



OPCW

Conference of the States Parties

Third Review Conference
8 – 19 April 2013

RC-3/NAT.40
16 April 2013
ENGLISH only

KENYA, POLAND AND THE NETHERLANDS

**PROMOTING THE OPCW AS A PLATFORM FOR VOLUNTARY COOPERATION IN
CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY**

**DEVELOPING AND SUSTAINING A PROGRAMME ON CHEMICAL SAFETY AND
SECURITY IN CHEMICAL ACTIVITIES IN KENYA**

1. The importance of chemical industries in many emerging economies is on the rise. To ensure that safety and security is kept at the forefront, all sectors of the chemical industry should understand and adopt the best practices in this field. Chemical safety and security are areas of increasing importance for the governments and its chemical industry and users of chemical products.
2. With the fast developing chemical industry and globalisation of the access to chemicals, strengthening of chemical safety and security is an important factor of international peace and security. Promoting a chemical safety and security culture will provide greater assurances so that the national chemical security systems can perform their functions of preventing misuse of toxic chemicals.
3. The issue of chemical safety and security has been present at the OPCW for the last several years. The Second Review Conference reaffirmed concerns expressed at the First Review Conference that chemical facilities may become subject to attacks or other incidents that could lead to the release or theft of toxic chemicals. The Second Review Conference welcomed the fact that some States Parties had taken measures to minimise such risks and encouraged States Parties to exchange experiences and discuss related issues. The Second Review Conference recognised also the need for close cooperation with other relevant international organisations and agencies active in this field.
4. Since the Second Review Conference, both Member States and the Technical Secretariat have successfully conducted a number of targeted activities that aimed at building national and regional capacities in the area of prevention of, preparedness for, and response to incidents involving the misuse or release of toxic chemicals, and to enhance chemical safety and security.
5. The Conference of the States Parties (C-16/DEC.1, dated 1 December 2011), on the components of an agreed framework for the full implementation of Article XI, decided, inter alia, to include a series of measures in the area of chemical safety and security to be implemented among the concrete measures. This decision confirmed a renewed interest in the ability of the OPCW to assist States Parties in the prevention of, preparedness for, and response to incidents involving the misuse or release of toxic



chemicals and in enhancing chemical safety and security, with multi-stakeholder participation.

6. This decision promotes the implementation of the Articles X and XI of the Chemical Weapons Convention in a comprehensive manner at the national level by bringing together the assistance and protection against chemical weapons, efforts against terrorism, and chemical safety and security. The Conference also requested to fund these activities from within the resources of the annual programme and budget of the OPCW. The Conference also encouraged States Parties to provide additional funding on a voluntary basis for the implementation of the concrete measures.

The OPCW as a platform of multi-stakeholder, voluntary cooperation in enhancing chemical safety and security

7. The OPCW should serve as a platform of support for global cooperation in reducing the chemical threats. The platform should promote international cooperation in peaceful uses of chemistry, enhancement of security at chemical plants, and support national capacity for prevention, preparedness and response against misuse of toxic chemicals. The platform should engage all the relevant stakeholders, including government agencies, chemical industry associations, academia and scientific community, and the relevant international organisations. The platform should facilitate and promote a comprehensive/synergetic implementation of the provisions of the Convention and voluntary cooperation in the areas of chemical safety and security.
8. The OPCW should encourage and assist States Parties to exchange experiences and promote efforts to enhance safety and security in all the areas of peaceful uses of chemistry, with an emphasis on chemical plants and in transportation of chemicals.
9. The OPCW shall develop relationships and partnerships, as appropriate, with relevant regional and international organisations, and international initiatives, to enhance chemical safety and security, including through the G8 Global Partnership (G8 GP). The G8 GP is playing a growing role in addressing the threats posed by weapons and materials of mass destruction, including efforts to enhance chemical safety. While the G8 GP provides a broad policy support and a general framework for cooperation between the GP members, including donors and the international organisations, a concrete cooperation in chemical security should be provided through the relevant international partners, including the OPCW.
10. The steady development of the OPCW as a platform to decrease chemical threat, promote international cooperation and enhance chemical safety and security will serve the implementation of Article X on assistance and protection, and Article XI on international and technological cooperation.

Programme on chemical safety and security in chemical activities in Kenya - “the Kenyan project”

11. The project on chemical safety and security in chemical activities in Kenya (“the Kenyan project”) could serve as a practical venue and an example of the development of the OPCW roles to support chemical safety and security.

12. The goals of the project are to assist Kenya and African nations to establish a foundation for effective and coordinated approach to chemical safety and security by providing assistance in:
 - (a) Developing the relevant personal resources, legal and administrative provisions, technical support, etc. to enhance chemical safety and security in a wide spectrum of activities including: chemical production, transport, handling, trade, supply chain, and end use of chemicals;
 - (b) Developing an integrated training framework to strengthen national capacities in dealing with chemical safety and security and release of toxic chemicals;
 - (c) Offering capacity building for the users of chemistry and officials in Kenya and African countries in the sphere of management of chemicals, and protection of human health and the environment from the misuse of the toxic chemicals and toxic wastes;
 - (d) Implementing the relevant international obligations, including the Chemical Weapons Convention and the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540.
13. The expected outcome is to create a national potential for chemical safety and security for the peaceful uses of chemistry and for structural/infrastructure projects.
14. The concept programme is based on the initiative of the International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security (ICCSS) in Tarnow, Poland and TNO (the Netherlands), which focuses on promoting chemical safety in national capacity-building for peaceful research, development, storage, production, and safe use of chemicals, and to promote provision of assistance and cooperation for developing countries.
15. The development of the programme will involve all stakeholders, including governments, international organisations, research centres and private companies.
16. The OPCW shall provide a venue for the cooperation among the international stakeholders who participate in the implementation of the Kenyan project. The OPCW engagement in the Kenyan project could concentrate on chemical industry and chemical laboratories and support to implement the relevant provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention.
17. The OPCW as a platform for the development of the Kenyan project will assist the involvement of all stakeholders, including the chemical industry and the scientific community in the promotion of the Convention's goals and in supporting national implementation.
18. The OPCW could include the project within the African Programme and support the project development with the relevant resources and expertise. The Technical Secretariat could coordinate the relevant national implementation provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention within the project.

Proposed language to be included in the final document of the Third Review Conference

19. The Third Review Conference reaffirmed concerns expressed at the First and the Second Review Conferences that chemical facilities may become subject to attacks or other incidents that could lead to the release or theft of toxic chemicals. The Third Review Conference welcomed the fact that some States Parties and the Technical Secretariat had taken measures to minimise such risks and encouraged States Parties to exchange experiences and discuss related issues.
20. The Third Review Conference noted the value of Article XI in this respect and the role of the OPCW as a forum for consultation and cooperation among the States Parties. It further noted that the Conference of the States Parties (C-16/DEC.10, dated 1 December 2011), on the components of an agreed framework for the full implementation of Article XI decided, inter alia, to include a series of measures in the area of chemical safety and security to be implemented among the concrete measures.
21. The Third Review Conference welcomed the role of the OPCW as a platform for voluntary cooperation among the States Parties and the relevant stakeholders, including private sector and academia, to enhance chemical safety and security and to promote global chemical safety and security culture.
22. The Third Review Conference welcomed the establishment by States Parties of national and international resource centres and centres of excellence to offer expertise, training and best practices exchanges in the areas of assistance and protection and chemical safety and security. It encouraged the Secretariat to support the further development of such centres on the broadest possible geographical basis. It further encouraged the Secretariat to cooperate with such centres to enhance national capacity building and best practices exchanges in the areas of assistance and protection and chemical safety and security, with due regard to the role and responsibilities of States Parties and their National Authorities.

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