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REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL**STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT
NETWORK FOR VICTIMS OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS**

1. The Conference of the States Parties (the Conference) at its Sixteenth Session endorsed a proposal for the establishment of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons and the establishment of a voluntary trust fund for this purpose (C-16/DEC.13, dated 2 December 2011). The decision requests the Director-General to report biennially on the status of its implementation. Accordingly, this report covers the period from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2025.
2. The Conference decided that all activities undertaken in the context of this network should be financed solely from voluntary contributions, without any financial implications for the regular budget, and to be channelled through the Trust Fund for the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons (the Trust Fund), to be established for this purpose by the Director-General. In 2012, the Technical Secretariat (the Secretariat) established the Trust Fund in accordance with decision C-16/DEC.13.
3. Within the reporting period, Andorra provided two voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund, one of EUR 5,000 in November 2023 and one of EUR 5,000 in August 2024. In addition, Austria contributed EUR 18,692 to the Trust Fund in December 2023.
4. During the reporting period, EUR 42,709.19 was spent on activities supporting the role of the network, particularly on exchanging information on experiences related to the treatment of victims of chemical weapons. Two medical trainings were partially funded by the Trust Fund: a regional training event for the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, organised in March 2023 in Madrid, Spain, and an international medical training organised in October 2023 in Tehran, the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Trust Fund currently stands at EUR 101,957.17.
5. The Secretariat has established a page on the OPCW public website dedicated to the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons (<https://www.opcw.org/our-work/supporting-victims-chemical-weapons>). An oral history of survivors of chemical warfare, along with links to useful and relevant resources, is currently available on this webpage. The page is also intended to serve as a platform for the exchange of information and ideas on the issue of chemical weapons victims.



6. Following one of the recommendations from the symposium on the medical treatment of chemical weapons victims in 2018, the Secretariat is finalising a publication on the long-term effects of exposure to chemical weapons. This document is scheduled for release in 2026.
7. To further implement decision C-16/DEC.13, the Secretariat continues to encourage all States Parties in a position to do so to actively support the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons by, inter alia:
 - (a) providing financial contributions to the Trust Fund;
 - (b) providing medical treatment to victims of chemical weapons in their countries;
 - (c) organising events to raise awareness of victims of chemical weapons at the national level;
 - (d) exchanging information on experiences related to the treatment of victims of chemical weapons by, for example, providing research scholarships to developing States Parties in the field of the medical treatment of victims of chemical weapons; and
 - (e) facilitating material and equipment-related assistance to States Parties to assist and support the victims of chemical weapons.

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