



**OPCW**

**Executive Council**

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111th Session  
10 – 13 March 2026

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16 February 2026  
ENGLISH and RUSSIAN only

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**REQUEST FOR CIRCULATION OF A DOCUMENT  
AT THE 111TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

The Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the OPCW has requested that a note verbale addressed to the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (dated 16 February 2026) be circulated as an official document of the 111th Session of the Executive Council.

Annex: Note Verbale No. 13 from the Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW Dated 16 February 2026



**Annex**

**NOTE VERBALE NO. 13 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF THE  
RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT OF THE OPCW  
DATED 16 FEBRUARY 2026**

*Unofficial translation*



**ПОСТОЯННОЕ ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЬСТВО  
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ  
ПРИ ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ПО ЗАПРЕЩЕНИЮ  
ХИМИЧЕСКОГО ОРУЖИЯ**

**PERMANENT REPRESENTATION  
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION  
TO THE ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION  
OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS**

№ 13

The Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) presents its compliments to the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW and, with reference to the Note Verbale and Joint Statement of the Permanent Representations of the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Sweden and The Netherlands to the OPCW dated February 14, 2026, has the honour to communicate the following.

The Russian Federation categorically rejects the aforementioned countries' unfounded allegations, unsupported by any evidence or relevant expertise regarding the Russian Federation's involvement in another "poisoning" of blogger Alexei Navalny.

The Russian Federation notes with regret that the United Kingdom, France, Germany, the Netherlands and Sweden intentionally misled the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) by ignoring the detailed answers provided by the Russian Federation on 230 pages in its Note Verbale № 44 dated October 7, 2021 to the questions contained in Note Verbale

**ТЕХНИЧЕСКОМУ СЕКРЕТАРИАТУ  
ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ПО ЗАПРЕЩЕНИЮ  
ХИМИЧЕСКОГО ОРУЖИЯ**

г. Гаага

of the Permanent Representation of the United Kingdom № 93/2021, dated 5 October, 2021.

At the same time the Russian Federation draws the attention of the States Parties that the United Kingdom, France, Germany and Sweden refused to provide meaningful answers to the questions posed to them by the Russian Federation under paragraph 2 of Article IX of the CWC in its Notes Verbale № 54 dated November 2, 2021 and № 58 dated November 15, 2021.

In case these States Parties have substantiated comments, the Russian Federation is ready to discuss them on an expert level.

While the Russian Federation reminds that toxins, in particular, epibatidine, are not controlled by the CWC, but fall within the scope of the Convention on the Prohibition Bacteriological and Toxic Weapons and, accordingly, cannot be the subject of discussion in the OPCW.

The Russian Federation considers these actions of the abovementioned States as yet another attempt to undermine the CWC, to force the discussions that lie outside the OPCW mandate, and to use dirty tactics with their political opponents.

The Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the OPCW requests the Technical Secretariat to distribute among delegations a copy of this note as an official national document of the 111th Session of the Executive Council of the OPCW (March 10-13, 2026) and publish it on the OPCW website and Catalyst platform.

The Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the OPCW avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW assurances of its highest consideration.

The Hague, «16» February, 2026