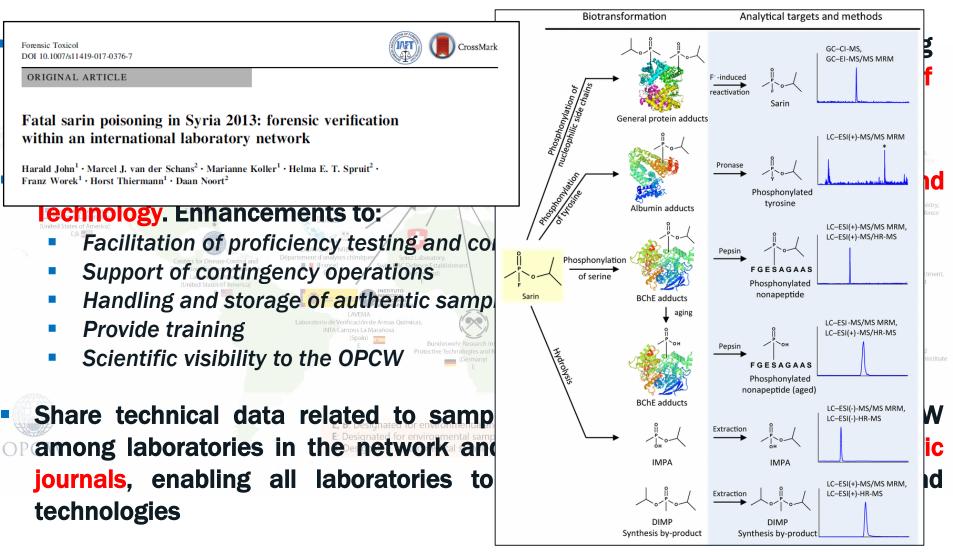
#### **OPCW and Designated Laboratories**

- Preparedness to analyse operational samples be a factor in maintaining designation and expand the network both geographically and in terms of capabilities.
- Support the upgrade of the OPCW Laboratory to a Centre for Chemistry and Technology. Enhancements to:
  - Facilitation of proficiency testing and confidence building exercises
  - Support of contingency operations
  - Handling and storage of authentic samples
  - Provide training
  - Scientific visibility to the OPCW

Share technical data related to sample analyses conducted for the OPCW among laboratories in the network and published in peer-reviewed scientific journals, enabling all laboratories to benefit from proven methods and technologies



#### **OPCW and Designated Laboratories**





**Sample and Information Collection, and Analysis** 

- Strengthen capability to detect and identify traces of unscheduled toxic chemicals and associated degradation and reaction products, inter alia, through suitable exercises.
- **Encourage further research on potential biomarkers of exposure** to toxic chemicals. The Engage with experts from a broad range of fields to identify promising analytical approaches.
- The Secretariat, in consultation with relevant experts, should identify such commonly used forensic techniques and protocols Temporary Working Group to Provide to assess their applicability for its own activities.

Further Recommendations



# **Archiving Samples and Data**

- Maintain a curated collection of reference samples and chemical data, including compiled data on abandoned chemical weapons, the environmental fate of toxic chemicals, and impurities associated with synthetic routes to nerve and blister agents to support investigative work.
  - Develop a repository of technical information on the environmental impact of legacy chemical weapons (old, abandoned, and/or sea dumped) in order to facilitate knowledge sharing through the Secretariat. This type of information contains useful data for understanding the environmental fate and transport of chemical warfare agents, which has value for investigative and retrospective analysis.



# From Director-General's Response (RC-4/DG.2) Science and Technology Relevant to Verification

- Given the importance of the role of the OPCW Laboratory, the Director-General asks States Parties to support its upgrade to a Centre for Chemistry and Technology. RC-4/DG.2, paragraph 33
- The Director-General views the sharing of data generated from the work of the OPCW amongst the OPCW designated laboratories as a means to facilitate improved method development and cooperation across the network (paragraph 41 of RC-4/DG.1). The establishment of a repository of chemical data and technical information, and a curated collection of reference samples, could usefully support such method development, as well as provide important reference data on synthetic routes and the environmental fate and transport of chemical warfare agents and other toxic chemicals. The Secretariat is exploring the development of such a repository, which could usefully include information obtained from old and abandoned, as well as sea-dumped, chemical weapons (paragraphs 44 and 45 of RC-4/DG.1). Such information is valuable for review in relation to investigations, assistance missions, and retrospective analysis. The Director-General encourages States Parties to consider sharing relevant chemical and technical data in support of such an initiative; the compilation of certain technical information for sharing with States Parties could be an additional benefit of such a repository. *RC-4/DG.2, paragraph 35*



#### Delivery of Toxic Chemicals and Drugs (RC-4/DG.1, paragraph 34)

# **Toxic Chemical Delivery**

The continued development of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) to deliver payloads for permitted purposes should be monitored to assess risks of development for chemical weapon delivery purposes.





While drug delivery advances have been seen, there are practical limitations in crossing them over from controlled physician supervised procedures for wider scale chemical delivery



# From Director-General's Response (RC-4/DG.2) Delivery of Toxic Chemicals and Drugs

The Director-General wishes to call States Parties' attention to the potential threat raised by the SAB in regard to deploying chemical agents through unmanned systems. He regards the monitoring of developments in this area to be of the utmost importance. Furthermore, the Director-General encourages States Parties to share their views on associated risks and approaches for mitigation. *RC-4/DG.2*, paragraph 25



#### Assistance and Protection (RC-4/DG.1, paragraph 48)

In order to enhance OPCW's capability to assist States Parties in response to a chemical weapon attack or incident involving toxic chemicals, the Secretariat should strengthen its preparedness and monitor advancements in medical countermeasures, detection, physical protection, and decontamination.

# **Chemical Safety and Security**

(RC-4/DG.1, paragraphs 49 - 51)





# Science and Technology of Relevance to Chemical Safety and Security

- Secretariat encouraged to engage with technical experts to ensure that its efforts to assist States Parties with chemical safety and security have a sound scientific and technological foundation.
- Secretariat can encourage research in chemical security to prevent toxic chemicals from being acquired by non-State actors with intent to use them as chemical weapons. The research support programme under Article XI provides a possible mechanism.
- To assist States Parties, where the economies are either developing or in transition, and that have interest in improving chemical safety and security capabilities, the Secretariat could:
  - strengthen partnerships and pursue collaborative projects with international organisations engaged in the research and development of technologies for this purpose.



# From Director-General's Response (RC-4/DG.2) Chemical Safety and Security

- As concerns about chemical security and the hostile use of chemicals by non-State Actors, including terrorists, continue to rise, States Parties may benefit from the development of technologies and informatics tools that can help to identify and track chemicals, and provide immediate access to critical chemical information. The Director-General encourages States Parties to review paragraphs 320 to 329 of Annex 1 of RC-4/DG.1 for examples and applications. The Secretariat will look to incorporate this advice from the SAB into the materials and training it currently provides in the area of chemical safety and security. RC-4/DG.2, paragraph 39
- The Secretariat is reviewing how the existing Article XI programmes can be used to support such engagement, and is considering how it may further engage other organisations and partners in these efforts (paragraphs 50 and 51 of RC-4/DG.1). The Director-General encourages States Parties to consider their individual needs for chemical safety and security. This is necessary in order to allow the Secretariat to identify the most effective route for facilitation of connections to researchers and organisations that may be interested in exploring areas of common interest. RC-4/DG.2, paragraph 40



# Scientific Literacy and Science Advice (RC-4/DG.1, paragraphs 52 – 56)

#### **Scientific Literature and Science Advice**

- SAB advice is strengthened through engagement with operational units of Secretariat.
- Continue to strengthen ability to monitor science and technology. In maintaining this "watching brief ", the SAB and the Secretariat should be mindful of the importance of separating technological possibility from demonstrated technological capability.
  - Engagement with expert communities: scientific societies and innovation ecosystems.



#### **Scientific Literature and Science Advice**



**Don't Stop the Science for Diplomats and Engagement with States Parties!** 



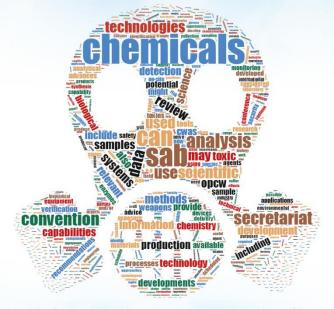
# From Director-General's Response (RC-4/DG.2) Scientific Literacy and Science Advice

- Recognising that science-policy discourse also requires active efforts to be maintained and augmented, the Secretariat and the SAB will continue to organise briefings and "Science for Diplomats" events to engage States Parties. The Director-General appreciates the support of these initiatives by States Parties, and encourages all States Parties to attend these events and to engage in the discussions. *RC-4/DG.2, paragraph 44*
- The Fourth Review Conference may wish to acknowledge the importance of supporting the scientific review process. RC-4/DG.2, paragraph 42
- The Fourth Review Conference may wish to express its support for the Secretariat's efforts to effectively engage and draw upon expertise from scientific communities, to engage delegations on scientific topics and advice, and to ensure that the Secretariat is appropriately staffed for these activities RC-4/DG.2, paragraph 45



#### Where Do We Go From Here?

Scientific Advisory Board's Recommendations to the Fourth Review Conference of the Chemical Weapons Convention



A quick reference guide to the executive summary recommendations of the OPCW Scientific Advisory Board's report on developments in science and technology to the Fource Review Conference (RC-4/DG.1, dated 30 April 2018).



# Review RC-4/DG.1

- Executive summary
- Detailed annex
- DG Response (RC-4/DG.2)

# Proposals

- Director-General has requested Secretariat
- States Parties for RC-4?



"I encourage you to be forward thinking, innovative and bold as you draft this report

The value of the report and its advice is the independent expert voice the SAB provides"

- DG Remarks to SAB-26 16 October 2017



"...your findings and advice may serve to challenge assumptions and spark new ideas that benefit all; even when associated recommendations may not be accepted."

DG Remarks to SAB-26 16 October 2017



#### From the Response of the Director-General (RC-4/DG.2)

Ensuring that implementation of the Convention keeps pace with scientific advancements calls for scientific literacy, understanding how and why advancements are moving forward, and seizing opportunities to use scientific change as a means to enhance capabilities to mitigate challenges, both existing and yet to be seen.



# Scientific Advisory Board from January to June 2018







# OPCW

منظمة حظر الأسلحة الكيميائية

禁止化学武器组织

Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons Organisation pour l'Interdiction des Armes Chimiques Организация по запрещению химического оружия Organización para la Prohibición de las Armas Químicas