

**NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL****ENGAGING THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS****BACKGROUND**

1. The chemical industry has been recognised as a key stakeholder with regard to full and effective implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”). In accordance with the recommendations of the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, the Director-General decided to strengthen the partnership between the OPCW and the chemical industry for the benefit of the object and purpose of the Convention, notably the prevention of the re-emergence of chemical weapons.
2. This Note complements and updates the information reported in Notes by the Director-General C-19/DG.14 (dated 3 October 2014) and C-20/DG.15 (dated 16 November 2015).

BILATERAL MEETINGS WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHEMICAL ASSOCIATIONS

3. As described in Note C-20/DG.15, following an exchange of letters, a coordination mechanism was established with the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) in 2015 through the creation of the OPCW–ICCA Joint Steering Committee, as well as the establishment of the Chemical Industry Coordination Group (CICG).
4. Since the last report (C-20/DG.15), the CICG held two meetings at the OPCW Headquarters, on 27 January and 25 August 2016. Both meetings were attended by four representatives of the chemical industry—appointed by the ICCA Council Secretary—and staff of the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”). The CICG meeting in January 2016 aimed at identifying proposals for common initiatives and projects for approval by the OPCW-ICCA Joint Steering Committee, which met at the headquarters of the American Chemistry Council (ACC) on 13 April 2016, while the CICG meeting in August 2016 focused on the implementation of these initiatives and projects.
5. All of the meetings also touched upon the cross-participation of the OPCW or ICCA in one another’s official meetings and/or events. In this regard, it was especially highlighted that, as in 2014 and following the adoption of decision C-20/DEC.2 (dated 30 November 2015) by the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”), representatives of ICCA addressed the Conference during the plenary sitting of its Twentieth Session. Following the adoption of decision C-19/DEC.2 (dated 1 December 2014), the agenda of the Twentieth Session of the Conference also included an item dedicated to the chemical industry and the scientific community.



6. As previously reported, it was decided that the areas of cooperation with ICCA should initially cover education and outreach, chemical safety and security, and verification activities. As a result, the common initiatives and projects that were carried out during the reporting period can be split among these three categories.

COOPERATION ACTIVITIES RELATED TO EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

7. In 2016, chemical industry associations have continued to be involved in various OPCW capacity-building activities for the promotion of peaceful uses of chemistry. As a major contribution, and with the support of ICCA and national chemical associations,¹ 16 chemical plant sites in 13 Member States (see Annex 1) hosted participants of the Associate Programme for a three-week training course held from 5 to 23 September 2016. The course allowed participants to gain exposure to modern practices in chemical industries, with a special focus on chemical safety. The induction segment of the programme also included two lectures delivered by representatives of the European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic) and the Chemical Business Association of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
8. Following the establishment of The Hague Ethical Guidelines, the Director-General wrote a letter in January 2016 to the ICCA Council Secretary, requesting that ICCA consider publicly endorsing the Guidelines and bringing them to the attention of ICCA members. Since the Guidelines and the ICCA Responsible Care® programme share the same goal of promoting responsible uses of chemistry, ICCA mandated its Responsible Care® Leadership Group with following up on the dissemination of the Guidelines.
9. Still with a view to promoting responsible uses of chemistry, the Secretariat organised, from 14 to 18 March 2016 in Moscow and with the support of, inter alia, Cefic and the Russian Chemists Union, a training workshop in Russian on best practices to develop the Responsible Care® programme for the chemical industry.
10. Chemical industry representatives were also invited to present their views on a wide range of issues during the Green Chemistry Expert Group meeting, held in The Hague on 15 April 2016, and during the Symposium on Women in Chemistry, held in The Hague on 17 May 2016.
11. A representative of ICCA participated as an observer in the First Session of the Advisory Board on Education and Outreach (ABEO), which was briefed on the OPCW's relationship with the global chemical industry. During the ensuing discussions, the ABEO stressed the importance of reaching those parts of the chemical industry that are not subject to verification under the Convention but are nevertheless concerned by the possible misuse of toxic chemicals, as well as the usefulness of e-learning as an outreach tool.

¹

The German Chemical Industry Association (VCI), the Italian National Chemical Industry Federation (FEDERCHEMICA), the Spanish Chemical Industry Federation (FEIQUE), the Brazilian Chemical Industry Association (ABIQUIM), and the Federation of Indonesian Chemical Industry (FIKI).

COOPERATION ACTIVITIES RELATED TO CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY

12. From 2 to 4 May 2016, the Secretariat organised an event at OPCW Headquarters to celebrate the inaugural OPCW Day; the event's theme was "Chemical Safety and Security in a Technologically Evolving World". Representatives of chemical industry presented, on behalf of ICCA, the Indian Chemical Council (ICC), and the Brazilian chemical industry, their perspectives, in particular during the thematic track on chemical safety and security. A presentation on "Product Safety, Product Stewardship and Trade Control BASF" was also delivered by a representative of BASF SE during the plenary closing session.
13. Since 2009, the Secretariat has carried out a chemical safety and security management programme which, to date, has trained more than 1,300 experts, in cooperation with 36 States Parties from all regions and in partnership with other international organisations, government agencies, and specialised centres. Five workshops under the programme have been organised since the beginning of 2016; all of them involved participants from the chemical industry (see Annex 2).
14. It has become clear to the Sub-Working Group (SWG) on non-State Actors of the Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism (OEWG-T) that any discussions on prevention cannot be complete without considering the perspective of the chemical industry at large. With this in mind, during an SWG meeting on 6 June 2016, a representative of Merck KGaA was invited to provide, on behalf of ICCA, a presentation on ICCA, its Responsible Care® programme, and the European Responsible Care Security Code.
15. A representative of the Secretariat was invited to participate in the two-day workshop on "Product Stewardship and Security", which took place in New Delhi, India on 16 and 17 December 2015. The workshop, which targeted Indian chemical companies, was organised by the ICC in cooperation with the ACC, and was aimed at sharing experiences and best practices on product stewardship and security, with an overarching objective of drafting a security code for the Indian chemical industry.

COOPERATION ACTIVITIES RELATED TO VERIFICATION

16. Representatives of ICCA were invited to participate in the technical meetings regarding the recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) on verification,² which were held on 9 and 10 March and 7 July 2016 at OPCW Headquarters. During the meeting in March, a presentation was delivered to States Parties covering ICCA's views on the issues regarding the scope of the definition of production by synthesis, possible exemptions for the other chemical production facility regime, and mixtures of discrete organic chemicals. During the meeting in July, a representative of Versalis S.p.A. shared his experience on industrial green chemistry in Italy.
17. During its meeting in April 2016, the OPCW-ICCA Joint Steering Committee agreed that the issue of transfer discrepancies should be addressed as a cooperative effort.

²

The recommendations emanate from the report of the temporary working group (TWG) on verification, which was endorsed by the SAB during its Twenty-Second Session in June 2015. Representatives of the chemical industry were present at the meetings of both the SAB and its TWG on verification.

With a view to obtaining an overview on data sets, methods, and tools used in industry to monitor the trade of chemicals, a meeting was hosted by Cefic at its headquarters on 26 September 2016. The participants in the meeting agreed to continue to work on the issue and to share the results of their collaborative efforts with States Parties in the upcoming months.

18. The Joint Steering Committee also agreed to move forward with a project to hold a workshop that would allow States Parties, the chemical industry, and the Secretariat to share their experiences with declarations and inspections, with the goal of identifying best practices and areas for improvement. The annual meeting of chemical industry representatives and National Authorities of States Parties to the Convention in Doha, Qatar, to be held from 16 to 18 October 2016, should provide an opportunity to address such issues.

THE WAY AHEAD

19. As in 2015, and in accordance with decision C-19/DEC.2, the provisional agenda for the Twenty-First Session of the Conference (C-21/1, dated 14 July 2016) contains an agenda item dedicated to the chemical industry and the scientific community. A draft decision allowing representatives of the global chemical industry to address the Conference during the plenary of its Twenty-First Session will be submitted to the Conference for its approval at that same session. Additionally, the ICCA President, as a member of the panel that selects the winners of the OPCW–The Hague Award, has been invited to attend the award ceremony.
20. Additional CICG meetings will be held in the near future, with the goal of bringing forward the current common initiatives and projects and preparing a work plan for 2017, which should include cross-participation in events organised by the OPCW or ICCA. Opportunities for joint public-oriented activities should also be discussed further. ICCA has also announced its intention to strengthen its participation in CICG meetings, such that future meetings should involve five or six ICCA representatives.
21. As a key stakeholder in global counter-terrorism efforts, notably through the implementation of chemical security measures, the chemical industry is expected to continue to interact with the SWG on non-State Actors of the OEWG-T. Further involvement of the chemical industry is also expected with regard to the implementation of the initiatives described in the Secretariat’s paper on “The OPCW’s Role in the Field of Chemical Security” (S/1395/2016, dated 13 June 2016).
22. By giving representatives of the global chemical industry an active voice in the implementation of the Convention, including in meetings of the policy-making organs, the engagement of the chemical industry will be sustained and will become increasingly practical in nature.

Annexes:

- Annex 1: List of Chemical Companies Hosting the Industry Segment of the Associate Programme in 2016
- Annex 2: List of Events Organised Under the Chemical Safety and Security Management Programme Since Early 2016

Annex 1**LIST OF CHEMICAL COMPANIES HOSTING THE
INDUSTRY SEGMENT OF THE ASSOCIATE PROGRAMME IN 2016**

Company	Country
Solvay Indupa	Argentina
Suatrans Emergência S.A.	Brazil
Stachema CZ s.r.o	Czechia
DuPont Nutrition Biosciences ApS	Denmark
Evonik Industries AG	Germany
Thirumalai Chemicals Ltd.	India
Chandra Asri Petrochemical Tbk	Indonesia
Versalis S.p.A (two sites)	Italy
Asahi Kasei Corporation	Japan
Mitsui Chemicals, Inc.	Japan
Petronas Fertilizer (Kedah) Sdn Bhd	Malaysia
Gruppa Azoty S.A. (two sites)	Poland
Solvay Polyamide	Spain
Camsco Loadstar (Pvt) Ltd.	Sri Lanka

Annex 2

LIST OF EVENTS ORGANISED UNDER THE CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME SINCE EARLY 2016

Name of Programme	Venue	Dates	Participating industry associations/companies
Chemical Safety and Security Management for Asian Member States of the OPCW	Doha, Qatar	23–25 February 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Association of Bhutanese Industries – Basic Chemical Industry, Indonesia – Federation of the Indonesian Chemical Industry
Chemical Safety and Security Management for Arabic-Speaking Countries	Nicosia, Cyprus	24–26 May 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Algerian National Paints Company – Algeria Chemical Specialities – Sudan Federation of Industries
Chemical Safety and Security Management for the Latin America and Caribbean Region	São Paulo, Brazil	18–20 April 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Brazilian Chemical Industry Association
Chemical Safety and Security Management for African Member States of the OPCW	Nairobi, Kenya	5–7 September 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Chemical & Allied Industries Association of South Africa – BASF Holdings South Africa (Pty) Ltd. – European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic)
Course on Chemical Safety Management	Wuppertal, Germany	4–8 April 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Tanzania Biotech Product Ltd. – Oxiquim S.A. (Chile)