Multi-National Maritime Task Force
A Multinational Maritime Task Force comprised of naval forces from China, Denmark, Norway, Russia, and the United Kingdom is positioned in the eastern Mediterranean Sea to provide secure transportation of chemicals to their ultimate destruction location. The cargo ships have additional capacity to deal with chemical spills or emergencies and a special chemical response team is available, along with expert chemical response personnel from Finland.

1 **Latakia**
Latakia is the port of embarkation for chemicals to be removed from Syria. These chemicals have been packed and loaded securely in containers that meet international standards for the transport of dangerous goods by sea, and have been inventoried and sealed by OPCW inspectors. At Latakia, the chemicals are being loaded onto Danish and Norwegian cargo vessels. (MV Ark Futura and MV Taiko respectively).

2 **Italy**
The Italian port of Gioia Tauro will be used for transferring some Priority 1 chemicals (i.e. a precursor for chemical weapons and a small amount of mustard agent) from the Danish cargo vessel to the MV Cape Ray. The transloading will take place with minimal handling of the standardized shipping containers holding the chemicals and emergency response equipment and personnel will be available to deal with any unlikely chemical incidents. OPCW inspectors will be present at Gioia Tauro to inventory the materials that will be transloaded from one ship to the other.

3 **MV Cape Ray**
The MV Cape Ray has been fitted with two Field Deployable Hydrolysis Systems (FDHS) that will neutralise about 600 metric tonnes of Priority 1 chemicals in international waters of the Mediterranean. These chemicals will be transferred from the Danish cargo vessel to the MV Cape Ray at Gioia Tauro in Italy. At all stages of the process aboard the MV Cape Ray, the chemicals to be neutralised and the resulting effluent will be safely stored and handled by trained and experienced personnel. OPCW inspectors will be continuously present aboard the MV Cape Ray to ensure that all requirements of the Convention are properly observed, including those related to the safety of the crew and protection of the environment. Once neutralisation has been completed, the resulting effluent will be transported by the MV Cape Ray to be finally disposed of at facilities in Finland and Germany.

4 **Shipment to Europe**
Under an in-kind contribution from the Government of the United Kingdom, the company Veolia, a commercial waste company, will destroy around 150 tonnes of chemicals at Ellesmere Port. The chemicals are similar in nature to standard industrial materials which are safely processed on a regular basis at the facility. They will be off-loaded at a British port from the Danish cargo vessel Ark Futura and inventoried by OPCW inspectors.

5 **Veolia**
Veolia Environmental Services Technical Solutions in the USA was one of two companies awarded a contract by the OPCW to destroy chemicals from Syria following a rigorous solicitation process, in this case around 145 metric tonnes of Priority 2 inorganic chemicals. The chemicals will be off-loaded from the Norwegian vessel Taiko at a designated port in the USA and inventoried by OPCW inspectors. The five types of chemicals that will be destroyed here by incineration are standard industrial chemicals, which are transported and widely used across the United States every day.

6 **Shipment to USA**
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