

Amb. Krzysztof Paturej
President of the Board
International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security (ICCSS) - www.iccss.eu
Chair of the CWC Third Review Conference (2013)

Statement to CWC Fourth Review Conference
Vision for the OPCW 3.0. – from disarmament to reducing chemical threat

We are outdated on the perception of chemical threat. We still think through a concept of use of traditional chemical weapons and concentrate efforts to stem chemical weapons proliferation and achieve chemical disarmament.

While these goals are important and should be promoted, as stated in CWC, we need to deal with the immediate challenges of growing threat of use of Chemical Weapons (CW) and toxic industrial chemicals (TIC) as a means of warfare or terror. These threats could be further aggravated by cyber attacks against chemical and critical infrastructure installations.

The chemical threats are global in reach and require global responses with the OPCW as a global leader.

To meet the challenges of growing chemical threats we have to: **1)** move beyond traditional arms control and disarmament and move towards preventing CW re-emergence; **2)** introduce integrated system of chemical safety and security as part of the international CBRN security, which includes environmental and health security; **3)** increase resilience and introduce cybersecurity in all chemical activities, to prevent misuse of toxic chemicals via computer or Industrial Control Systems.

The sole provisions of the CWC are not enough to ensure that chemicals are not used for illegal purposes. **We have to exclude chemical activity from conflict and political disputes and build a global multi-stakeholder consensus that chemistry is used only for peaceful purposes.** We have to develop a global action to reduce chemical threats and enhance chemical safety and security worldwide. **This is the vision for the OPCW 3.0.**

The core elements of this renewed OPCW, as an agency which is steadily moving from disarmament to reduce chemical threat, have been included in the Final Document of the CWC Third Review Conference (RC3), adopted by consensus.

The RC3 Final Document provided guidance for the OPCW in 3 areas which implementation made the OPCW more relevant and **promoted its development towards the global agency to reduce chemical threat**. They included: moving from non-proliferation to preventing the re-emergence of chemical weapons, emphasis on protection against toxic chemicals and promotion of safety and security at chemical plants, and support for an active engagement of all the relevant CWC stakeholders.

The single and the most relevant achievement of the RC3 was the replacement of the term non-proliferation with **preventing the re-emergence of chemical weapons**. It was not a semantic change. It is new approach and term introduced in the international security through the OPCW. We recognize that chemical weapons could appear anywhere in hands of multiple actors,

governments and non-state actors. It does not target concrete countries or actors. It addresses the problem. It recognizes that in the quick and global development of chemical production and use of toxic chemicals, the chemistry is used only for peaceful purposes. That the chemical weapons will not reappear. **Preventing the re-emergence of chemical weapons** requires the whole-government approach or whole-society approach. In this system the stakeholders are partners who work hand by hand, not occasional participants.

Preventing re-emergence of chemical weapons will deeply change OPCW functioning. Firstly, it requires an active collaboration with the relevant stakeholders to engage them in the prohibition of chemical weapons, both at the OPCW and in national activities. Secondly, National Authorities should expand their role from the central points for CWC national implementation towards the gateway to the relevant agencies and players to support the prohibition of chemical weapons. Thirdly, Secretariat should promote comprehensive national implementation of the CWC /Art. VI, VII, X and XI/, rather than recent sectoral /single Article driven/ implementation, to ensure that the CWC implementation is a core element of the chemical weapons prohibition and their non re-emergence. Fourthly, OPCW get a real chance to become a leading international agency to respond and/or to assist world community to prevent chemical weapons re-emergence and reducing chemical threat.

These global integrated approaches have been imbedded in the International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security (ICCSS) – www.iccss.eu. The ICCSS is today a leader in global efforts to enhance safety and security in chemical production, storage, use, transport and waste disposal. Our underlying belief is that ensuring chemical safety and security and complying with environmental protection standards are essential conditions in the research, manufacturing and trade of chemicals and are increasingly linked with internal and external security, public health protection, economic and trade cooperation, development and humanitarian policies.

We offer an inclusive participatory program development. We avoid divisive political concepts and language that hinder progress in nuclear and bio safety and security. We introduced an integrated training program to increase resilience and cybersecurity in all chemical activities. We initiated a global network on education and training in chemical safety and security. We introduced process of Global Chemical Safety and Security Summits - CHEMSS. The second CHEMSS (www.chemss2017.org) organized in Shanghai in September 2017, attracted over 200 0 participants from 50 countries. CHEMSS global approach promotes efforts to reduce chemical threat worldwide NOT by new regulations or standards but by **operationalizing** and **internationalizing** the existing national and international best practices, trainings, practices and technical solutions. We implement our modern approaches through projects in Africa, in the Middle East, through a Jordan project on chemical safety and security aimed at the development of chemical safety and security confidence building measures for the Middle East. We implement a major project on civil protection against chemical threats in Eastern Europe.

I encourage the OPCW community to lead the process of moving towards reducing chemical threat. I invite you to join ICCSS activities to enhance chemical safety and security worldwide.

I kindly request this statement to be made part of the final RC4 record and posted on the external server and website.

For further enquires and/or cooperation I invite you to contact me at: k.paturej@iccss.eu