Executive Council





Sixty-Seventh Meeting 1 July 2025

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STATEMENT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AT ITS SIXTY-SEVENTH MEETING

- 1. I take the floor to share with you all of the information that we have at the Secretariat on this matter.
- 2. Following the reported attacks on the Shahid Meysami Group in Karaj, Alborz Province, on 15 and 16 June 2025, the Secretariat has been monitoring the situation related to the declared chemical facility site and the designated laboratory located in the immediate vicinity of the reported attack.
- 3. This has included review and analysis of open-source information on the possible damage to the sites.
- 4. As with other incidents that may affect sites declared under the Convention, the Secretariat remains vigilant through the coverage seven days a week, 24 hours a day of its Situation Centre (SitCen), tracking developments with potential implications for the Convention's implementation.
- 5. In addition, on 22 June 2025, the Permanent Representation of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the OPCW requested, through a note verbale, a meeting of the Executive Council, following a reported Israeli attack on the Shahid Meysami Group facility.
- 6. Accordingly, and in line with the Convention and the Rules of Procedure of the Council, I liaised with the Chairperson of the Executive Council to call for a meeting of the Council.
- 7. I also called the Ambassador Permanent Representative of Iran to the OPCW, upon receipt of the note verbale.
- 8. On 26 June, through note verbale, the Secretariat informed the Permanent Representation of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the OPCW that the Council's meeting would be convened today, Tuesday, 1 July.
- 9. In the same note verbale, the Secretariat also requested the Permanent Representation of Iran to provide any relevant information in its possession regarding the impact of the reported attack on the Shahid Meysami Group facility, directly located in the vicinity of both a chemical facility declared by Iran and of the Iranian OPCW designated laboratory.
- 10. Such information relates, inter alia, to:
 - (a) any damage to a declared site located in the vicinity of the reported attack;
 - (b) the possible release of any toxic chemicals; and

- (c) whether the OPCW designated laboratory, also located in the immediate vicinity of the reported attack, was affected.
- 11. The Permanent Representation of the Islamic Republic of Iran was requested to share its responses with the Secretariat as early as feasible, which to date the Secretariat is still awaiting.
- 12. Such information would be useful to further assessing any impact on the implementation of the Convention in the Islamic Republic of Iran.
- 13. I recall that Article VI of the Convention requires States Parties, inter alia, to submit initial and annual declarations of relevant chemicals listed in the three Schedules of the Annex on Chemicals to the Convention.
- 14. States Parties are further required to subject the declared chemicals and facilities to data monitoring by the Secretariat and grant access to OPCW inspectors for on-site verification.
- 15. Declarations are the cornerstone of the verification regime.
- 16. The Verification Annex clarifies that the aim of inspections is to verify that the activities at declared sites are consistent with the obligations under the Convention, and are also consistent with the information to be provided in the declarations, to guarantee that there is no diversion of dangerous chemicals for illegal purposes.
- 17. More detailed information concerning the declared facility in the vicinity of the reported attack, together with the activities at the facility, and whether the facility has been inspected and, if so, when, is classified.
- 18. This facility has been declared for several years.
- 19. I note that, in line with the Organisation's procedures, many of you, 66 States Parties in total, including 23 members of this Council, already have in your possession information related to this declared site, provided upon your request.
- 20. As to the Iranian laboratory designated for both biomedical and environmental sample analysis, we are not aware of any negative impact on its functioning.
- 21. The Iranian facility hit by the reported attack is not a declared facility, and consequently the Secretariat does not have the mandate to conduct on-site verification or data monitoring of this place.
- 22. Should other States Parties have information about the above-mentioned facility that may be of relevance under the Convention, the Secretariat stands ready to receive such information and to consider it further.
- 23. I recall that, just like the use of chemical weapons, the targeting of chemical facilities, whether they are declared or not, may constitute a violation of the legal norms and standards of the international community.
- 24. These constitute principles of international customary law that are universally recognised.