

**REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL****STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE X OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS
CONVENTION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025****1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This report covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2025. All dates provided herein fall within that period, unless otherwise stated. This report aligns the annual status update on the implementation of Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention) with the 2025 international cooperation and assistance work programme.
- 1.2 As set out in this report, the Technical Secretariat (the Secretariat) has continued to assist States Parties in implementing the provisions of Article X. In the area of assistance and protection, the Secretariat continued to play an important role in supporting States Parties in their development of robust and effective national protection plans and first-response capabilities against chemical incidents and attacks. In 2025, the Secretariat significantly advanced the implementation of Article X through a comprehensive and regionally balanced programme of assistance and protection activities aimed at strengthening national and regional preparedness for, and response to, chemical emergencies. A core focus of the year was systematic capacity building of first responders, technical experts, medical personnel, and investigators across all regions, delivered through multi-tiered training cycles using a hybrid methodology. These activities enhanced States Parties' capabilities in key technical domains, including detection, identification, and monitoring of toxic chemicals, use of personal protective equipment, decontamination, sampling and analysis, incident command systems, and medical and hospital preparedness. Particular emphasis was placed on hands-on, scenario-based exercises, integrated courses combining theory and field practice, and the use of modern tools and methodologies, with the aim that the training be translated into operational readiness at the national level.
- 1.3 The aim of the Secretariat's Assistance and Protection Branch is to support States Parties in reducing risks associated with incidents involving toxic chemicals, as part of the focus on preventing the re-emergence of chemical weapons. The Branch's mission is:
- (a) to reduce the harm and impact caused by incidents involving toxic chemicals by supporting States Parties in their development of robust and effective first-response capabilities and capacities and national protection plans; and
 - (b) to strengthen deterrence of the malicious use of toxic chemicals through enhanced first-response capabilities in States Parties to investigate incidents involving the use of toxic chemicals.



- 1.4 As long as the threat of the malicious use of toxic chemicals persists, there will be a need to maintain and improve the capabilities of all States Parties to mount domestic responses and to assist other States Parties through partnership frameworks. During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued to work closely with several regional and subregional organisations to enhance collective capacities to respond effectively to chemical emergencies. It will continue to reach out to such organisations in other regions, strengthening its facilitation of regionally coordinated response measures.
- 1.5 In partnership with donor States Parties and partner training centres, the Assistance and Protection Branch conducted a total of 55 capacity-building activities for over 1,100 participants, across all events. Participants benefited from a broad range of training opportunities aimed at supporting Article X implementation. During the reporting period, in-person capacity-building activities were conducted in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, and Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as internationally for participants from all regional groups.
- 1.6 During the reporting period, the Assistance and Protection Branch implemented, for the second year, the integrated advanced course and exercise at both the regional and international levels. This training cycle consists of a two-month online course and a face-to-face course combining the basic and advanced courses of the assistance and protection training cycle together with a final exercise, over seven training days. This was in continuation of the pilot revision of the assistance and protection training cycle, which was initiated in 2024, based on participant feedback and the need to optimise resources. The previous training cycle comprised two in-person and three online courses. In the new mode, the expanded capacity-development portfolio maintains the training cycle's objective of enhancing the preparedness and response capabilities of States Parties, while making efficient use of resources by avoiding duplication of topics. The online component of the revised integrated advanced course and exercise provides specialists from States Parties with information relevant to the implementation of Article X of the Convention, including the basic principles of protection against chemical weapons and response to incidents involving chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals. The online component supports preparation for the intensive, practical, hands-on training and scenario-based face-to-face exercises. In 2025, the integrated advanced course and exercise was held regionally in Asia, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean, and internationally.
- 1.7 The Secretariat continued to deliver support to Ukraine, upon its request, in the field of assistance and protection. Contributions from States Parties to the Trust Fund for the Implementation of Article X have allowed the Secretariat to assist Ukrainian experts by conducting specialised training courses, both online and in person, in Spain and in the Netherlands at the OPCW Centre for Chemistry and Technology (ChemTech Centre) in Pijnacker-Nootdorp, by conducting technical assistance visits, and through the provision of equipment.
- 1.8 Progress in the implementation of the Medical Action Plan, which provides a strategic framework under Article X to strengthen States Parties' medical preparedness and response capacities for incidents and events involving chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals through capacity building, continued during the reporting period with a focus on advancing the standardisation and harmonisation of medical training. To this end, the Assistance and Protection Branch organised three medical

training courses in 2025: the hospital preparedness training course for African States Parties, held in Nairobi, Kenya (12 to 16 May 2025); the hospital preparedness training course for States Parties from the Asian region held in Dhaka, Bangladesh (5 to 9 October 2025); and the international training course on medical response to toxic industrial chemicals and chemical warfare agents held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (1 to 5 September 2025). These activities strengthened medical and hospital preparedness at the national, regional, and international levels, while fostering a shared understanding of good practices and common reference approaches for medical responses. The courses also facilitated the identification and engagement of trained medical professionals and specialised health centres dedicated to the treatment of victims, supporting the development of a pool of experts able to contribute to future training activities and to the progressive harmonisation of medical response-related aspects across regions.

- 1.9 The Secretariat prioritised targeted and inclusive approaches to assistance under Article X, reflecting evolving risk contexts and States Parties' specific needs. This included continued specialised training on investigation of chemical incidents and alleged use of chemical weapons and sustained investment in instructor development and training-of-trainers programmes to promote national ownership and long-term sustainability. Gender-responsive programming, notably through a dedicated training cycle for women first responders, and structured follow-up mechanisms such as refresher courses and post-training webinars, further reinforced the impact and continuity of assistance. These efforts strengthened international cooperation, enhanced practical preparedness and response capacities, and reaffirmed the Secretariat's role in supporting States Parties in fulfilling their Article X obligations in an increasingly complex chemical threat environment.

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE X

- 2.1 In accordance with the Programme and Budget of the OPCW and the relevant decisions of the policy-making organs, the activities of the OPCW in relation to Article X of the Convention during the period under review were focused on the following main areas:
- (a) information submitted by States Parties on their national programmes for protection against chemical weapons;
 - (b) support for the renewed OPCW Protection and Assistance Databank;
 - (c) mobilisation of international contributions to capacity-building activities for the enhancement of States Parties' capabilities to respond to chemical weapons-related incidents through the use of offers by States Parties, including those related to in-person and remote training courses on assistance and protection;
 - (d) support for States Parties in developing and improving their national capabilities in relation to protection against chemical weapons, including the provision of technical advice;
 - (e) assistance in the implementation of the decision entitled "The Establishment of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons and the Establishment of a Voluntary Trust Fund for This Purpose" taken by the Conference of the States Parties (the Conference) at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.13, dated 2 December 2011);

- (f) engagement with relevant international organisations with mandates relating to assistance and protection to strengthen cooperation and coordination in the provision of assistance to the States Parties concerned in cases of use or serious threat of use of chemical weapons, as provided for in paragraph 9 of Article X; and
- (g) facilitation of informal consultations on Article X issues and the fostering of other exchange platforms to further strengthen the framework for the full implementation of Article X.

Information submitted by States Parties on their national programmes for protection against chemical weapons (paragraph 4 of Article X)

- 2.2 Between 1 January and 31 December 2025, the following States Parties provided information on their national programmes and/or measures that they have in place for protection against chemical weapons: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, the Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, the Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Romania, the Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), and Viet Nam. Of these, Barbados, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Chile, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Myanmar, Peru, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Seychelles, Suriname, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), and Viet Nam declared that they had neither national programmes nor measures in place for protection against chemical weapons.
- 2.3 Between entry into force of the Convention and 31 December 2025, 165 out of 193 States Parties submitted information on their national programmes for protection against chemical weapons. To increase the number of submissions from States Parties and to achieve universal compliance with the obligation under paragraph 4 of Article X of the Convention, the Secretariat has repeatedly reminded States Parties, both collectively and individually, of the importance of meeting the deadline for submission of information on national programmes.
- 2.4 In April 2025, the Secretariat circulated Note Verbale NV/ICA/APB-761/25 (dated 8 May 2025) to all States Parties requesting that, pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article X, they make their annual submissions on their national programmes related to protective purposes. The Secretariat continued to encourage States Parties to provide the relevant submissions for 2024 through presentations and sessions held during informal consultations on Article X and several meetings of National Authorities.
- 2.5 To facilitate the exchange of information and the compilation of national policies and effective practices concerning gender-related factors in protection against chemical weapons, the Secretariat encourages States Parties to consider adding the relevant information to their annual information on national programmes.

Support of the OPCW Protection and Assistance Databank (paragraph 5 of Article X)

- 2.6 At its First Session, the Conference adopted a decision requesting the Secretariat to establish and maintain a databank containing freely available information on various means of protection against chemical weapons (C-I/DEC.53, dated 16 May 1997). Pursuant to that decision, the Secretariat established the Protection and Assistance Databank, as required under paragraph 5 of Article X of the Convention. Since December 2006, a version of the databank has been available for use by National Authorities and Permanent Representations to the OPCW. It is now available through the OPCW Catalyst portal, with password-protected access.
- 2.7 In a Note circulated in 2025 (EC-109/S/12, dated 5 June 2025), the Secretariat updated the Executive Council (the Council) on the status of the databank, its improved functionality, and its content and use, covering paragraphs 3, 4, 5, and 7 of Article X of the Convention.

Mobilisation of international contributions for the enhancement of States Parties' capabilities to respond to chemical weapons-related incidents through the use of offers by States Parties, including those related to international training courses on assistance and protection

- 2.8 In accordance with Article X, each State Party has the right to request and receive assistance and protection in the event of use or threat of use of chemical weapons. The OPCW must, therefore, be ready to mobilise an international response that would be required in such a situation. Since entry into force of the Convention, 82 States Parties have made offers of assistance or provided assistance through the Organisation under paragraph 7 of Article X in one or several of the following modalities, namely by:
- (a) contributing to the Voluntary Fund for Assistance;
 - (b) concluding an agreement with the Organisation concerning the procurement of assistance; or
 - (c) declaring the kind of assistance they might provide in response to a request of the Organisation (see Annex 2).
- 2.9 As at 31 December 2025, 48 States Parties had made contributions to the Voluntary Fund for Assistance, the balance of which had reached a total of EUR 1,681,131 (see Annex 3).
- 2.10 During the reporting period, the Organisation did not conclude any new bilateral agreements concerning the procurement of assistance. To date, only the Islamic Republic of Iran and Peru have signed such an agreement with the Secretariat.

Support for States Parties in developing and improving their national capabilities in relation to protection against chemical weapons, including the provision of technical advice (paragraph 5 of Article X)

- 2.11 During the reporting period the Secretariat, in cooperation with States Parties, continued to organise online and in-person capacity-building activities aimed at the development and improvement of national protection capabilities against chemical weapons.

Cooperation received from the States Parties included the development of the training course concept, video lectures, the hosting of events, the sharing of specialised facilities and expertise, and the provision of instructors, as well as other national resources that were placed at the disposal of the Organisation.

Activities conducted during the reporting period (1 January to 31 December 2025)

- 2.12 Article X implementation activities conducted in 2025 are reflected in three Notes by the Secretariat containing updates on events organised by the Secretariat in the area of international cooperation and assistance: S/2408/2025 (dated 26 May 2025), covering the period January to April 2025 (see paragraphs 10 to 24); S/2448/2025 (dated 29 September 2025), covering the period May to August 2025 (see paragraphs 12 to 30); and S/2483/2026 (dated 9 February 2026), covering the period September to December 2025 (see paragraphs 12 to 31).

Assistance in the implementation of Conference decision C-16/DEC.13 on “The Establishment of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons and the Establishment of a Voluntary Trust Fund for This Purpose”

- 2.13 As at the closing date of this report, the balance of the Voluntary Trust Fund for the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons stood at EUR 132,685.68.¹
- 2.14 Following the publication in 2020 of an updated version of the Practical Guide for Medical Management of Chemical Warfare Casualties, the Secretariat is finalising a companion book on the long-term effects of exposure to chemical weapons on victims, with expected completion in 2026. During the reporting period, the Secretariat organised three medical training sessions to highlight assistance and protection in relation to medical aspects and protective measures for victims and potential victims of chemical weapons.
- 2.15 From 12 to 16 May 2025, the hospital preparedness training course for African States Parties was held in Nairobi, Kenya. The training focused on strengthening capacity building in African hospitals and medical institutions that may be called upon to respond in the aftermath of a chemical terrorism incident. It covered the general principles of emergency planning, patient reception, triage of chemical casualties, pre-hospital procedures, decontamination of chemical casualties, administration of antidotes for chemical casualties, and information on chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals, their classification, properties, types of exposure, donning and doffing procedures, and detection and sampling procedures.
- 2.16 The Secretariat organised an international training course on medical response to toxic industrial chemicals and chemical warfare agents in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from 1 to 5 September 2025, in collaboration with the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation and the Galeão Air Force Hospital. The course’s objective was to strengthen hospital preparedness, share medical protocols, and provide practical training in personal protective equipment, decontamination, detection, and psychological support.

¹ The figure presented is provisional as at 31 December 2025.

- 2.17 From 5 to 9 October 2025, the regional medical and hospital preparedness course for Asian States Parties was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, with the support of Latvia. The course combined theoretical elements, including practical field exercises and demonstrations, with technical content. The long-term objective was to strengthen the medical preparedness of hospitals and health systems in case of chemical emergencies. This course was organised in collaboration with the Bangladesh National Authority for the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Bangladesh Armed Forces Division, with the participation of the Combined Military Hospital and the Kurmitola General Hospital.

Engagement with relevant international organisations with mandates relating to assistance and protection in order to strengthen cooperation and coordination in the provision of assistance to the States Parties concerned in cases of use or serious threat of use of chemical weapons (paragraph 9 of Article X)

- 2.18 The Secretariat has continued its interaction with relevant international and regional organisations and continues to seek partnerships and synergies, where interests are shared and mandates are complementary.

The holding of informal consultations on Article X issues and the fostering of other exchange platforms to further strengthen the conceptual framework for the full implementation of Article X

- 2.19 The facilitator for Article X issues, Ms Martina Filippiová, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the OPCW, convened informal consultations in a hybrid format (online and in person) on 21 February 2025 under the direction of H.E. Ambassador Mutlaq bin Majed Al Qahtani, Vice-Chairperson of the Council and coordinator for chemical weapons issues. The participating delegations received a presentation on the overview of the implementation of Article X as of 31 December 2024 and on the work plan and strategy for capacity-building activities for 2025. The Secretariat also presented the key components of the Medical Action Plan and provided an overview to the delegations on the medical consultancy meeting held in 2024 to develop a syllabus for medical training on the management of victims exposed to chemical weapons.
- 2.20 Further informal consultations on the implementation of Article X were conducted in a hybrid format on 3 July 2025 under the direction of H.E. Ambassador Hadi Farajvand, the newly appointed Vice-Chairperson of the Council and coordinator for chemical weapons issues. The newly appointed facilitator for Article X issues, Ms Enikő Petóházi, Deputy Permanent Representative of Hungary to the OPCW, convened the informal consultations in a hybrid format. The delegations present received an update from the Secretariat on the organisation of medical capacity-building events for States Parties, including the content of these trainings, the participation demographics and future priorities on medical capacity-building events. The delegations were also informed about the online Protection and Assistance Databank platform and recent enhancements done to the platform with a view to making it more user-friendly, including the introduction of freely available information pursuant to paragraph 5 of Article X, that enables States Parties to submit freely available information on various means of protection against chemical weapons. It also included an upgrade on the unilateral offers of assistance under subparagraph 7(c) which allows offers that are expired and/or no longer valid to be archived, while ensuring that up-to-date information is maintained in the system.

- 2.21 The final informal consultations during the reporting period were held in a hybrid mode on 26 September 2025. The participating delegates heard a presentation on the status of implementation of the 2025 Assistance and Protection Branch work plan and priorities for 2026. The Secretariat also presented the priorities with regard to the multi-component exercise of CHEMEX Latin America and the Caribbean and CHEMEX Africa II. The preparation towards both these events is geared towards enhancing States Parties' preparedness and response capacities against chemical emergencies.

Current status and considerations

- 2.22 Progress continued in 2025 towards advancing the objectives of Article X, in particular maintaining and strengthening the Organisation's readiness to respond to requests for assistance and enhancing States Parties' capacities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to incidents involving chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals. Throughout the reporting period, the Secretariat implemented an extensive, demand-driven programme of assistance and protection activities, reflecting regional priorities, operational lessons learned, and evolving chemical risk environments. Emphasis was placed on strengthening practical preparedness and response capabilities through structured training cycles, integrated advanced courses and exercises, and specialised training. The following significant points should be highlighted:
- (a) From 1 January to 31 December 2025, the Secretariat delivered an extensive programme of 55 assistance and protection-related activities, reaching over 1,100 participants from States Parties across all regions. Through a balanced combination of 27 in-person training events and workshops and 28 online training courses, these activities worked towards strengthening national and regional capacities to prepare for and respond to incidents involving chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals, in support of the effective implementation of Article X.
 - (b) Fulfilment of obligations under paragraph 4 of Article X continues to pose difficulties, given the ongoing low rate of submissions by States Parties. The Assistance and Protection Branch continues to tailor efforts aimed at achieving a better understanding and an in-depth sensitisation of States Parties with regard to this important transparency provision of the Convention, with a view to improving the rate of submissions. These efforts by the Secretariat focused on requesting all States Parties to make their annual submissions on their national programmes related to protective purposes, in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article X of the Convention.
 - (c) The Secretariat continues to encourage States Parties to consider the options contained in paragraph 7 of Article X as an important means to support and strengthen Article X implementation and to review and update offers currently archived in the Protection and Assistance Databank. The Secretariat, under subparagraph 39(b) of Article VIII, is ready to work alongside States Parties to ensure that offers of assistance under subparagraphs 7(b) and 7(c) remain current.
 - (d) In order to identify suitable institutions to help implement the regional capacity-building approach followed by the Secretariat, continuous interaction with States Parties remains pivotal, and has allowed the OPCW to count on the

support of a number of institutions of States Parties from all geographical regions. These institutions currently interact with the Secretariat in providing international, regional, and subregional training and constitute important pillars of assistance and protection capacity-building programmes.

- (e) During the reporting period, the Assistance and Protection Branch fully implemented the training cycles on assistance and protection, which is available in English, French, and Spanish. In addition, Arabic translations of online training material have been completed.
- (f) The Secretariat continued to implement its multi-component regional and international training cycles on assistance and protection, consisting of foundational, basic, and advanced components in a hybrid format. Full year-long cycles were held in Asia, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean, in addition to the 2024 – 2025 international cycles. These training cycles strengthened States Parties' capabilities in key technical areas, including detection, identification, and monitoring, decontamination, sampling analysis, incident command systems, and hot zone management, and incorporated hands-on, scenario-based exercises to reinforce operational readiness.
- (g) Building on lessons learned from previous years and building upon the multi-component training cycles, the Secretariat further expanded the use of the integrated advanced course and exercise, initiated previously as a pilot in 2024, combining theoretical instruction, practical field activities, and final exercises within a single training framework. These courses were implemented across multiple regions and internationally in 2025 and consisted of online and face-to-face courses. The face-to-face workshops were held for Latin America and the Caribbean States Parties in Panama (21 to 27 July), Asian States Parties in Malaysia (13 to 19 August), French-speaking African States Parties in Tunisia (25 September to 2 October), and internationally in Pakistan (4 to 11 November). The integrated advanced course and exercise contributed to reducing duplication, enhancing training coherence, and optimising the use of financial and human resources, while strengthening preparedness and response capacities in a realistic operational context, with an emphasis on practical hands-on scenarios and operational contexts.
- (h) Specialised and tailored assistance continued to be provided in 2025 in response to specific requests from States Parties. In particular, the Secretariat sustained its support to Ukraine through specialised training programmes. In 2025, the Secretariat organised seven training courses for a total of 136 Ukrainian experts. These included three in-person sampling courses for the investigation of chemical weapons use conducted at the ChemTech Centre, attended by 60 participants. Three courses on the emergency response to incidents involving toxic chemicals were delivered online for 58 participants, and one was organised in person as a follow-up of the online course attended by 18 participants. The courses were designed to provide participants with theoretical knowledge and practical skills to respond to incidents related to the use of chemical warfare agents and the release of toxic industrial chemicals. They were also intended to prepare first responders for hands-on training in the use of chemical reconnaissance detectors, as well as basic techniques for sampling and preserving evidence in a hot zone. Training activities

focused on emergency response, sampling, documentation, and investigation of incidents involving toxic chemicals and alleged use of chemical weapons, with the objective of strengthening national response and investigative capacities in line with the highest international standards. In addition to training activities, two technical assistance visits were conducted by the Secretariat to Ukraine upon the country's request (S/2370/2025, dated 14 February 2025 and S/2415/2025, dated 20 June 2025). Seven additional FirstDefender RM detectors were also delivered to Ukraine in 2025.

- (i) In 2025, the Secretariat completed the international training cycle on assistance and protection for women first responders (2024 – 2025) in collaboration with the Swiss Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Defense School of the Swiss Armed Forces. The advanced course and exercise, conducted through support received also from the Government of Germany, was held in Spiez, Switzerland (10 to 14 March). The course provided fundamental training in protection against chemical weapons and included practical training with chemical detection and decontamination equipment. Participants included women first responders from military, police, firefighting, and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosives (CBRNE) units. It highlighted the efforts of the OPCW to address gender-related challenges and needs in chemical emergency preparedness, and expanded opportunities for women in a traditionally male-dominated field. The Secretariat also continued to encourage applications from women for capacity-building training and to promote the involvement of women instructors in such activities, resulting in increased female participation.
- (j) The ChemTech Centre, which provides a uniquely equipped training environment where trainers from States Parties can exchange and share experiences and best practices with Secretariat experts, has contributed to the creation of new capacity-building opportunities. During the reporting period, the Centre was used to deliver specialised courses for Ukrainian experts as well as the pilot training-of-trainers programme for instructors on assistance and protection under the framework of Article X.
- (k) The Instructor Development and Exchange Programme continued to enjoy wide support, as it contributes to the enhancement of individual and collective preparation and to increased sustainability of the Organisation's capacity-building efforts. It will continue to be implemented, including at the regional and subregional level. Interaction among partner training centres will also continue to be promoted and facilitated as circumstances allow. Their engagement with the online assistance and protection capacity-building activities, from basic to specialised courses, has been beneficial to expanding and strengthening the network of experts within and across the regions.
- (l) In 2025, the Secretariat launched a pilot training of trainers for first responders programme, with the support of the Government of Italy. This course is comprised of an online phase, an autonomous learning phase and two face-to-face workshops. It aims to support the continuous professional development of instructors and to strengthen sustainable national and regional training capacities in chemical emergency response. Following the online learning phase, a face-to-face workshop was held at the ChemTech Centre

(4 to 7 November). This workshop provided expert guidance to improve trainers' skills in the design, development, and delivery of basic chemical emergency response training. The first face-to-face workshop was followed by an autonomous learning phase, enabling participants to apply their learning at the national level under the mentorship of course instructors. The second face-to-face workshop to complete the training cycle is scheduled to take place in 2026.

- (m) Progress continued in the Africa region to improve national and regional capacities to respond to incidents involving chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals. In 2025, relevant online and in-person activities took place to implement the sixth phase of the OPCW Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention. Under the framework of Article X, key training for African States Parties conducted in 2025 included the year-long assistance and protection training cycle for first responders for African States Parties, comprised of a basic course held in Zambia (21 to 25 July) and an advanced course and exercise held in Namibia (8 to 13 September), a training course for African States Parties on chemical incident preparedness for hospitals (12 to 16 May), and a sampling and analysis in highly contaminated environments course for African States Parties (23 to 26 February). In addition, with the support of the Government of France, an integrated advanced course and exercise for French-speaking African States Parties (25 September to 2 October) and an investigation of chemical incidents course for French-speaking African States Parties (4 to 11 April) were conducted. An online assistance and protection refresher course for East Africa Community (EAC) instructors to reinforce their learnings from the 7th Operational Training on Chemical Emergency Response for EAC instructors was delivered in 2025 by the Secretariat, in partnership with the Population Protection Institute, Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic (15 and 16 April 2025).
- (n) As part of the OPCW 2024 – 2025 training cycle on the investigation of chemical incidents for French-speaking Member States in Africa, an online and an advanced course were delivered in 2025 in Côte d'Ivoire (4 to 11 April), with support from the Government of France. The preparatory online course equipped participants with essential technical knowledge to support effective emergency response, enabling the subsequent face-to-face phase to focus primarily on practical application. Building on the online course and the previous basic course held in 2024, the advanced course provided hands-on training in the investigation of chemical incidents, with particular emphasis on scene documentation and sampling, strengthening the operational readiness and confidence of first responders to manage incidents involving the potential use of toxic chemicals.
- (o) Following up on a capacity-building workshop on the use of the Online Self-Assessment Tool held in 2024 with members of the RACVIAC–Centre for Security Cooperation in South-Eastern Europe, the Secretariat conducted a basic course in assistance and protection on the Convention for RACVIAC Member States in Croatia from 23 to 27 June 2025. The course incorporated practical sessions in line with the basic course curriculum, allowed for the presentation of case studies, and provided information on the medical treatment of chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals.

- (p) In 2025, the Secretariat delivered a comprehensive portfolio of specialised, hands-on training courses under Article X, strengthening States Parties' preparedness and response capacities across Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean. Key activities included the sampling and analysis in highly contaminated environments course for African States Parties, held in Algeria (23 to 26 February), which focused on laboratory and field sampling skills; the course on emergency response involving toxic chemicals in unconventional environments in Murcia, Spain (3 to 7 November), which immersed experienced responders from Latin America and the Caribbean in complex, scenario-based incident management and decontamination operations; and a new hands-on sampling and analysis course for English-speaking Caribbean States Parties, held in Barbados (24 to 28 February), supported in part by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, expanding regional operational capability through intensive practical exercises, instructor exchanges, and interregional cooperation. Collectively, these courses enhanced technical expertise, fostered regional networking, and advanced effective implementation of Article X obligations. In addition, the Secretariat supported a live agent training for experts in Slovakia from 16 to 26 June, providing participating States Parties with high-value exposure to realistic operational conditions involving live chemical agents to further strengthen preparedness and response capabilities.
- (q) The implementation of the Medical Action Plan successfully continued in 2025, through the execution of training activities delivered at the regional and international levels, the planning of new events, and the coordination of activities aimed at strengthening the medical capabilities of States Parties in areas related to preparedness and response to emergencies involving the use of chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals.
- (r) Cooperation with States Parties remained essential to the effective delivery of assistance and protection activities. Throughout the reporting period, partner institutions, National Authorities, training centres, and host governments contributed through the provision of facilities, instructors, technical expertise, logistical support, and voluntary financial contributions, thereby reinforcing international cooperation and collective implementation of Article X. In addition, the widest possible participation of States Parties in their roles as recipients and donors continues to be indispensable for the full implementation of the provisions of Article X. During the reporting period, Canada, the Czech Republic, Finland, France, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Norway, Poland, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the European Union provided additional support to Article X implementation projects through extrabudgetary contributions.
- (s) Throughout the reporting period, the Assistance and Protection Branch continued to develop and strengthen its role in assisting States Parties in their endeavours to implement the provisions of Article X, also thanks to continuous interaction with the States Parties as described throughout this report.

Annexes (English only):

- Annex 1: Submissions of Information on National Protection Programmes, by Year, in Accordance with Paragraph 4 of Article X of the Convention, between 1 January 2015 and 31 December 2025
- Annex 2: Assistance Measures Adopted by States Parties Pursuant to Paragraph 7 of Article X of the Convention as at 31 December 2025
- Annex 3: Contributions to the Voluntary Fund for Assistance as at 31 December 2025

	State Party	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
64.	Georgia						No	No			No	
65.	Germany			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
66.	Ghana	No										
67.	Greece		Classified			Classified						
68.	Grenada											
69.	Guatemala		Classified				Yes	Yes				
70.	Guinea											
71.	Guinea-Bissau							No				
72.	Guyana		No									
73.	Haiti					Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes
74.	Holy See											
75.	Honduras						Yes	Yes				
76.	Hungary	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
77.	Iceland											
78.	India	Classified		Classified	Classified							
79.	Indonesia			Yes			Yes		Classified		Yes	Yes
80.	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Classified	Yes	Classified	Classified	Classified	Classified	Classified			Classified	
81.	Iraq			Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes				
82.	Ireland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
83.	Italy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes							
84.	Jamaica			No								
85.	Japan			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
86.	Jordan	Yes		Classified			Yes		Yes			
87.	Kazakhstan								Yes			
88.	Kenya	No					No	No	No	No		
89.	Kiribati											
90.	Kuwait											
91.	Kyrgyzstan		Yes	Yes			Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes
92.	Lao People's Democratic Republic							No				
93.	Latvia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes							
94.	Lebanon								No	No		
95.	Lesotho											
96.	Liberia											
97.	Libya											
98.	Liechtenstein	Classified	No				No	No		No	Classified	No

	State Party	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
134.	Paraguay	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes						
135.	Peru	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
136.	Philippines					Yes						
137.	Poland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
138.	Portugal	Classified		Classified		Classified						
139.	Qatar	Yes	Classified	Classified		Yes	Classified		Classified		Yes	Yes
140.	Republic of Korea				Yes							
141.	Republic of Moldova											
142.	Romania	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
143.	Russian Federation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes							
144.	Rwanda					Yes						
145.	Saint Kitts and Nevis					Yes		No	No			
146.	Saint Lucia											
147.	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines										No	No
148.	Samoa											
149.	San Marino								No	No	No	No
150.	Sao Tome and Principe											
151.	Saudi Arabia		Classified				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
152.	Senegal											
153.	Serbia	Classified	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes		Yes	Yes	No
154.	Seychelles											
155.	Sierra Leone						Yes					
156.	Singapore	Classified	Classified	Classified	Yes		Classified	Classified	Classified			
157.	Slovakia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
158.	Slovenia		Yes	Yes		Classified					Yes	
159.	Solomon Islands					Yes						
160.	Somalia											
161.	South Africa	Classified	Classified	Classified	Classified		Yes	Classified	Classified	Yes	Yes	Yes
162.	Spain	Classified	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
163.	Sri Lanka				Yes	Classified	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
164.	State of Palestine											
165.	Sudan	Yes	Yes		No							
166.	Suriname			No					No	No	No	No
167.	Sweden	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
168.	Switzerland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Classified	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

	State Party	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
169.	Syrian Arab Republic					Yes	Classified	Classified				
170.	Tajikistan		No				No					
171.	Thailand	Yes	Classified	Yes	Yes			Classified	Classified	Yes	Classified	
172.	Timor-Leste					Classified						
173.	Togo											
174.	Tonga											
175.	Trinidad and Tobago											
176.	Tunisia			Yes							Yes	
177.	Türkiye	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
178.	Turkmenistan			Yes		Yes						Yes
179.	Tuvalu											
180.	Uganda											
181.	Ukraine	No	No	No	No		No					
182.	United Arab Emirates	No		No		No	Yes					
183.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
184.	United Republic of Tanzania		Yes			Yes						
185.	United States of America	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
186.	Uruguay		Yes				Yes					
187.	Uzbekistan						Yes	No				
188.	Vanuatu											
189.	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)				No	No			No	No	No	No
190.	Viet Nam	Classified	Yes	Yes			Classified					No
191.	Yemen											
192.	Zambia			No								
193.	Zimbabwe											
	Subtotal for protection programmes	57	53	60	49	60	65	60	56	39	51	52
	Total number of submissions	75	65	75	57	71	78	78	71	53	64	69

Annex 2

**ASSISTANCE MEASURES ADOPTED BY STATES PARTIES PURSUANT TO
PARAGRAPH 7 OF ARTICLE X OF THE CONVENTION
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025**

(Status: Subparagraphs 7(a), 7(b), and 7(c) of Article X)

	State Party	Submission Date	Voluntary Fund	Bilateral Agreement	Unilateral Offer
1.	Albania	May 2002	✓		
2.	Argentina	Nov 2013			✓
3.	Armenia	Mar 2003 Jul 2025			✓ ✓
4.	Australia	Oct 1997 (updated, 2006)			✓
5.	Austria	Oct 1997			✓
6.	Bangladesh	Apr 2006			✓
7.	Belarus	May 1997 Jul 2006 Apr 2008			✓ ✓ ✓
8.	Belgium	Dec 1997	✓		
9.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Jan 2004	✓		
10.	Brazil	Mar 2017 Jun 2023			✓ ✓
11.	Bulgaria	Jan 1998 Oct 2007 Jan 2008			✓ ✓ ✓
12.	Burundi	Jul 2008	✓		
13.	Canada	Sept 1997	✓		
14.	Chile	May 1997	✓		
15.	China	Sept 1999			✓
16.	Colombia	Nov 2006			✓
17.	Costa Rica	Sept 2024			✓
18.	Croatia	Jul 1999			✓
19.	Cuba	Nov 1997 Jul 2005 Apr 2020			✓ ✓ ✓
20.	Cyprus	Oct 2010	✓		
21.	Czech Republic	Oct 1997 Dec 2012 Dec 2024			✓ ✓
22.	Denmark	Jan 1998	✓		
23.	Estonia	Oct 2001	✓		
24.	Ethiopia	Jun 2002	✓		
25.	Fiji	Dec 2005	✓		
26.	Finland	Dec 1997	✓		
27.	France	Oct 1997			✓

	State Party	Submission Date	Voluntary Fund	Bilateral Agreement	Unilateral Offer
28.	Georgia	Oct 2000			✓
29.	Germany	Oct 1997			✓
30.	Greece	Jun 2000 Jun 2003	✓ ✓		
31.	Guatemala	Aug 2006			✓
32.	Hungary	Dec 1998	✓		
33.	India	Nov 1997 Sept 2007 Dec 2024	✓		✓ ✓
34.	Indonesia	Sept 2008	✓		
35.	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Jun 1998		✓	✓
36.	Ireland	Jan 1998	✓		
37.	Italy	Oct 1997 Jul 2006 Oct 2014 May 2016 Jul 2020 Jun 2021 Mar 2022 Apr 2025	✓		✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
38.	Japan	Mar 1999 Feb 2006 Jun 2008	✓		✓ ✓
39.	Jordan	May 2006			✓
40.	Kenya	Dec 2003	✓		
41.	Kuwait	Jun 1999	✓		
42.	Latvia	Jun 1999			✓
43.	Lesotho	Nov 2012	✓		
44.	Liechtenstein	Jan 2001	✓		
45.	Lithuania	Jun 1999	✓		✓
46.	Luxembourg	Nov 1997	✓		
47.	Malta	Dec 2000	✓		
48.	Mexico	Nov 2011 Oct 2016 Jul 2017 Jul 2018 Jan 2020 Dec 2021 Jun 2024	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓		✓
49.	Mongolia	Jan 1998 Dec 2007			✓ ✓
50.	Morocco	May 1997			✓
51.	Netherlands	Jul 1997 Nov 2001 Oct 2006	✓ ✓		✓
52.	New Zealand	Jun 1997	✓		

	State Party	Submission Date	Voluntary Fund	Bilateral Agreement	Unilateral Offer
53.	Nigeria	May 2006			✓
54.	North Macedonia	Oct 2003	✓		
55.	Norway	Nov 1997	✓		
56.	Oman	Mar 1998	✓		
57.	Pakistan	Aug 1998 Feb 2004 Oct 2007	✓		✓ ✓
58.	Peru	Apr 1998 Sept 2009 Oct 2011	✓	✓	✓
59.	Poland	Oct 1997 Nov 2018	✓		✓
60.	Portugal	Mar 1999 Oct 2006 Apr 2010 Apr 2021 Apr 2024 Apr 2025			✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
61.	Qatar	Aug 2012	✓		
62.	Republic of Korea	Dec 1997 Oct 1998	✓ ✓		
63.	Republic of Moldova	Apr 2002			✓
64.	Romania	Oct 1997 Jan 2006 Feb 2006 Jan 2024	✓		✓ ✓ ✓
65.	Russian Federation	Sept 1999 Dec 2007 Apr 2009			✓ ✓ ✓
66.	Saudi Arabia	Nov 2004	✓		
67.	Serbia	May 2005 Mar 2006 Jan 2007			✓ ✓ ✓
68.	Singapore	Dec 1997 Apr 2008			✓ ✓
69.	Slovakia	Nov 1997 Dec 2013			✓ ✓
70.	Slovenia	Jul 1998 Jan 2002 Jul 2007 Jun 2008 Apr 2010	✓		✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
71.	South Africa	Nov 1997 (Expired, 2005) Jul 2022			✓ Expired ✓

	State Party	Submission Date	Voluntary Fund	Bilateral Agreement	Unilateral Offer
72.	Spain	Nov 1997 Sept 2003 Oct 2008 Jul 2024			✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
73.	Sweden	Oct 1997	✓		✓
74.	Switzerland	Oct 1997 Sept 2007	✓		✓ ✓
75.	Thailand	Mar 2004	✓		
76.	Türkiye	Apr 1998	✓		
77.	Turkmenistan	Mar 2008	✓		
78.	Ukraine	Jan 2000 Jun 2006 May 2008			✓ ✓ ✓
79.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Oct 1997 Dec 2001	✓		✓
80.	United States of America	Oct 1997			✓
81.	Uruguay	Apr 2006			✓
82.	Zimbabwe	Jan 2001	✓		
	Total	82	48	2	49

Annex 3

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE VOLUNTARY FUND FOR ASSISTANCE
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025**

State Party		Amount Contributed (in Euros) ²
1.	Albania	3,000
2.	Belgium	24,768
3.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1,500
4.	Burundi	3,050
5.	Canada	22,689
6.	Chile	9,154
7.	Cyprus	3,500
8.	Czech Republic	9,873
9.	Denmark	7,454
10.	Estonia	2,000
11.	Ethiopia	5,276
12.	Fiji	4,920
13.	Finland	25,334
14.	Greece	36,345
15.	Hungary	4,410
16.	India ³	10,000
17.	Indonesia	6,868
18.	Ireland	11,345
19.	Italy	172,442
20.	Japan	45,378
21.	Kenya	2,942
22.	Kuwait	45,378
23.	Lesotho	60,241
24.	Liechtenstein	6,527
25.	Lithuania	2,328
26.	Luxembourg	12,389
27.	Malta	2,490
28.	Mexico	75,185
29.	Netherlands	234,034
30.	New Zealand	7,237
31.	North Macedonia	1,677
32.	Norway	22,689
33.	Oman	9,257
34.	Pakistan	3,000
35.	Peru	4,629
36.	Poland	22,689
37.	Qatar	14,953

² Figures presented in this Annex are provisional as at 31 December 2025.

³ Includes a transfer of EUR 5,026.27 from another trust fund.

State Party		Amount Contributed (in Euros)²
38.	Republic of Korea	36,234
39.	Romania	5,000
40.	Saudi Arabia	15,000
41.	Slovenia	2,299
42.	Sweden	11,592
43.	Switzerland	49,066
44.	Thailand	4,000
45.	Türkiye	11,109
46.	Turkmenistan	1,834
47.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	162,108
48.	Zimbabwe	1,942
Voluntary contributions		1,237,135
Accumulated interest		443,996
Total		1,681,131

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