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Presentation to 21st CWC Conference of States Parties (CSP)
Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
The Hague, The Netherlands
28 November – 2 December 2016

Mister Chairman, Director-General, Distinguished Delegates, CWC Coalition Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The recent use of chemical weapons and chemicals as weapons in Syria, and terrorist attacks against chemical infrastructure are visible confirmations of a growing threat of misuse of chemicals.

We witness today a global spread of threat of use of toxic chemicals as a means of warfare or terror. The threat is today coming not only from a few rogue states but mainly from the groups operating in territories not controlled by governments. **The chemical threats are global in reach and require global responses.**

We are outdated on the perception of chemical threat. We still think **through a concept of use of traditional chemical weapons and concentrate efforts to stem chemical weapons proliferation and promote chemical disarmament.** While these goals are important and should be promoted, as stated in the CWC, there is a need to deal with the immediate problems of global expansion and access to chemical materials and technologies and developing chemical security.

To meet the challenges of growing chemical threats we have to: 1) move beyond traditional arms control and disarmament and accommodate policy methodology; 2) introduce an integrated system of chemical safety and security as part of international security, which includes environmental and health security; and 3) develop global action to reduce chemical threats and enhance chemical security, which requires a whole-society approach.

The provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention are not enough to ensure that chemicals are not used for illegal purposes. We have to exclude chemical activity from conflict and political disputes and build a global multi-stakeholder consensus that chemistry is used only for peaceful purposes. We have to develop global action to reduce chemical threats and enhance chemical safety and security.

Chemical security should be embraced, as an important activity, by relevant international organizations including NATO, INTERPOL, the UNSCR 1540 Committee, World Customs Organization, and the OPCW, as global agencies to reduce chemical threats and platforms to enhance chemical safety and security.

The important work in this regards has been conducted within the Global Partnership against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction of the G8 where a special Chemical Security Sub-

Working Group was established. The Group is led jointly by the US and Canada and has engaged relevant stakeholders, including chemical industry, academia and centers of excellence.

These global integrated approaches have been imbedded in the International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security (ICCSS) – www.iccss.eu. The ICCSS is today a leader in global efforts to enhance safety and security in chemical production, storage, use, transport and waste disposal. We offer an inclusive participatory program development. We avoid divisive political concepts and language that hinder progress in nuclear and bio safety and security.

The process of global cooperation to enhance chemical safety and security has been implemented through the ICCSS-led Global Chemical Safety and Security Summit - CHEMSS and accompanying Fair. It is a next stage in the efforts to globalize chemical safety and security, support efforts to reduce chemical threats, and develop a global market for chemical safety and security. The underlying belief of the CHEMSS is the view that ensuring chemical safety and security and complying with environmental protection standards are essential conditions in the research, manufacturing, and trade of chemicals and are increasingly linked with internal and external security, public health protection, economic and trade cooperation, development, and humanitarian policies.

CHEMSS seeks to enhance global chemical safety and security NOT by new regulations or standards but by **promoting, operationalizing, and internationalizing** the existing national and international best practices, trainings, practices, and technical solutions, and promoting a positive image and approach of chemical stakeholders.

The first global summit CHEMSS2016 (www.chemss2016.org) in Kielce, Poland, 18-20 April 2016/, gathered over 400 participants from 47 (mainly developing) countries. CHEMSS2016 produced, inter alia, the Summit Declaration and support for global promotion of the acknowledgment the CHEM-FRIENDLY in Safety and Security in China and worldwide, which builds a broad environment for the development of chemical and ecological safety and security on the local, national, regional, and global levels.

The second-ever global gathering dedicated to chemical safety and security – CHEMSS2017, will take place in China, in Ningbo, China, 16-20 November, 2017. CHEMSS2017 Summit is organized by the China Petroleum and Chemical Industry Federation (CPCIF) and the International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security (ICCSS) in Warsaw, as the joint endeavor of a multi-stakeholder partnership involving, governments, international organizations, industry, civil society, academia, and independent experts.

The CPCIF and ICCSS agreed that the CHEMSS2017 should remain a global event, free from political influence which offers coherent approaches that involve leaders and practitioners in all the various disciplines of chemical and environmental safety and security and from all stakeholder communities, inter alia, government, international organizations, industry, academia, and civil society.

I invite the OPCW community to join the process of global summit preparations and conduct, and to jointly assist in reducing chemical threats. Thank you for your kind attention, and I wish

for this statement to be made part of the final CSP record and posted on the external server and website.