



OPCW

Executive Council

109th Session
8 – 11 July 2025

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11 June 2025
ENGLISH and FRENCH only

CHAD

**REQUEST FOR CIRCULATION OF A DOCUMENT
AT THE 109TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

The Embassy of the Republic of Chad to the Benelux countries and the European Union has requested that Note Verbale No. 0050/ATBEL/SD/2025, addressed to the Chairperson of the Executive Council, H.E. Ambassador Thomas Schieb, Permanent Representative of Germany to the OPCW, dated 11 June 2025, be circulated as an official document of the 109th Session of the Executive Council.

Annex: Note Verbale No. 0050/ATBEL/SD/2025 from the Embassy of the Republic of Chad to the Benelux countries and the European Union, Dated 11 June 2025



Annex

**NOTE VERBALE NO. 0050/ATBEL/SD/2025
FROM THE EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHAD TO THE BENELUX
COUNTRIES AND THE EUROPEAN UNION
DATED 11 JUNE 2025**

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EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHAD

To the Benelux Countries
Permanent Representation to the European Union
and the ACP Group of States

No. 0050/ATBEL/SD/2025

Brussels, 11 June 2025

The Embassy of the Republic of Chad to the Benelux countries and the European Union presents its compliments to the Chairperson of the Executive Council of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), **H.E. Ambassador Thomas Schieb**, the Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the OPCW, and has the honour to submit this request to the Executive Council.

Chad, a State Party to the Convention, requests the Executive Council, which will meet for its 109th Session, to consider the reports and findings of third States indicating that chemical weapons have been used in the ongoing conflict in the Sudan, in application of the relevant provisions of the Convention and in particular those related to the prohibition, production, stockpiling, and use of chemical weapons and on their destruction and as provided for in paragraph 4 of Article IX of the Convention.

Chad would recall that pursuant to paragraph 1 of Article I, each State Party to the Convention undertakes, inter alia, *never under any circumstances to retain chemical weapons, to use chemical weapons, or to engage in any military preparations to use chemical weapons*. Likewise, pursuant to paragraph 2 of Article I, each State Party *undertakes to destroy chemical weapons it owns or possesses, or that are located in any place under its jurisdiction*.

Chad is gravely concerned by the allegations of use of chemical weapons in the Republic of the Sudan, echoing the same concerns voiced by several States Parties in regard to the use of chemical weapons in the country, and specifically the statement of the United States of America of 24 April 2025 according to which chemical weapons were used in the ongoing conflict in the Sudan.

Chad warns that any possession and/or use of chemical weapons in the Republic of the Sudan poses a serious threat to regional security. In addition to violating the provisions of the norm against chemical weapons in Africa, the humanitarian and security risks cannot be underestimated. Accordingly, Chad rightly raised its serious concerns during the ministerial conference of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, on 4 June 2025.

In a volatile conflict situation, the presence of chemical weapons poses a catastrophic threat, especially since there is a real risk that such weapons fall into the hands of terrorist groups. In addition, the human toll would be devastating, since none of the actors on the ground are prepared to manage an incident involving chemical weapons against the backdrop of an already appalling humanitarian crisis. The impacts on the entire region would be just as catastrophic.

Based on the foregoing, Chad requests answers to the following questions:

1. Have chemical weapons been used or deployed in the ongoing conflict in the Sudan?
2. With reference to Press Release No. 25/50 issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Sudan on 29 May 2025, regarding the establishment of a national investigative committee, what rules and procedures will be adopted to ensure that the work of the national committee on investigation of the alleged use of chemical weapons in the ongoing conflict in the Sudan is fair, objective, transparent and expeditious? In particular, considering the statement of the Sudanese Government in that press release expressing its *disbelief in the veracity of the allegations*, how will the national committee ensure that the investigation remains impartial and objective? What is the timeline for the investigation? Will the committee provide updates or progress reports? Has the committee engaged or contracted independent investigators, or adopted any other measures to ensure independent verification of any of its findings?
3. Does the Republic of the Sudan possess chemical weapons or is it aware of the presence of chemical weapons?
4. What urgent actions does the OPCW plan to take in order to ensure compliance with the international obligations of the Sudan?

Chad would be grateful if the Technical Secretariat could circulate a copy of this note verbale to all States Parties and post it on the OPCW public website and any other relevant platform as an official document of EC-109.

Chad avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Germany to the OPCW and to the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW the assurances of its highest consideration.

**Chairpersonship of the Executive Council
of the Organisation for the Prohibition
of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)
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