

**OPCW** 

S/1318/2015/Rev.1/Add.1 29 February 2016 Original: ENGLISH

# NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

## REPORT OF THE OPCW FACT-FINDING MISSION IN SYRIA REGARDING THE INCIDENTS DESCRIBED IN COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND EXPATRIATES AND HEAD OF THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

### Addendum

- 1. This addendum provides information further to "The Report of the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria Regarding the Incidents Described in Communications from the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Expatriates and Head of the National Authority of the Syrian Arab Republic" (S/1318/2015/Rev.1, dated 17 December 2015).
- 2. On 18 December 2015, the Director-General addressed a letter to the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic enclosing a copy of report S/1318/2015/Rev.1 and drawing attention to the conclusion that:

"there is a high degree of probability that some of those involved in the alleged incident in Darayya on 15 February 2015 were at some point exposed to sarin or a sarin-like substance. However, the FFM could not confidently link the blood sample analyses to this particular incident nor determine how, when, or under what circumstances the exposure occurred" (paragraph 4.22 of S/1318/2015/Rev.1).

- 3. The aforementioned letter sought further comment from the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic regarding the findings of the Fact-Finding Mission (FFM) in relation to the incident in Darayya on 15 February 2015. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic was also requested to provide any records and/or additional information that would complement the witness testimonies and results of the blood sample analyses associated with the casualties involved in this incident. Such information would include, but was not restricted to:
  - (a) further interviews with the persons involved;
  - (b) photographs or video recordings of the incident that occurred in Darayya on 15 February 2015;
  - (c) remnants of any ordnance, launching system, or forensic evidence retrieved from the incident location; and
  - (d) environmental samples, including animal tissue, from the surroundings of the incident location, as well as background control samples.

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- 4. A letter from the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic received on 28 December 2015 welcomed a further visit by the FFM in January 2016.
- 5. Following this invitation, the FFM returned to Damascus from 26 to 31 January 2016. The FFM team was composed of four inspectors and two interpreters. Table 1 below provides further details of the team composition.

No.	Function	Speciality
1.	Steve Wallis, Team Leader	Inspector, Advanced Health and Safety Specialist
2.	Deputy Team Leader, confidentiality officer	Inspector, Chemical Weapons Munitions Specialist
3.	Interview subteam member	Inspector, Chemical Weapons Munitions Specialist
4.	Interview subteam member, evidence officer	Inspector, Analytical Chemist
5.	Interpreter	n/a
6.	Interpreter	n/a

## TABLE 1:FFM TEAM COMPOSITION

- 6. During its deployment, the FFM further conducted its investigation by collecting testimonies from three casualties involved in the incident in Darayya on 15 February 2015, by reviewing documents, and by visiting the Martyr Youssef Al-Adhma Hospital in Damascus (hereinafter "H601") and the Centre for Studies and Scientific Research Institute in Barzi, Damascus.
- 7. The prevailing narrative, established by a review of the three interviews conducted during this deployment, by site visits, and by a review of the documents received from the Syrian Arab Republic, confirmed the narrative already described in paragraphs 3.90 to 3.92 of report S/1318/2015/Rev.1. However, no additional information was received that could corroborate the narrative and no further hard evidence was provided to the FFM during this deployment.
- 8. In view of the above, the FFM is of the opinion that no new information has come to light that would necessitate a change to the conclusion reached in report S/1318/2015/Rev.1. However, the FFM will review and analyse any further information or hard evidence that may be provided by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic in regard to the incident in Darayya on 15 February 2015.
- 9. This addendum to report S/1318/2015/Rev.1 was submitted on 26 February 2016 in English.

[signed] Steven Wallis Mission Leader

Annex (English only):

List of other documents provided by the Syrian Arab Republic

#### Annex

## LIST OF OTHER DOCUMENTS PROVIDED BY THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Description of Record	Date Provided	
Package Darayya incident on 15/02/15	07/08/15	<ol> <li>Report of the commander of the unit working in Darayya on the date of the incident when eight patients were admitted to the Martyr Youssef Al-Adhma Hospital in Damascus (H601)</li> <li>List of patients admitted to H601</li> </ol>
		<ol> <li>AChE results</li> <li>One CD containing images from Google Earth detailing key locations related to the incident</li> </ol>
Report from H601 about missing medical records	10/08/15	Report on why some medical records were missing. List of patients admitted to H601
SOP-6322-06	12/08/15	Working method: Calibration of the activity of the AChE enzyme in whole blood following the colour saturation method. From the Scientific Studies and Research Centre (6000)
SOP-6322-07	12/08/15	
Calibration of efficiency of the AChE enzyme in the blood	12/08/15	Working method: Calibration of efficiency of the AChE enzyme in the blood. From the Scientific Studies and Research Centre (6000)
Package of scientific articles	12/08/15	Five scientific articles related to the analysis of the AChE enzyme level (in English)
Package related to incident in Nubel and Al-Zahraa 08/01/15	12/08/15	<ol> <li>Medical report from Al-Zahraa hospital</li> <li>One CD containing images from Google Earth detailing key locations related to the incident</li> <li>One CD containing video footage</li> <li>IDs for a number of casualties</li> <li>Complaint about the incident registered at the police station of Nubel</li> </ol>
Report from H601	13/08/15	Report explaining the reason why several soldiers affected by toxic gas have no medical records
Blood AChE activity in Syrian soldiers	13/08/15	Report from research centre on results of blood AChE activity in Syrian soldiers 2013–2015
Incident in Al-Maliha on 16/04/14	13/08/15	<ol> <li>Report of the unit commander</li> <li>AChE results</li> <li>One CD containing images from Google Earth detailing key locations related to the incident</li> </ol>

This table also includes all documents received from the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic during the second deployment of the FFM.

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Description of Record	Date Provided	<b>Comment</b> <sup>1</sup>
Package related to incident	13/08/15	1. Report from Al-Radhi hospital related to the
Al-Maliha and Al-Kabbas		incidents
		2. Report of the unit commander
		3. Three CDs with images from Google Earth
		detailing key locations related to the incidents
		4. Report of the unit commander
Medical records – Darayya	07/08/15	Medical records of eight persons related to the incident
		in Darayya 15/02/15
Medical	10/08/15	Medical records of seven persons related to the
records – Al-Maliha		incidents in Al-Maliha (08/07/14), Al-Maliha
and Al-Kabbas		(11/07/14), and Al-Kabbas (10/09/14)
Medical records	13/08/15	Medical records of five persons related to incidents in
		Jober and/or Al-Maliha on 16/04/14 and Al-Maliha on
		11/07/14
Medical records		Medical records of 30 persons
Photocopies of medical	14/08/15	Prescription of HI-6, atropine, hydrocortisone,
prescriptions from H601		nebulizer, dichloride
Photocopies of drug charts	14/08/15	The charts contain the list of medications provided to
from H601		the patients admitted in the chest and dermatology
		departments
List of medication for toxic	14/08/15	List of emergency medication for poisoning cases
injuries – H601		Pralidoxime, HI-6 dichloride, Anti HF (gel) calcium
		gluconate, edetate disodium ampules,
		diphenhydramine, Thiamine
AChE results on	14/08/15	Report from the Scientific Studies and Research
11/08/15 – updated		Centre, dated 11/08/15 and not signed
Receipt of 58 samples	14/08/15	Receipt of 58 blood samples returned to H601 from the
returned to H601		Scientific Studies and Research Centre
Pack of colour images of	14/08/15	
weapons		
Video footage and printouts	13/08/15	Eight DVDs and 16 pages (screenshots from YouTube
of screenshots		pages)
Calibration certificate of a	28/01/16	Calibration certificate No. C-0010 (in English)
liquid glass thermometer		Liquid glass thermometer (Object identification
		No. 3124-42)
		Date of calibration 18/02/14 – Report dated 03/03/14
Calibration certificate of a	28/01/16	$\langle \mathcal{C} \rangle$
liquid glass thermometer		Liquid glass thermometer (Object identification
		No. 6322-42)
		Date of calibration: 16/08/15 – Report dated 17/08/15

Description of Record	Date Provided	<b>Comment</b> <sup>1</sup>
Request from H601 for AChE analysis and response from the Scientific Studies and Research Centre with results Request from H601 for		<ol> <li>Letter from H601, dated 16/02/15, with request of analysis of six blood samples of three casualties (blood drawn on 15/02/15)</li> <li>Response from the Scientific Studies and Research Centre, dated 21/02/15, with report of AChE results (dated 19/02/15)</li> <li>Letter from H601, dated 23/02/15, with request of</li> </ol>
AChE analysis and response from the Scientific Studies and Research Centre with results		<ul> <li>analysis of 12 blood samples of six casualties (blood drawn on 23/02/15)</li> <li>2. Response from Scientific Studies and Research Centre, dated 26/02/15 with report of AChE results (dated 24/02/15)</li> </ul>
Copy of NV69	28/01/16	<ul> <li>NV in English containing the following documents:</li> <li>1. Calibration certificate No. C-0130 of liquid glass thermometer (Object identification No. 6322-42)</li> <li>2. Verification certificate No. V-0040 of a precision micropipette (Serial No. 4471368 – Object identification No. 6322-31) – Date of verification 19/08/15</li> <li>3. Verification certificate No. V-0041 of a precision micropipette (Serial No. 4518838 – Object identification No. 6322-32) – Date of verification 19/08/15</li> <li>4. Verification certificate No. V-0042 of a precision micropipette (Serial No. 154827 – Object identification No. 6322-33) – date of verification 19/08/15</li> <li>5. Verification certificate No. V-0043 of a precision micropipette (Serial No. 4100415 – Object identification No. 6322-34) – Date of verification 19/08/15</li> <li>6. Verification certificate No. V-0044 of a precision micropipette (Serial No. 4239498 – Object identification No. 6322-35) – Date of verification 19/08/15</li> <li>7. Verification certificate No. V-0045 of a precision micropipette (Serial No. 4286739 – Object identification No. 6322-36) – Date of verification 19/08/15</li> <li>8. Verification certificate No. V-0046 of a precision micropipette (Serial No. 4286739 – Object identification No. 6322-36) – Date of verification 19/08/15</li> </ul>

Description of Record	Date Provided	<b>Comment</b> <sup>1</sup>
AChE worksheet	30/01/16	AChE results:
		<ol> <li>Summary of AChE results of six casualties. Blood samples drawn on 15/02/15, 18/02/15, and 23/02/15</li> <li>Report dated 24/02/15 (12 samples) – Results are presented in the form of "Mean value ± SD". A more detailed report with the same results (dated 23 and 24/02/15) presents the values of the three</li> </ol>
		<ul> <li>repetitions.</li> <li>Report dated 19/02/15 (11 samples) – Results are presented in the form of "Mean value ± SD". Two more detailed reports with the same results (dated respectively 16 and 17/02/15 and 18 and 19/02/15) present the values of the three repetitions.</li> </ul>

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