



OPCW

Executive Council

Ninety-Ninth Session

8 – 11 March 2022

EC-99/NAT.2

15 November 2021

ENGLISH and RUSSIAN only

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

**REQUEST FOR CIRCULATION OF A DOCUMENT
AT THE NINETY-NINTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

The Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the OPCW has requested that a note verbale addressed to the Technical Secretariat, dated 15 November 2021, be circulated as an official document of the Ninety-Ninth Session of the Executive Council.

Annex: Note Verbale No. 58 from the Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the OPCW Addressed to the Technical Secretariat, Dated 15 November 2021



Annex

**NOTE VERBALE NO. 58 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE OPCW ADDRESSED TO THE TECHNICAL
SECRETARIAT, DATED 15 NOVEMBER 2021**



PERMANENT REPRESENTATION
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
TO THE ORGANISATION FOR THE
PROHIBITION
OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

№ 58

The Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) presents its compliments to the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (hereinafter, “the Secretariat”) and, with reference to Note NV/ODG-182/21, dated 9 November 2021 by the Secretariat and Note 109/2021, dated 5 November, by the Permanent Representation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the OPCW, has the honour of requesting that the following response be forwarded to the Permanent Representation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the OPCW.

The Russian side recalls the provisions of paragraph 2, Article IX of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (hereinafter, “the Convention”) stipulating that a State Party which receives a request for clarification is to provide “information sufficient to answer the

**TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT
ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION
OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS**

The Hague

doubt or concern raised along with an explanation of how the information provided resolves the matter” not later than 10 days after receiving said request.

The Russian side regrets to note that it has not received any reasonable responses in the notes verbales from Great Britain (number 101/2021, dated 18 October 2021), Germany (number 41/2021, dated 18 October 2021), France (number 2021-0496245, dated 18 October 2021), or Sweden (no number, dated 18 October 2021), or from the Secretariat (NV/ODG-152/21, dated 14 October 2021) to the questions posed in Note Verbale No. 44, dated 7 October 2021, by the Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the OPCW in line with paragraph 2, Article IX of the Convention— which was conveyed in Note Verbale No. 54, dated 2 November 2021, by the Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation published on the OPCW’s website (EC-98/NAT.13).

As before, the Russian side awaits meaningful responses from Great Britain, Germany, France, and Sweden, as well as the OPCW Secretariat, to the questions posed within the framework of both law enforcement and diplomatic cooperation that was requested by the Russian side (said requests and other materials have been published on the OPCW’s website in EC-98/NAT.8); without those substantive answers, it would appear impossible to confirm or deny the existence of a body of evidence of a crime in the incident with A. Navalny. The questions are as follows:

– Who was the person who accompanied A. Navalny onboard the chartered medical flight from

Omsk to Berlin? What was their departmental affiliation? (An answer is awaited from the Federative Republic of Germany);

– Why was the very fact of a likely demonstrative, rather than objective, provision to the Federative Republic of Germany of requested assistance on 4 – 6 September 2020 through the OPCW hidden from Russia until “the last moment”? (An answer is awaited from the Federative Republic of Germany and the OPCW Secretariat);

– Why is the role of Ms Pevchikh—a freshly minted British national who accompanied A. Navalny to Berlin and who, according to various reports, has close ties to British intelligence—being so carefully concealed? (An answer is awaited from the Federative Republic of Germany and Great Britain);

– Why were traces of some kind of chemicals later detected in the water bottle that she obtained in the airport’s departure zone? For what reason was this bottle not handed over to Russian law enforcement as material evidence? For what reasons was Russian law enforcement not provided with an opportunity to question Ms Pevchikh herself? (An answer is awaited from the Federative Republic of Germany and Great Britain);

– Why is the formula of the chemicals that were allegedly detected in the biomaterials of the Russian citizen outside of the Russian Federation still being hidden from the relevant Russian specialists? (An answer is awaited from the Federative Republic of Germany, France, Sweden, and the OPCW Secretariat).

The Russian Federation avails itself of this opportunity to once again remind the Secretariat of the absence of its response to Note Verbale No. 29, dated 27 July 2021, by the Permanent Representation of the Russian

Federation. The Permanent Representation strongly requests that the Secretariat provide the video materials in its possession that should have been recorded by Secretariat experts first when collecting biological samples from A. Navalny at the Charité clinic, and later when these were split and sealed for their transfer to laboratories designated by the Secretariat to conduct studies, and also to report any other actions taken by the Secretariat within the framework of providing technical assistance to the Federative Republic of Germany on the incident with A. Navalny, a citizen of the Russian Federation.

The Russian side proceeds from the fact that exhaustive, substantive responses to the questions listed above will help answer the main one: where, when, and under what circumstances did the substance that was allegedly detected by German military chemists outside of the Russian Federation—and then classified by them as a “military grade toxic agent” from the “novichok” family but not included in the Annex on Chemicals to the Convention—enter the biomaterials of A. Navalny?

The Russian Federation will continue to press Great Britain, Germany, France, Sweden, and the OPCW Secretariat for comprehensive, substantive information that will contribute to establishing the truth of what took place with A. Navalny.

The Permanent Representation also requests that the Secretariat urgently circulate a copy of this Note among all States Parties to the Convention and publish it on the OPCW’s website and Catalyst platform as an official document of the Ninety-Ninth Session of the OPCW Executive Council.

The Permanent Representation avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.



[initials]

[official seal of the Embassy of Russia in the Netherlands]

The Hague, 15 November 2021

--- 0 ---