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The Permanent Representation of Ukraine to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons presents its compliments to the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and has the honour to reiterate that During the 109th session of the Executive Council in March 2025, Ukraine officially submitted its candidature for membership of the OPCW Executive Council for the 2026–2028 term.

Guided by its steadfast commitment to the OPCW's mission and to the principles of international peace and security, Ukraine is confident in its capacity to continue serving on the Executive Council, offering continuity, institutional expertise, and a well-established record of constructive engagement (*aide-mémoire outlining Ukraine's candidature is enclosed herewith*).

Since joining the OPCW in 1999, Ukraine has been an active, constructive, and responsible member of the Organization. As a current member of the Executive Council, Ukraine has diligently worked to uphold and advance the OPCW's mandate to eliminate chemical weapons and prevent their use under any circumstances.

Ukraine has consistently fulfilled all its obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention and has contributed to strengthening the Organization's verification regime, capacity-building initiatives, and outreach activities.

Drawing on its experience during the current term, Ukraine has actively promoted dialogue, consensus-building, and effective decision-making within the Executive Council. It has supported initiatives to enhance transparency, preparedness, and international cooperation, particularly in the face of emerging security challenges and technological developments. Ukraine has consistently acted to ensure that the provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention are fully respected and not violated under any circumstances.

**Technical Secretariat of the Organisation
for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons**
The Hague

Ukraine would be deeply honoured to receive the valued support of OPCW Member States for its candidature to the OPCW Executive Council for the 2026–2028 term.

The Permanent Representation of Ukraine to the OPCW requests that this Note Verbale with the aforementioned aide-mémoire be shared with all the States Parties on Catalyst and public website, and avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW the assurances of its highest consideration.

Enclosure: as mentioned, on 2 pages.



The Hague, 13 August 2025

Candidature of Ukraine to the OPCW Executive Council for the 2026–2028 term

AIDE-MÉMOIRE

During the 109th session of the Executive Council in March 2025, Ukraine officially submitted its candidature for membership of the Executive Council of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons for the 2026–2028 term, thereby reaffirming its steadfast commitment to the full implementation and advancement of the objectives of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

In presenting its candidature, Ukraine expresses its confidence that its unwavering adherence to the Convention, its active and constructive engagement within the OPCW, and its unique experience in countering chemical threats merit the valued support of all Member States.

1. Unwavering Commitment of Ukraine to the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Ukraine remains a steadfast and principled State Party to the Chemical Weapons Convention. Since ratifying the Convention, Ukraine has consistently demonstrated its firm commitment to the complete and irreversible prohibition of chemical weapons and to upholding the CWC as a cornerstone of international peace and security. Ukraine has scrupulously fulfilled all its obligations under the Convention, including those related to declarations, non-proliferation, and cooperation. This commitment is firmly embedded in Ukraine's national security policy and reflects its enduring dedication to the shared objective of a world free of chemical weapons.

2. Active Engagement with the OPCW and Proactive Stance on Disarmament.

Ukraine has consistently demonstrated active and constructive engagement in the work of the OPCW. In presenting its candidature, Ukraine draws upon its substantial experience as a current member of the Executive Council for the 2024–2026 term.

Ukraine fully supports the Organisation's mandate to achieve the global elimination of chemical weapons and to ensure strict adherence to the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Throughout its tenure, the Ukrainian delegation has participated actively in the Council's regular sessions and engaged substantively in deliberations on key issues related to chemical disarmament, OPCW-mandated activities, and the development and adoption of significant executive decisions.

In response to credible reports of the use of prohibited chemical agents on its territory, Ukraine has promptly and formally engaged the OPCW, requesting investigations and providing full cooperation to the Technical Secretariat. This proactive approach underscores Ukraine's firm belief in the essential role of the OPCW's verification and investigation mechanisms and its commitment to ensuring accountability for any violations of the CWC. Furthermore, Ukraine has actively participated in, and benefited from, the OPCW's Assistance and Protection Programme, thereby enhancing its national preparedness and response capacities against chemical threats. This engagement reflects Ukraine's dedication not only to its national security but also to the collective security framework upheld by the Convention.

At the national level, Ukraine continues to strengthen the implementation of the CWC through long-term strategic planning, enhancement of chemical safety legislation, development of modern

laboratory and analytical capacities, and ongoing cooperation with international partners to improve preparedness and response within its chemical industry. These sustained efforts reinforce Ukraine's resilience and contribute to the OPCW's mission by promoting collective capacity-building, disseminating best practices, and addressing emerging challenges in chemical disarmament.

3. Unique Perspective and Vital Contribution to the Executive Council.

As a State Party directly affected by violations of the CWC, as documented in three OPCW reports (18 November 2024, 14 February 2025, and 20 June 2025), Ukraine brings a unique and invaluable perspective to the Executive Council. Its experience underscores the critical importance of strengthening full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of the Convention, including those relating to the economic and technological development of States Parties, particularly in the areas of international cooperation and assistance.

Ukraine's presence on the Council would enable it to:

- *Reinforce the Council's Mandate:* Contribute directly to promoting the effective implementation of the CWC and ensuring compliance by all States Parties.
- *Advocate for Accountability:* Promote measures to hold perpetrators accountable for violations of the Chemical Weapons Convention, reinforcing the international norm prohibiting the use of chemical weapons
- *Share Practical Experience:* Offer practical insights and expertise gained from national preparedness and response to chemical threats, enriching Council deliberations on assistance and protection.
- *Promote Multilateralism:* Further strengthen the multilateral framework for chemical disarmament and non-proliferation.

CONCLUSION

Ukraine's candidature for the Executive Council for the 2026–2028 term is grounded in its unwavering commitment to the CWC, its active and constructive engagement with the OPCW, and its unique, firsthand experience in upholding the global legal framework against chemical weapons. Ukraine's direct experience as a victim of chemical weapons violations provides a vital perspective to Council deliberations, enhancing focus on compliance, investigation, and accountability.

Through its continued engagement with the OPCW Technical Secretariat on assistance and protection, and its persistent advocacy for adherence to international norms, Ukraine would contribute substantively to the Council's work in promoting global chemical disarmament and strengthening safeguards against future chemical threats.

Ukraine is confident that its membership in the Executive Council would make a substantive contribution to the effective fulfilment of the Council's responsibilities and the broader objectives of the Convention. It respectfully seeks the esteemed support of all States Parties for its candidature.