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NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

RELEASE OF THE OPCW CENTRAL ANALYTICAL DATABASE

1. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW wishes to inform States Parties of the latest release of the OPCW Central Analytical Database (OCAD). The updated version of the OCAD (version 28_2026) contains data on infrared (IR) spectroscopy, mass spectrometry (MS), nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy, gas chromatography (retention indices) (GC(RI)), tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS), and gas chromatography-high resolution mass spectrometry (GC-HRMS). The analytical database, the On-site OCAD v.28, which is a subset of the OCAD, can also be found in the package. This version of the OCAD was prepared in accordance with the decision of the Executive Council (the Council) at its Fourth Session entitled “Proposed Mechanism for Updating the OPCW Central Analytical Database” (EC-IV/DEC.2, dated 5 September 1997), which was subsequently approved by the Conference of the States Parties (the Conference) at its Second Session (subparagraph 11.2(c) of C-II/8, dated 5 December 1997). The databases were certified in accordance with the decision “Authentication and Certification Procedure for the OPCW Central Analytical Database and On-Site Databases”, which was adopted by the Council at its Sixty-Second Session (EC-62/DEC.3, dated 6 October 2010).
2. These databases have been updated with data on scheduled chemicals (including the scheduled chemicals recently added through Conference decisions C-24/DEC.4 and C-24/DEC.5, both dated 27 November 2019) and data on non-scheduled chemicals relevant to the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention) approved by the Council at its 109th Session (EC-109/DEC.1 and EC-109/DEC.2, both dated 8 July 2025).
3. The On-site OCAD v.28 contains MS data (MS spectra) as well as GC(RI) data, which are provided in a combined format and used with OPCW equipment for on-site analysis. A database selection programme enables subsets of the On-site OCAD data to be selected during inspections. The use of data on non-scheduled chemicals relevant to the Convention is subject to agreement from the inspected State Party in accordance with Council decision EC-86/DEC.10 (dated 13 October 2017), as well as Conference decision C-I/DEC.64 (dated 22 May 1997) and Corr.1 (dated 13 October 1997).
4. Copies of the OCAD on DVD and USB flash drive are available at the documentation counter at the OPCW Main Building and at the OPCW Centre for Chemistry and Technology. Additionally, a copy of the OCAD can be downloaded from the OPCW servers upon request sent to ocad@opcw.org.

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