



OPCW

Executive Council

Eighty-Eighth Session
10 – 12 July 2018

EC-88/3
C-23/CRP.1
12 July 2018
Original: ENGLISH

DRAFT REPORT OF THE OPCW

**ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION
OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, STOCKPILING AND USE
OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION
IN 2017**



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C-23/CRP.1
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INTRODUCTION

1. In 2017, significant progress continued to be made in destroying the remaining declared stockpiles of chemical weapons, enhancing industry verification, expanding international cooperation and assistance, addressing counterterrorism, and broadening education and outreach.
2. In the process of destruction of declared chemical weapons in 2017, the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) verified the destruction of 1,620.889 metric tonnes (MT) of Category 1 chemical weapons. Between entry into force of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) and 31 December 2017, the Secretariat verified the destruction of 67,877.666¹ MT of declared Category 1 chemical weapons, representing 96.29% of the declared total amount. Destruction operations in the Russian Federation at the only remaining facility at Kizner were completed on 27 September 2017. The United States of America continued to work towards its target date of September 2023 for the complete destruction of its remaining chemical weapons stocks. Progress was also recorded in the destruction of chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of China. During the year, the Secretariat conducted 11 inspections regarding abandoned chemical weapons (ACW) and seven inspections concerning old chemical weapons (OCW).
3. The OPCW carried out 241 inspections of industrial facilities in 2017, equalling the number conducted in 2016, which remains the highest number ever conducted in a single year. Throughout the year, the Secretariat continued to make improvements to the verification process. Updated reporting templates for inspections were implemented, and sampling and analysis was carried out in 10 inspections, both at Schedule 2 and other chemical production facilities (OCPFs). The Secure Information Exchange System—or SIX—saw a much increased uptake by States Parties. The Secretariat also successfully conducted a pilot test for the use of SIX for communication between inspection teams and OPCW Headquarters, with the aim of incorporating the system into the routine Article VI inspection process.
4. Work continued to clarify the initial declaration of the Syrian Arab Republic and to address the use of toxic chemicals as weapons in that country. The OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria—or FFM—continued its activities in 2017, guided by the relevant decisions of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) and United Nations Security Council resolution 2235 (2015), which were adopted in 2015. The work of the Declaration Assessment Team (DAT), aimed at resolving outstanding issues identified in relation to the Syrian Arab Republic’s initial declaration and related submissions, continued throughout 2017. In accordance with a request of the Council in 2016 (EC-81/DEC.4, dated 23 March 2016), the Director-General convened, from 16 to 18 September 2017 at OPCW Headquarters, another round of high-level consultations between the Secretariat and the Syrian Arab Republic.

1

This figure includes 2.913 MT of Schedule 1 chemicals withdrawn for purposes not prohibited by the Convention, pursuant to subparagraph 2(d) of Part VI of the Verification Annex to the Convention (hereinafter “the Verification Annex”).

5. In 2017, the Secretariat continued to implement capacity-building programmes in support of States Parties, focusing primarily on the provisions of Articles VII, X, and XI of the Convention, which relate to the rights and obligations of States Parties in respect of national implementation, assistance and protection, and economic and technological development. The Secretariat conducted over 100 activities and programmes for 2,270 participants in all five regional groups represented at the OPCW.
6. The Open-Ended Working Group on the Future Priorities of the OPCW held eight meetings in 2017.
7. The full and effective implementation of the Convention continued to underlie the OPCW's contribution to global counterterrorism efforts. The Council's Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism, and its more technically oriented sub-working group on non-State actors, continued to explore a number of areas in which the OPCW could advance this contribution.
8. The three advisory bodies of the OPCW, namely the Scientific Advisory Board, the Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters and the Advisory Board on Education and Outreach continued to provide advice to the OPCW according to their respective mandates.
9. The Joint Steering Committee of the OPCW and International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) met in October to discuss common initiatives and give guidance to the Chemical Industry Coordination Group (CICG). The ICCA representative also addressed the Twenty-Second Session of the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter "the Conference") in November.
10. The OPCW marked its twentieth anniversary at a commemorative ceremony on 26 April in presence of the King of the Netherlands and other dignitaries, as well as Permanent Representatives and other delegates of OPCW Member States.
11. During International Open Day on 24 September, the OPCW welcomed more than 900 people to its Headquarters and reached over 204,000 people through its social media strategy. The programme included briefings by OPCW experts, interactive activities to understand OPCW tasks and tools, and more.
12. OPCW membership remains at 192 States Parties since Angola's accession on 16 October 2015.

1. VERIFICATION

- 1.1 A summary of the inspections carried out in 2017 is provided in Table 1. The OPCW conducted 321 inspections in 2017, of which 25% were related to chemical weapons and accounted for 58% of the inspection effort not related to the Syrian Arab Republic (7,444 inspector days). Operations connected with the Syrian Arab Republic accounted for a further 1,567 inspector days in 2017.

TABLE 1: INSPECTIONS COMPLETED IN 2017

Type of Facility	Number of Inspections	Number of Facilities or Sites Inspected	Number of Inspector Days
Chemical weapons-related inspections			
CWDF ²	43	5 ³	3,739
CWSF ⁴	5	3	163
CWPF ⁵	14 ⁶	14	165
OCW	7	7	118
ACW ⁷	11	8	120
Syrian Arab Republic ⁸	n/a		1,567
Subtotal	80	37	5,872
Article VI inspections			
Schedule 1	11	11	216
Schedule 2	42	42	887
Schedule 3	19	19	160
OCPF	169	169	1,876
Subtotal	241	241	3,139
Total	321	278	9,011

- 1.2 As at 31 December 2017, eight States Parties (a State Party,⁹ Albania, India, Iraq, Libya, the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic, and the United States of America) had declared 72,304.274 MT¹⁰ of Category 1 and Category 2 chemical weapons and 417,833 items of Category 3 chemical weapons. Additional information is provided in Annex 3.
- 1.3 Progress continued with respect to OCW and ACW. States Parties that declared possession of OCW continued to carry out their destruction in a safe and effective manner. China and Japan continued to cooperate in the field of ACW and their destruction in accordance with the decision adopted by the Council at its

² CWDF = chemical weapons destruction facility.

³ One in support of Libya (by Germany), one in the Russian Federation, and three in the United States of America.

⁴ CWSF = chemical weapons storage facility.

⁵ CWPF = chemical weapons production facility.

⁶ This includes visits to the five CWPFs (underground structures) declared by the Syrian Arab Republic.

⁷ This includes abandoned CWDFs.

⁸ Given the continuous nature of OPCW operations in the Syrian Arab Republic, it is not possible to quantify the precise number of missions undertaken there as is the case for other States Parties.

⁹ As the State Party in question has requested that its name be regarded as highly protected information, for the purposes of this report it is hereinafter referred to as "a State Party".

¹⁰ This total does not include the weight of the thickening agent declared by the Russian Federation or the remnants of chemical weapons declared by Iraq.

Sixty-Seventh Session (EC-67/DEC.6, dated 15 February 2012). Furthermore, China and Japan jointly submitted to the Council at its Eighty-Fourth Session a destruction plan for beyond 2016 (EC-84/NAT.6, dated 2 March 2017), which contains updated information on destruction facilities and time frames for destruction.

Chemical weapons destruction

- 1.4 During the reporting period, five CWDFs were involved in the destruction of Category 1 and Category 2 chemical weapons:¹¹ one with respect to Libya (at Gesellschaft zur Entsorgung von chemischen Kampfstoffen und Rüstungsaltslasten mbH (GEKA mbH), Germany), one in the Russian Federation, and three in the United States of America (see Annex 2). Through a combination of the continuous presence of inspectors, the use of monitoring and dedicated recording equipment, as well as the review of relevant documentation, the Secretariat in 2017 verified the destruction of 1,620.889 MT of Category 1 chemical weapons and 315.143 MT of Category 2 chemical weapons, for a total of 1,936.032 MT of Category 1 and Category 2 chemical weapons.
- 1.5 As Annex 3 shows, between the entry into force of the Convention and 31 December 2017, the Secretariat verified the destruction of 67,877.730 MT,¹² or 96.29% of declared Category 1 chemical weapons; 1,810.703 MT, or 100% of declared Category 2 chemical weapons; and 417,833 items, or 100% of declared Category 3 chemical weapons.
- 1.6 At the end of the review period, the United States of America was the only possessor State Party with declared chemical weapons yet to be destroyed.
- 1.7 Progress in the destruction of chemical weapons is summarised below.

Iraq

- 1.8 In February 2017, Iraq submitted a general plan for the destruction of chemical weapons remnants stored at the Al Muthana site (EC-84/NAT.4, dated 24 February 2017 and Corr.1, dated 7 March 2017), which was subsequently approved by the Council at its Eighty-Fourth Session (EC-84/DEC.2, dated 8 March 2017). Iraq has also reported at each regular session of the Council on the progress towards complete destruction of its remaining chemical weapons.
- 1.9 The general plan for destruction (EC-84/NAT.4 and Corr. 1) referred to the neutralisation and encapsulation of Bunker 13 at the Al Muthana site. Iraq later submitted modifications to the above-mentioned general plan (EC-85/P/NAT.7, dated 13 July 2017), which allowed it to proceed with the encapsulation of Bunker 41 at the Al Muthana site. On 23 November and 14 December 2017, respectively, the Secretariat received over 400 CDs and three hard drives containing video recordings of the neutralisation and encapsulation of the contents of Bunkers 13 and 41.

11 Not counting OCW or ACW, or the two CWDFs under construction and systemisation in the United States of America (BGCAPP and PCAPP-EDS (see Annex 2)).

12 This figure includes 2.913 MT of Schedule 1 chemicals withdrawn for purposes not prohibited by the Convention, pursuant to subparagraph 2(d) of Part VI of the Verification Annex.

This video documentation allowed the Secretariat to confirm that Iraq's chemical weapons remnants had been destroyed.

Libya

- 1.10 In accordance with its detailed plan for the destruction of chemical weapons remaining after 29 April 2012 (EC-68/NAT.4, dated 18 April 2012), as well as with the "Concept Plan for Destruction of the Remaining Category 2 Chemical Weapons in Libya" (EC-79/NAT.1, dated 1 June 2015) and its modification (EC-M-52/NAT.1, dated 25 July 2016), the destruction of Libya's remaining Category 2 chemical weapons was completed in 2017. Destruction operations were carried out by GEKA mbH, the designated destruction facility at Munster, Germany. GEKA mbH completed the destruction of 2-chloroethanol and tributylamine on 17 December 2016 and 20 January 2017, respectively. The destruction of thionyl chloride was completed on 10 September 2017 and the destruction of phosphorous trichloride was completed on 23 November 2017. This concluded the destruction of Libya's stockpile.
- 1.11 On 28 November 2017, Libya certified the completion of the destruction of its remaining chemical weapons in accordance with subparagraph 7(c) of Article IV of the Convention.

Russian Federation

- 1.12 In 2017, the Secretariat verified the destruction of 1,438.097 MT of Category 1 chemical weapons at the Kizner CWDF in the Udmurt Republic, the Russian Federation. This completed the destruction of the entirety of the Russian Federation's declared Category 1 chemical weapons, namely 39,966.588 MT.¹³ The Russian Federation had already destroyed all of its declared Category 2 and Category 3 chemical weapons.
- 1.13 During the reporting period, the Russian Federation submitted a number of letters informing the Secretariat of plans for destruction activities in 2017, and provided details on measures taken to accelerate the destruction process. In a letter delivered to the Twenty-Second Session of the Conference from the President of the Russian Federation, the Russian Federation confirmed the completion of the destruction of its remaining chemical weapons in accordance with subparagraph 7(c) of Article IV of the Convention.

Syrian Arab Republic

- 1.14 The Syrian Arab Republic continued to submit its monthly destruction reports in accordance with Council decision EC-M-34/DEC.1 (dated 15 November 2013), providing information regarding the security situation in the field and the efforts taken to destroy the remaining CWPFs. During the reporting period, the Syrian Arab Republic also submitted around 100 notifications regarding the activities of various armed groups. The process to clarify the Syrian initial declaration was still ongoing.

13 This includes quantities withdrawn for purposes not prohibited by the Convention.

- 1.15 The Secretariat had previously verified the destruction of 100% of the Category 1 and Category 2 chemical weapons declared by the Syrian Arab Republic.

United States of America

- 1.16 In 2017, the Secretariat verified the destruction of 182.793 MT of chemical weapons in the United States of America. The Secretariat had so far verified the destruction of 25,153.858 MT of Category 1 chemical weapons, or 90.58% of the declared stockpile. All of the United States' Category 2 and 3 chemical weapons had previously been destroyed.
- 1.17 In 2017, the United States of America submitted three amendments to its initial declaration involving a new declared CWSF at the Recovered Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility (RCWDF), Savanna Army Depot Activity (SVDA) in Illinois, as well as updates to site diagrams and buildings at two existing CWSFs. The United States also submitted an addendum to the detailed facility information and a revised facility agreement with an agreed detailed plan for verification for the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) at Pueblo, Colorado. In addition, the United States submitted an amendment and modifications to the facility agreement for the Chemical Transfer Facility/Munitions Assessment Processing System (CTF/MAPS) at Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland. Furthermore, the United States submitted plans for destruction activities at PCAPP in 2018 as well as details on measures taken to accelerate the complete destruction of its remaining chemical weapons.
- 1.18 The Secretariat conducted a final engineering review at PCAPP on 27 and 28 June 2017 to add a non-contiguous site, namely the Veolia Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facility (TSDF), in Port Arthur, Texas. Subsequently, the Veolia TSDF was used, as a supplement to the PCAPP's Bio-Treatment System, for the destruction of the hydrolysate generated from the chemical agent hydrolysis process.
- 1.19 In early January 2018, the Secretariat planned to conduct an inspection at the United States of America's point of entry to review documents and recordings related to the recovery and subsequent destruction of three items containing unknown chemical fill, on 13 and 14 May 2017 at the RCWDF at Savanna Army Depot Activity, and from 16 March to 13 December 2017 at the CTF/MAPS. The Veolia TSDF was used for the destruction of the drained unknown chemical fill.
- 1.20 As at 31 December 2017, a total of 11 CWDFs in the United States of America had completed destruction operations. One CWDF was operational (PCAPP) and one additional CWDF (the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP), at Blue Grass, Kentucky) was expected to start destruction activities in 2020.

Chemical weapons storage facilities

- 1.21 In 2017, the Secretariat conducted five inspections at three CWSFs: two in the Russian Federation (one systematic inspection and one final/closure inspection) and three in the United States of America. At the end of the review period, three CWSFs remained subject to systematic verification.

Chemical weapons production facilities

- 1.22 By 31 December 2017, of the 97 CWPFs declared by 14 States Parties, 69¹⁴ had already been destroyed and 23 had been converted for purposes not prohibited under the Convention, representing a total of 94.8% of such facilities.
- 1.23 In 2017, the Secretariat conducted 14 CWPF inspections. These included five visits to the Syrian Arab Republic to verify the destroyed CWPFs in accordance with Council decision EC-M-43/DEC.1 (dated 24 July 2014), one inspection conducted in the Syrian Arab Republic to verify the destruction of a CWPF, three initial inspections at two CWPFs declared by the Syrian Arab Republic and at one CWPF declared by Iraq, and five inspections at the converted CWPFs in the Russian Federation in accordance with the Council decision on the “Nature of Continued Verification Measures at Converted Facilities Ten Years After the Director-General’s Certification of Their Conversion” (EC-67/DEC.7, dated 16 February 2012). During the initial inspection carried out in Iraq, the Secretariat had the opportunity to verify the facility as destroyed in accordance with paragraph 26 of Part V of the Verification Annex.

Abandoned chemical weapons

- 1.24 Between entry into force of the Convention and 31 December 2017, three States Parties had reported ACW on their territory. One State Party, Japan, had reported ACW on the territory of another State Party, China. In 2017, the Secretariat conducted 11 ACW inspections in China, while two other States Parties declared the destruction of ACW on their territories and one State Party reclassified its declared ACW to OCW.

Old chemical weapons

- 1.25 Since entry into force of the Convention, 17 States Parties have declared over 141,000 items of OCW. In 2017, the Secretariat conducted seven OCW inspections: in Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Panama, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Industry verification

- 1.26 States Parties to the Convention provide declarations related to the production, import, export, processing, and consumption of chemicals that are listed in the three schedules of chemicals contained in the Convention’s Annex on Chemicals, as well as OCPFs producing discrete organic chemicals for purposes not prohibited by the Convention. Table 2 below provides information about such chemical industry declarations received by the OPCW as at 31 December 2017.

¹⁴ This includes one CWPF declared by Iraq, which was verified as destroyed but had yet to be certified in 2017.

TABLE 2: DECLARED FACILITIES BY TYPE, AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

Type of Facility	Declared Facilities	Facilities Subject to Inspection ¹⁵	States Parties Having Reported Declarable Facilities ¹⁶	States Parties With Facilities Subject to Inspection
Schedule 1	26	26	23	23
Schedule 2	496	203	34	20
Schedule 3	402	362	34	33
OCPF	4,301	4,131	80	79
Total	5,225	4,722	80¹⁷	80¹⁸

1.27 Table 3 below shows that the Secretariat carried out 241 Article VI inspections in 2017. These comprised 11 Schedule 1 facilities, 42 Schedule 2 plant sites, 19 Schedule 3 plant sites, and 169 OCPFs (respectively 41%, 21%, 5% and 4% of the total of inspectable facilities). No uncertainties were recorded. Twenty-three inspections resulted in issues requiring further attention, and 152 inspections required further information to be provided in declarations. In addition, nine inspections were carried out at facilities that were found during those inspections not to be inspectable, because of declaration errors.

TABLE 3: ARTICLE VI INSPECTIONS

Number of Article VI Inspections by Year													
2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
150	162	180	200	200	208	208	209	219	229	241	241	241	241

1.28 For the OCPF and Schedule 3 sites inspected in 2017, the site selection was performed as described in the “Alternative Approach to Verification at Mixed Plant Sites” (S/1202/2014, dated 23 July 2014). If a Schedule 3 or OCPF mixed plant site has already been inspected under one Article VI verification regime, the plant site is, for the purpose of the random selection of Schedule 3 and OCPF plant sites for inspection, considered as previously inspected. As a result, this plant site should, statistically, be selected for inspection less often.

1.29 In 2017, the Secretariat continued its efforts to maximise the number of sequential inspections as a way of saving resources. Twelve of the 13 States Parties that received four or more industry inspections in 2017 advised the Secretariat that they concurred with the use of sequential inspections on their territory. With the continuation of inter-country sequential inspections in 2017, 13 of the 58 pairs of sequential inspections shown in Table 4 were carried out in two different countries. This represents the second highest number of inter-country sequential inspections in a year to date.

15 Above the threshold for verification through on-site inspections.
 16 Includes annual declarations on anticipated activities, and annual declarations on past activities.
 17 Eighty States Parties declared having at least one Article VI facility.
 18 Eighty States Parties declared having at least one inspectable Article VI facility.

TABLE 4: SEQUENTIAL INSPECTIONS

Sequential Inspections (on a Year-by-Year Basis)													
2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
16	23	26	26	37	42	40	47	48	57	51	59	54	58

- 1.30 In 2017, the Secretariat continued its efforts to further improve the verification system by using updated reporting templates for inspections to reduce reporting burden, further improve consistency of data reported, optimise post-inspection periods, and reduce the time for inspection report review, as reported by the Secretariat in its Note S/1419/2016 (dated 13 September 2016).
- 1.31 In 2017, sampling and analysis (S&A) was conducted during 10 Article VI inspections, eight of which were Schedule 2 inspections and two of which were OCPF inspections. In the case of the OCPFs, the inspections, including S&A, were successfully completed within the 24-hour time limit prescribed by the Convention. The annual numbers of inspections carried out using S&A are shown in Table 5. This includes 98 Schedule 2 inspections in all of the 20 States Parties with currently inspectable Schedule 2 facilities. Three additional States Parties received S&A in Schedule 2 inspections, but no longer have inspectable sites. One of the OCPF inspections with S&A was carried out in a State Party that had never before received an S&A inspection, thus giving a broader geographic distribution of States Parties receiving S&A inspections.

TABLE 5: SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS AT INDUSTRY PLANT SITES

Number of Inspections Completed with Sampling and Analysis												
2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total
2	9	9	9	9	8	9	8	9	11	11	10	104

- 1.32 Paragraph 1 of Part IX of the Verification Annex requires the declaration of OCPFs that produce by synthesis unscheduled discrete organic chemicals over specified thresholds. A long-standing issue is whether the definition of the term “production by synthesis” should include biomediated processes. With a view to assessing the impact on the verification regime of the implementation of a definition that would include biomediated processes, and with the aim of informing discussions among States Parties on the issue, the Secretariat worked with National Authorities to conduct a survey as described in its Note entitled “Survey on Biomediated Processes” (S/1436/2016, dated 14 November 2016). The objectives of the survey were to evaluate the number of additional sites that could become declarable and to assess the relevance to the Convention of facilities that would become declarable if the aforementioned definition were to be implemented without exemptions. The results of this survey were compiled and reported to the Industry Cluster for further consideration.

Declarations

- 1.33 In 2017, for the annual declarations on past activities (ADPAs) for 2016, 76 out of 92 States Parties (83%) submitted them on time, while 16 States Parties submitted them between 31 March and 31 December 2017. Of these 16 States Parties, six submitted

their ADPAs for 2016 less than 30 days late and 10 submitted theirs more than 30 days late.

- 1.34 In 2017, 93.7% of those States Parties with declared OCPFs fully updated their lists of OCPFs in ADPA 2016, with the result that 99.7% of declared OCPFs were updated. By providing full, annual updates to their OCPF lists, States Parties greatly facilitate the operation of the verification regime. By 31 December 2017, only one State Party had not updated its OCPF list for the last five years.
- 1.35 In addition, during the review period, further efforts were made to reach out to the sole remaining State Party that had yet to submit its initial declarations under both Articles III and VI of the Convention.

Actions taken by the Secretariat on transfer discrepancies

- 1.36 In 2017, ADPAs for 2016 declared a total of 1,803 transfers of Schedule 2 and Schedule 3 chemicals. Of these, 767 transfers were declared with quantities above the declarations threshold, of which 517 involving 85 States Parties showed discrepancies.
- 1.37 The Secretariat continued its follow-up action with the States Parties involved and also continued to work closely with other international organisations to support States Parties in the resolution of these transfer discrepancies.

Harmonized System Project

- 1.38 Within the framework of cooperation with the World Customs Organization (WCO), the Secretariat initiated the Harmonized System (HS) Project for the identification by customs authorities of the most traded scheduled chemicals under the International Convention on the Harmonized System. This project aims to allocate unique international six-digit HS codes to the most traded scheduled chemicals, to identify globally traded scheduled chemicals and, ultimately, to ensure complete and accurate trade declarations crucial to the resolution of transfer discrepancies.
- 1.39 The first phase of the HS Project, focusing on the 33 most traded scheduled chemicals, was successfully completed and resulted in the inclusion, effective 1 January 2017, of these 33 chemicals with unique international subheadings (six-digit HS codes) in the 2017 edition of the HS nomenclature.
- 1.40 The second (currently ongoing) phase of the HS Project focuses on the allocation of unique HS codes to the next 15 most traded scheduled chemicals in the next edition of the HS nomenclature in 2022. The OPCW continued to cooperate closely with the WCO Secretariat towards the successful completion of this second phase.

Electronic declarations and the Secure Information Exchange System

- 1.41 In 2017, the Secretariat successfully completed work to further improve the Electronic Declarations Tool for National Authorities (EDNA) and prepared a new version (3.3.1) which includes a number of technical enhancements and corrections of previously reported software errors.

- 1.42 The Secretariat conducted a survey among States Parties in 2017 on the functionalities and expectations of future versions of EDNA. The results of the survey were used as a basis for a feasibility study on a new architecture design. The outcome of the study will provide guidance for the development of a new version of EDNA in 2018.
- 1.43 In 2017, the Secretariat also intensified its efforts to promote and support the SIX system, which has been available to States Parties since 2014 (S/1192/2014, dated 1 July 2014). By the end of the reporting period, 79 users from 47 States Parties had registered to use the system. The Secretariat undertook technical assistance visits to two States Parties in 2017 to support them in setting up and configuring the system. One of the key benefits of the system is that it allows the National Authorities to work on their declarations right up until a few days before the deadlines, without having to take into account the time it takes for the delivery of the classified information to the Secretariat. This can represent a gain of several weeks when compared to delivery via the traditional diplomatic pouch.
- 1.44 In 2017, eight representatives attended the EDNA training courses organised during the Twenty-Second Session of the Conference. The Secretariat also provided a basic course on electronic declarations as part of the “Training Course on National Authority and Chemical Databases”, organised in August 2017 by the Finnish Institute for Verification of the Chemical Weapons Convention (VERIFIN).
- 1.45 The Secretariat completed the French and Spanish translations of the six e-learning modules that had been made available to States Parties in 2015. The translated modules were made available to the States Parties in August 2017. The Secretariat also organised a dedicated training session for the SIX system during the Twenty-Second Session of the Conference.

Riot control agents

- 1.46 At the end of the review period, 138 States Parties had declared possession of riot control agents (mainly tear gases), and 51 States Parties declared no possession of such agents. Around 10% of initial declarations on riot control agents have been updated since entry into force of the Convention. Additional information is provided in Annex 4.

Transfers of scheduled chemicals

- 1.47 Thirteen transfers of Schedule 1 chemicals were declared by five States Parties in ADPA 2016. All 13 transfers were declared by both the sending and receiving States Parties.
- 1.48 ADPAs for 2016 indicated that 54 States Parties were involved in transfers of Schedule 2 chemicals for a total of approximately 10,942 MT, and that 121 States Parties were involved in transfers of Schedule 3 chemicals for a total of approximately 465,000 MT.
- 1.49 Nine States Parties exported four Schedule 3 chemicals to two States not Party.

Informal consultations

- 1.50 Three informal consultations were conducted in 2017. Webcasting to enable the representatives of National Authorities to remotely observe consultation proceedings was not possible in 2017, owing to technical constraints; however, work to reinstate this capability continued throughout 2017. States Parties undertook consultations on a number of outstanding verification-related topics, including:
- (a) continuous additions to the OPCW Central Analytical Database;
 - (b) the relevance of biomediated processes, in light of Scientific Advisory Board recommendations;
 - (c) industry verification in 2016;
 - (d) performance of the OCPF site selection methodology in 2016;
 - (e) results of the National Authority surveys of their industries regarding the use of biomediated processes;
 - (f) guidelines for inspection teams on reporting biomediated processes;
 - (g) enhancing Article VI sampling and analysis efforts; and
 - (h) transfer discrepancies.

Challenge inspections, investigations of alleged use, and contingency operations

- 1.51 No challenge inspections (CIs) or investigations of alleged use (IAUs) under the Convention were requested in 2017. Nevertheless, the Secretariat conducted several fact-finding missions, technical assistance visits (TAVs), and non-routine missions pursuant to Council decision EC-83/DEC.5 (dated 11 November 2016). Furthermore, the Secretariat conducted an in-house CI refresher training and table-top exercise in July 2017. The training was aimed at providing an updated assessment of the fundamentals of CI in Article IX and Part X of the Verification Annex, and at drawing experiences and lessons learned from recent contingency operation deployments. In this regard, the Secretariat conducted a rapid field deployment exercise in parallel with a training course in command and control. This exercise was held in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and was conducted with the assistance and participation of personnel from that country. The field activities were focused on the investigation of a clandestine laboratory designed to produce chemical agents, together with a munition filling and storage area and chemical weapons munitions test area.
- 1.52 In 2017, the Secretariat also conducted a Rapid Response and Assistance Mission (RRAM) field deployment exercise to Romania, with funding from the Government of Canada. All elements of the RRAM operation were exercised, including rapid, real-time preparation for deployment and the subsequent in-country activities that

would be required in the event of a State Party requesting this type of assistance mission.

- 1.53 On 19 April 2017, the Secretariat received a letter from Iraq welcoming the assistance offered by the Secretariat and inviting a team of Secretariat experts to contribute to the ongoing national investigation into alleged attacks by non-State actors involving chemical weapons. A team of experts was formed to undertake a TAV under Paragraph 38(e) of Article VIII of the Convention. In the course of its activities, the TAV team conducted two visits to Iraq, from 18 to 22 June 2017 and from 11 to 15 September 2017. The activities carried out by the TAV in 2017 were reported in Note by the Secretariat S/1559/2017 (dated 6 December 2017).
- 1.54 According to S/1559/2017, “[t]he narrative of events, interviews, medical examinations, signs, and symptoms were consistent with the use of sulfur mustard, which was subsequently confirmed by the laboratory analytical results of the environmental and biomedical samples.”

OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria

- 1.55 A summary update of the activities carried out by the FFM in 2017 was provided in a Note by the Secretariat entitled “Summary Update of the Activities Carried Out by the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission in Syria in 2017” (S/1556/2017, dated 14 November 2017).
- 1.56 The FFM issued three reports determining that chemicals had been used as weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic: in Um-Housh on 16 September 2016 (S/1491/2017, dated 1 May 2017); in Khan Shaykhun on 4 April 2017 (S/1510/2017, dated 29 June 2017); and in Ltamenah on 30 March 2017 (S/1548/2017, dated 2 November 2017).
- 1.57 After the publication of the above-mentioned reports, and in response to the request by the Syrian Arab Republic to investigate six incidents reported to have occurred between October 2016 and November 2017, the FFM team was dispatched from 6 to 17 December 2017 to Damascus, where it was able to conduct interviews and receive samples and other material, including biomedical samples.

Syrian Scientific Studies and Research Centre (SSRC)

- 1.58 In accordance with paragraph 11 of Council decision EC-83/DEC.5, the Secretariat shall “conduct inspections, including sampling and analysis, twice a year at the Barzah facilities of the Syrian Scientific Studies and Research Centre (SSRC) and twice a year at the Jamrayah SSRC facilities on dates to be determined by the Secretariat with full and unfettered access to all buildings at these sites and all rooms within these buildings”.
- 1.59 The Secretariat deployed an inspection team to the Syrian Arab Republic on 25 February 2017, and the inspections of the Barzah and Jamrayah SSRC facilities were conducted between 26 February and 5 March 2017. Samples were taken at both sites and subsequently analysed at two OPCW designated laboratories. The results of

the analyses were received, and the inspection reports were finalised and transmitted to the Syrian Arab Republic on 2 June 2017.

- 1.60 The second round of SSRC inspections was concluded on 27 November 2017. The main aim of the second round of inspections was to cover areas of the sites that had not been inspected during the first, as well as reinspection of areas selected by the inspection team. The inspection team was mandated to assess the main characteristics of the SSRC facilities and the activities conducted there, including any changes since the first inspection, and to gather information to determine whether activities at the facilities were consistent with the obligations of the Syrian Arab Republic under the Convention.

Other verification-related activities

Declaration Assessment Team

- 1.61 In 2017, the Secretariat continued its engagement with the Syrian Arab Republic in order to resolve outstanding issues pertaining to its initial declaration and related submissions. Throughout this process, the lines of communication remained open between the Director-General and the Deputy Foreign Minister of the Syrian Arab Republic, as well as at the technical level. As at 31 December 2017, the Declaration Assessment Team (DAT) had conducted a total of 19 rounds of consultations.
- 1.62 At the request of the Council (EC-81/DEC.4, dated 23 March 2016), the Director-General convened one round of high-level consultations between the Secretariat and the Syrian Arab Republic at OPCW Headquarters from 16 to 18 September 2017. The results of the engagement with the Syrian authorities were circulated in a Note by the Director-General during the Eighty-Sixth Session of the Council (EC-86/DG.30, dated 4 October 2017). In the Note, the Director-General concluded that “the Secretariat is not able to resolve all identified gaps, inconsistencies, and discrepancies in the declaration of the Syrian Arab Republic, and therefore cannot fully verify that the Syrian Arab Republic has submitted a declaration that can be considered accurate and complete in accordance with the Convention or Council decision EC-M-33/DEC.1”. A full, more detailed technical analysis of all outstanding issues was included in other reports on the work of the DAT.¹⁹
- 1.63 In an effort to make progress in clarifying the outstanding issues with regard to the Syrian Arab Republic’s declaration, the DAT subsequently continued its work through an exchange of letters with the Syrian Arab Republic up until the end of 2017.

OPCW proficiency tests and designated laboratories

- 1.64 Each year, the OPCW carries out proficiency tests for institutions that may wish to be a part of the OPCW’s network of analytical laboratories. The year under review saw the completion of the fortieth, the holding of the forty-first, and the start of the

¹⁹ EC-84/HP/DG.1 (dated 2 March 2017); EC-85/DG.25 (dated 4 July 2017); EC-86/HP/DG.2 (dated 3 October 2017) and Corr.1 (dated 5 October 2017).

forty-second official OPCW proficiency tests for environmental analysis. Additionally, the second proficiency test for biomedical sample analysis was conducted. At the end of the reporting period, 20 laboratories from 16 Member States had been designated for environmental analysis (one of which had had its designation temporarily suspended), and 17 laboratories had been designated for biomedical sample analysis. Annex 5 shows the status of each designated laboratory as at 31 December 2017.

- 1.65 A confidence-building exercise for the analysis of protein toxins was finished at the beginning of 2017 and a second exercise began in December 2017. These exercises were specifically targeted towards the analysis of the protein toxin ricin.
- 1.66 The Secretariat issued a concept paper in July 2017 (S/1512/2017, dated 10 July 2017) informing States Parties of the details of the proposed project to upgrade the OPCW Laboratory to a centre for chemistry and technology, in order to keep pace with current threats and scientific and technological developments, as well as to support capacity building in States Parties. In this regard, training and research would be important areas of focus. A needs statement for this project containing further details was circulated to States Parties at the end of 2017 (S/1564/2017, dated 22 December 2017 and Corr.1, dated 3 January 2018).

OPCW Central Analytical Database

- 1.67 Table 6 below reflects the number of chemicals covered in the OPCW Central Analytical Database (OCAD) for each technique for the last five years. Only the gas chromatography (retention index) and mass spectrometry data were used in on-site analysis. The new OCAD release for 2018 would include for the first time data on Convention relevant non-scheduled chemicals (apart from analytical derivatives) for use, on an optional basis, in on-site analysis during inspections or an IAU.

TABLE 6: NUMBER OF CHEMICAL SPECIES IN THE OPCW CENTRAL ANALYTICAL DATABASE

Status at the Beginning of	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Infrared (IR)	723	726	734	734	745	756
Gas chromatography (retention index) (GC(RI))	3,560	3,740	3,866	3,878	4,089	4,439
Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR)	298	298	298	298	298	298
Mass spectrometry (MS)	3,731	3,898	4,003	4,022	4,225	4,566

Training

- 1.68 A new group of inspectors (Group Q) joined the Secretariat in 2017. Group Q was comprised of seven new inspectors who joined the OPCW in October 2017 and completed their mandatory training by end of December 2017. In 2017, the Capacity-Building and Contingency-Planning Cell (CBCP) coordinated or delivered 1,764 training days. The training programme comprised 58 individual training courses offered over 50 calendar weeks of training. All participants were inspectors, some of

whom attended several training courses. The Secretariat also offered other capacity-building programme training courses for States Parties, such as the Associate Programme and assistance and protection courses. Fifty-five percent of the training courses in 2017 were delivered in the Netherlands, with the remainder conducted in Belgium, Canada, Italy, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. These States Parties assisted in the delivery of training programmes, either as host nations, through in-kind contributions, or through the conclusion of technical agreements.

- 1.69 The CBCP also continued to provide the mandatory inspector refresher courses to keep inspectors abreast of technological and verification policy developments, as well as refresher courses on the use of protective equipment and on the OPCW confidentiality regime. An induction training course for inspectors newly promoted as inspection team leaders was also conducted.
- 1.70 Training activities included the “Safe and Secure Approaches in Field Environments (SSAFE)” and contingency operations skills courses, which are required for Secretariat personnel deployed to high-risk areas. Additional specialised courses for OPCW staff comprised non-destructive evaluation (NDE) theory levels I and II, as well as NDE work permit levels I and II, to help them maintain their certification and improve their knowledge and skills of the OPCW NDE-approved methods.
- 1.71 Furthermore, the CBCP contributed to the sixth OPCW assistance and protection course for instructors, and provided expertise in training courses for local authorities conducted in Croatia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan, Singapore, and Uganda.

Knowledge management

- 1.72 The Secretariat continued to systematically implement knowledge management initiatives to support the position of the OPCW as a global repository of knowledge and expertise with regard to chemical weapons and verification activities.
- 1.73 The Verification Division (VER) included knowledge processes in its regular operational areas by launching, inter alia, a knowledge retention programme in respect of staff separating from the Organisation, in order to capture knowledge and lessons learned. Furthermore, VER continued to identify possible knowledge gaps following the conclusion of chemical weapons destruction programmes, and to define concrete actions to mitigate this risk.

2. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE

- 2.1 In 2017, the Secretariat continued to implement capacity-building programmes in support of States Parties, focusing primarily on the provisions of Articles VII, X, and XI of the Convention, which relate to the rights and obligations of States Parties in respect of national implementation, assistance and protection, and economic and technological development. Some of the capacity-building activities encompassed other obligations under specific articles, such as Article VI. The Secretariat conducted 102 activities and programmes for 2,270 participants from all five regional groups represented in the OPCW.
- 2.2 In 2017, the Secretariat launched the Fourth Phase of the OPCW Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Africa Programme”), covering the period 2017 to 2019. During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued to implement specific activities for the implementation of the seven objectives of the Africa Programme, covering the areas of national implementation, assistance and protection, and the peaceful use of chemistry. Seven courses, workshops, and other activities were organised.
- 2.3 To enhance understanding and awareness of Convention implementation, the Secretariat organised, as in years past, a briefing session in Brussels for the Permanent Representations of the States Parties that are not based in The Hague.

National implementation and technical assistance: Article VII

- 2.4 In 2017, the Secretariat continued to provide capacity-building support to improve national implementation and the functioning of National Authorities, with special focus on the adoption of Convention implementing legislation and other national measures, and on the specific knowledge and skills required to implement Convention obligations, such as those relating to Article VI. The role of National Authorities to coordinate the engagement of other national stakeholders, such as the customs authorities and chemical industry actors, continued to be an important function of the National Authorities. In 2017, 31 such activities covering various thematic aspects of capacity building were carried out for 804 participants.
- 2.5 In accordance with Conference decision C-14/DEC.12 (dated 4 December 2009), the Secretariat provided an annual report on the status of national implementation measures. This report was developed on the basis of updates from 118 States Parties. According to the report, out of 192 States Parties, 153 had adopted national implementing legislation (an increase of three in comparison to 2016), while 39 had yet to adopt their implementing legislation.
- 2.6 During the year, two Influential Visitor Programmes were organised (for Namibia and Nigeria), helping to enhance the awareness and understanding of the senior officials and policymakers on the urgent need for adoption of national legislation. A legal workshop for States Parties in Central America and the Caribbean was organised in Barbados, with financial support from the European Union (EU). The Secretariat also provided expert support for two national awareness-raising workshops in Georgia and Namibia. Two sessions of the internship programme for legal drafters and representatives of National Authorities were also organised in 2017 and attended by

participants from five States Parties, namely: Benin, Djibouti, Ghana, Sierra Leone, and Suriname. Following the successful organisation in 2016 of the pilot stakeholders forum on adoption of national implementing legislation, three additional stakeholders forums were carried out in 2017, in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Asia. A total of 36 States Parties participated in these events producing, as a direct output of the meeting, national road maps to take forward the adoption of legislation.

- 2.7 To enhance the knowledge and skills of National Authorities, the Secretariat continued to offer a basic course for personnel of National Authorities and a training course on fulfilling Article VI obligations (declarations and inspections). It also implemented four Mentorship/Partnership Programmes, between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Malawi, between Argentina and Guatemala, between Cuba and Bolivia, and between the United Kingdom and Nigeria.
- 2.8 Supporting engagement and collaboration and coordination between the National Authorities and relevant national stakeholders, especially customs authorities, is crucial for effective Convention implementation. As in years past, the Secretariat in 2017 organised a training-of-trainers course on the Convention's transfer regime for representatives of customs training institutions, which was attended by States Parties from all regions, including: Antigua and Barbuda, Belarus, Bulgaria, Cuba, Italy, India, Malawi, Nigeria, and Pakistan.
- 2.9 The Secretariat intensified its efforts for inter-agency cooperation. A memorandum of understanding between the WCO and the OPCW, which provides the framework for cooperation between the two organisations, was signed in January 2017. The Secretariat also participated in several coordination meetings with other partner organisations, including in the Green Customs Initiative Partners Meeting in October 2017.
- 2.10 Engagement with the chemical industry has become increasingly important in the implementation of the Convention. The Secretariat continued to provide forums in which the National Authorities, industry representatives, and other stakeholders could interact and discuss their cooperation. The Fourth Annual Meeting of Representatives of Chemical Industry and National Authorities was convened in Doha in October 2017, and was made possible by funding from Qatar.
- 2.11 The annual meeting and regional meetings of National Authorities continued to serve as platforms for States Parties to discuss their experiences in implementation of the Convention and to share good practices and lessons learned. The Nineteenth Annual Meeting of National Authorities, held from 22 to 24 November 2017, served as an important opportunity to discuss the challenges faced, to identify needs, and to explore the planning of future capacity building initiatives. The programme in 2017 included an industry segment to further promote the involvement and contributions of the chemical industry in Convention implementation.
- 2.12 The four regional meetings of National Authorities in 2017 were hosted by Georgia (Eastern Europe), the United Arab Emirates (Asia), Chile (Latin America and the Caribbean), and the Gambia (Africa). Special panel discussions involving

international and regional partners on pertinent topics were organised as part of the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the OPCW.

- 2.13 Also in commemoration of the twentieth anniversary, the Secretariat, in coordination with the National Authority of Qatar, organised the “International Conference on Chemical Disarmament and Security: The OPCW’s Contributions to Global Peace and Security”, held in Doha on 10 and 11 April 2017, with funding from Qatar. More than 80 participants from all regions attended.

Assistance and protection: Article X

- 2.14 Seventy-two States Parties submitted annual reports pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article X in 2017.
- 2.15 In 2017 the Secretariat carried out 38 assistance and protection activities, allowing the OPCW to build and enhance the skills in different areas for 740 relevant individuals from States Parties.
- 2.16 The Secretariat conducted international and regional assistance and protection training courses and capacity-building activities under Article X, jointly with the Governments of Argentina, Belarus, Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Ghana, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Turkey, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, and Zambia.
- 2.17 Seven full training cycles were successfully conducted in 2017. Of these, one was for all regions, one for Russian-speaking participants, one for Arabic-speaking participants, two for Asia (of which one was focused on police first responders), and two for Latin America and the Caribbean.
- 2.18 The Secretariat also continued to expand its Instructor Development and Exchange Programme and its training-of-trainers approach. Accordingly, training-of-trainer courses were conducted in the Netherlands, while others with sponsorship from States Parties were run in conjunction with Belarus (for Russian-speaking participants), the Czech Republic, Spain (for Spanish-speaking participants), and South Africa. During the reporting period, the seventeenth workshop to coordinate assistance and protection under Article X was organised at OPCW Headquarters, and the third meeting of assistance and protection training centres was jointly organised with the Government of Qatar.
- 2.19 The Secretariat continued to implement existing training modules and to develop new ones, including on live agent training (in Slovakia), laboratory training (in Slovakia and Switzerland), and sampling and analysis training (in Poland). A new, special capacity-development programme on medical aspects of chemical emergency response under Article X, aimed at training medical professionals in the provision of care for individuals exposed to chemical warfare agents or toxic chemicals, was held in China, while a training focused on pre-hospital treatment of chemical casualties was held in Spain.

- 2.20 In the context of the International Support Network for the Victims of Chemical Weapons, the Practical Guide for Medical Management of Chemical Casualties was translated into Arabic, with support from the Government of Qatar. Contributions to the Trust Fund for Victims rose to EUR 212,000 in 2017, with the latest generous contributions from the Republic of Korea and Spain.
- 2.21 The Voluntary Fund for Assistance, established under subparagraph 7(a) of Article X of the Convention, had a balance of EUR 1,557,974 and the number of States Parties offering assistance in accordance with subparagraph 7(c) of Article X rose to 46 following the latest offer by Brazil in 2017.

Economic and technological development: Article XI

- 2.22 In 2017, the Secretariat continued to deliver capacity-building programmes and to facilitate international cooperation to promote peaceful uses of chemistry. Such programmes focused on the main areas of integrated chemicals management, enhancement of laboratory capabilities, and the promotion and exchange of chemical knowledge in States Parties.
- 2.23 During the year under review, 31 capacity-building activities for 730 experts were carried out by the Secretariat. These included regular series of programmes on integrated chemicals management (including chemical security management), the enhancement of laboratory capabilities (analytical skills development courses), and chemical knowledge promotion and exchange. In 2017, the Secretariat also organised a workshop on Article XI.
- 2.24 The Associate Programme further expanded in 2017 by implementing its industry segment in China for the first time. A total of 32 participants from 31 countries received in-depth exposure to matters related to industrial chemistry and the Convention. The Alumni Network of the Associate Programme now featured a dynamic group of 456 alumni from 121 Member States. The fifth virtual meeting of the Alumni Network was organised from 25 November to 1 December 2017 and generated valuable ideas on how to update the curriculum of the programme and increase its impact.
- 2.25 Also in the area of integrated chemicals management, the Secretariat organised a series of 16 global and regional training events on chemical safety and security, which took place in Algeria, Argentina (two), Bangladesh, Cameroon, China, Germany (two), Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, and Uganda. In the framework of enhancing the capabilities of analytical laboratories, there were 11 training courses focusing on the analysis of chemicals related to the Convention, OPCW proficiency tests, natural products chemistry, customs laboratory training, and laboratory quality management. These courses were held in Australia, Finland (three), the Netherlands (four), South Africa, Spain, and Sweden.
- 2.26 Under its Equipment Exchange Programme, the Secretariat also arranged for the transfer of two Bruker Portable FT-IR Spectrometers and two Captair Toxicap 1016 fume hoods.

- 2.27 The Secretariat organised two events on promoting chemical knowledge in Italy and the Netherlands, as well as the second edition of the review and evaluation workshop of the components of an agreed framework for the full implementation of Article XI, at OPCW Headquarters.
- 2.28 In promoting chemical knowledge and exchange and under the Research Support Programme, the Secretariat approved the sponsorship of five new projects in 2017 while 12 new projects received joint funding from the International Foundation for Science. In total, 21 directly funded projects were active during the reporting period. In addition, support was provided for 11 fellowships and 14 international conferences.
- 2.29 In 2017, the Secretariat continued to develop previously created products, including the report on “Needs and Best Practices on Integrated Chemicals Management”, the database of experts on the peaceful uses of chemistry, and a Facebook alumni platform for international cooperation programmes.

The OPCW Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention

- 2.30 As noted above, 2017 marked the launch of the fourth phase of the OPCW Africa Programme.
- 2.31 Under Article XI and within the framework of enhancing laboratory capabilities, 60 participants from 24 African States Parties acquired the requisite knowledge to identify, handle, and analyse Convention-related chemicals through the analytical skills development programme.
- 2.32 Furthermore, 105 participants from 26 States Parties were equipped with relevant knowledge on chemical safety and security management. As part of the above-mentioned activities on the peaceful uses of chemistry, three events were organised for African States in particular (in Algeria, Uganda, and Germany). An analytical chemistry course was held in South Africa, and three events under the chemical safety and security programme were held in Algeria, Cameroon, and Uganda.

3. POLICY-MAKING ORGANS

Activities of the Conference of the States Parties

- 3.1 The Twenty-Second Session of the Conference took place from 27 November to 1 December 2017 and was attended by representatives of 136 States Parties, a signatory State, a non-signatory State, nine international organisations, specialised agencies and other international bodies, as well as representatives from 66 non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Mr Thomas Markram, Director and Deputy to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations, delivered a message to the Conference.
- 3.2 The Conference reviewed the status of implementation of the Convention in all its aspects, including national implementation measures, chemical disarmament, assistance and protection, international cooperation, and activities related to preventing the re-emergence of chemical weapons. States Parties discussed a report covering the activities carried out under the auspices of the fourth phase of the Africa Programme and also considered progress made regarding the OPCW's efforts to engage with chemical industry and the scientific community.
- 3.3 The Conference noted and welcomed the completion of the destruction of all declared chemical weapons in the Russian Federation (C-22/NAT.3, dated 20 November 2017), and of the destruction of declared Category 2 chemical weapons in Libya (C-22/NAT.2, dated 16 November 2017).
- 3.4 States Parties marked the Day of Remembrance for All Victims of Chemical Warfare during the Twenty-Second Session of the Conference on 30 November 2017.
- 3.5 The Conference appointed Mr Fernando Arias as the new Director-General of the Secretariat, for a term of office beginning on 25 July 2018 and ending on 24 July 2022 (C-22/DEC.18, dated 30 November 2017).
- 3.6 Among the decisions adopted by the Conference at its Twenty-Second Session were the following:²⁰
- (a) Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2018 (C-22/DEC.5, dated 30 November 2017);
 - (b) Scale of Assessments for 2018 (C-22/DEC.6, dated 30 November 2017);
 - (c) Cash Deficit for 2014 and Cash Surplus for 2015 (C-22/DEC.7, dated 30 November 2017);
 - (d) Proposal from Libya for a Multi-Year Payment Plan to Regularise the Payment of its Outstanding Annual Contributions (C-22/DEC.8, dated 30 November 2017);

20 Other (unclassified) decisions can be found on the public website of the OPCW.

- (e) Write-Offs of Irrecoverable Accounts Receivable and of Losses of Assets (C-22/DEC.9, dated 30 November 2017);
 - (f) Establishment of a Special Fund for the Fourth Review Conference²¹ in 2018 (C-22/DEC.10, dated 30 November 2017);
 - (g) Extension of the Special Fund for OPCW Special Missions (C-22/DEC.11, dated 30 November 2017);
 - (h) Amendments to the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules (C-22/DEC.12, dated 30 November 2017);
 - (i) Amendments to the OPCW Staff Regulations (C-22/DEC.13, dated 30 November 2017);
 - (j) Rehiring of Inspectors (C-22/DEC.14, dated 30 November 2017);
 - (k) Amendments to the OPCW Policy on Confidentiality (C-22/DEC.15, dated 30 November 2017);
 - (l) Amendments to the OPCW Media and Public Affairs Policy (C-22/DEC.16, dated 30 November 2017); and
 - (m) Reappointment of the External Auditor of the OPCW (C-22/DEC.17, dated 30 November 2017).
- 3.7 Pursuant to the decision at its Twentieth Session to combine the dates of its Fourth Review Conference and its regular session in 2018 (C-20/5, dated 4 December 2015), the Conference decided to hold its Twenty-Third Session on 19 and 20 November 2018 and its Fourth Review Conference from 21 to 30 November 2018.
- 3.8 The Conference decided to establish an open-ended working group to begin, in cooperation with the Secretariat, preparations, for the Fourth Review Conference, which would be convened in accordance with paragraph 22 of Article VIII of the Convention.

Activities of the Executive Council

- 3.9 In 2017, the Council considered a number of reports by the Secretariat on the status of implementation of the Convention, including verification activities and the implementation of Articles VI, VII, X, and XI.
- 3.10 The Chairperson and other representatives of the Council conducted visits to the Blue Grass Chemical Agent Destruction Pilot Plant and Static Detonation Chamber, Kentucky, in the United States of America, from 2 to 6 April 2017 (EC-85/5, dated 24 May 2017 and Corr.1, dated 8 June 2017), and to the Haerbaling Abandoned Chemical Weapons Destruction Site, in Jilin Province, China, from 12 to 16 June 2017 (EC-85/14, dated 10 July 2017).

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- 3.11 The Council welcomed the completion of the destruction of declared Category 1 chemical weapons stockpiles in the Russian Federation (EC-86/P/NAT.5, dated 12 September 2017).
- 3.12 The Council also:
- (a) reviewed progress in and adopted a number of decisions on the destruction of chemical weapons;
 - (b) discussed the alleged use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic;
 - (c) considered three reports of the FFM regarding the incidents in the Syrian Arab Republic on 16 September 2016 (S/1491/2017), 30 March 2017 (S/1548/2017), and 4 April 2017 (S/1510/2017);
 - (d) considered the seventh report of the OPCW-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism;
 - (e) adopted a decision on the chemical weapons incident in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (EC-84/DEC.8, dated 9 March 2017);
 - (f) adopted decisions on the lists of new validated data of scheduled and non-scheduled chemicals for inclusion in the OCAD (EC-85/DEC.9, dated 14 July 2017; and EC-86/DEC.10, dated 13 October 2017);
 - (g) addressed the threat posed by the use of chemical weapons by non-State actors (EC-86/DEC.9, dated 13 October 2017);
 - (h) approved facility agreements and modifications or amendments to facility agreements between the OPCW and States Parties;
 - (i) adopted decisions on administrative and financial matters, including on a proposal from Libya for a multi-year payment plan to regularise the payment of its outstanding annual contributions (EC-86/DEC.6, dated 11 October 2017), and on the establishment of a special fund for the Fourth Review Conference in 2018 (EC-86/DEC.3, dated 11 October 2017);
 - (j) concluded agreements on privileges and immunities (EC-84/DEC.5 and EC-84/DEC.6, both dated 9 March 2017, and EC-85/DEC.8, dated 13 July 2017);
 - (k) adopted a decision on the process for the appointment of the Director-General (EC-84/DEC.7, dated 9 March 2017) and subsequently a recommendation to the Conference for the appointment of the Director-General (EC-86/DEC.12, dated 13 October 2017); and
 - (l) forwarded its recommendations on a number of matters to the Conference at its Twenty-Second Session.

Activities of subsidiary bodies

- 3.13 The Commission for the Settlement of Disputes Related to Confidentiality held its Nineteenth Meeting from 17 to 19 May 2017.
- 3.14 The Advisory Body on Administrative and Financial Matters held its Forty-Second Session from 6 to 9 June 2017, and its Forty-Third Session from 28 August to 1 September 2017.
- 3.15 The Scientific Advisory Board held its Twenty-Fifth Session from 27 to 31 March 2017, and its Twenty-Sixth Session from 16 to 20 October 2017.
- 3.16 The Advisory Board on Education and Outreach held its Third Session from 14 to 16 March 2017, and its Fourth Session from 29 to 31 August 2017.
- 3.17 The Vice-Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador María Teresa Infante of Chile, on behalf of the Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Sheikh Mohammed Belal of Bangladesh, reported to the Conference at its Twenty-Second Session on the status of the work by the Host Country Committee.

4. EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Universality

- 4.1 OPCW membership remains at 192 States Parties since Angola's accession on 16 October 2015. Israel has signed but not ratified the Convention; the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, and South Sudan have neither signed nor acceded to the Convention.
- 4.2 Within the framework of the Action Plan for the Universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention, the Secretariat continued to reach out to remaining States not Party throughout 2017. As in previous years, the Secretariat invited representatives of States not Party to participate in OPCW-related activities, including the Twenty-Session of the Conference. In March 2017, the Director-General, together with the United Nations Secretary-General, H.E. Mr António Guterres, sent out joint letters to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the remaining four States not Party, urging them to join the Convention without delay or precondition. Contact continued with representatives of the Permanent Representations of South Sudan in New York and Brussels with a view to advancing options for that country to join the Convention.
- 4.3 The Director-General continued to underline the importance of achieving universality in his contacts with senior officials and interactions with international organisations, academic institutions, and think tanks.

External engagement and outreach activities

- 4.4 Throughout 2017, the Director-General and the Deputy Director-General visited several countries and participated in meetings and conferences relevant to the implementation of the Convention. Furthermore, a number of high-level guests extended visits to OPCW Headquarters.

Visits by the Director-General

- 4.5 The Director-General paid bilateral visits to Australia, Austria, Belgium, Cameroon, Chile, China, Finland, France, Germany, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Italy, Singapore, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America. During these visits, he met with high-level government officials, including heads of state and ministers. The Director-General also addressed a diverse range of audiences, including representatives of scientific communities, academic institutions, government agencies, and the chemical industry. The Director-General had an opportunity to address the Conference on Disarmament and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and met with representatives of the United Nations, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation (CTBTO), and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Visits by the Deputy Director-General

- 4.6 The Deputy Director-General visited Bangladesh, Belgium, Croatia, Mexico, Qatar, and the Russian Federation. He also visited New York and addressed an open debate

of the United Nations Security Council on protecting critical infrastructure against terrorist attacks, and visited Switzerland to address the States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention. At the invitation of the Russian Federation, the Deputy Director-General also visited the Kizner CWDF and attended the closing ceremony marking the completion of destruction operations. He also provided an annual briefing in Brussels to Permanent Representations based outside The Hague.

Twentieth anniversary events

- 4.7 On 26 April 2017, a commemorative ceremony to observe the entry into force of the Convention and the founding of the OPCW was held in The Hague. The event was attended by His Majesty King Willem Alexander of the Netherlands and other dignitaries, and Permanent Representatives and other delegates of OPCW Member States.
- 4.8 The webcast of the ceremony reached over 1,600 viewers in 93 different countries, either live or on-demand after the event. The video of the ceremony can be found on the OPCW website. An OPCW-produced short video showcasing the Organisation's achievements, titled "20 Years in Our Lives", was shown at events around the world to mark the twentieth anniversary.
- 4.9 Over 40 events related to the OPCW's twentieth anniversary were organised by Member States throughout the year, for which the Secretariat provided facilitation and support.
- 4.10 Also to support twentieth anniversary events during the course of the year, the Secretariat launched a dedicated anniversary website.
- 4.11 A dedicated logo was also designed to commemorate the twentieth anniversary. A package of electronic files and usage guidelines were made available to assist with the promotion of anniversary-related events and initiatives throughout 2017.
- 4.12 A "20 Moments" social media campaign was developed to highlight the OPCW's progress over the last two decades. The campaign had reached over 280,000 people across the OPCW's social media channels. To help raise the profile of twentieth anniversary events and initiatives, a hashtag campaign was also developed: the #OPCW20 hashtag used by the OPCW, Member States, and partners, reached nearly 853,000 people.
- 4.13 In collaboration with the Municipality of The Hague, flags marking the twentieth anniversary year and featuring key messages about the OPCW and the Convention were placed at over 150 sites around The Hague.

OPCW-The Hague Award

- 4.14 The 2017 OPCW-The Hague Award was awarded to the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT) and the International Master Courses in Protection Against CBRNe²² Events at the University of Rome Tor Vergata.

²² CBRNe = chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive.

- 4.15 The OPCW promoted the event through both traditional and social media. The award ceremony was webcast live and attracted viewers from 41 different countries. The Secretariat produced video interviews with the award recipients to highlight their contributions to the goals of the Convention. The video interviews were posted on YouTube and promoted across the OPCW's social media channels.

Other activities

- 4.16 On 10 November 2017 in Brussels, 23 representatives from 17 countries attended the annual briefing for Permanent Representations based outside The Hague.
- 4.17 Public interest in the Convention and the work of the OPCW continued to increase in 2017. Secretariat staff delivered briefings and presentations to over 65 visiting groups, receiving more than 1,600 visitors at the OPCW Headquarters. The OPCW also hosted the visit of the annual United Nations Fellowship Programme on Disarmament and the diplomatic induction workshop.

Public affairs and media profile

Open Day

- 4.18 On 24 September 2017, the OPCW participated in another successful edition of the annual International Open Day organised by the City of The Hague. Open Day is the OPCW's largest public outreach event and is aimed at raising awareness about the Organisation's work and the ongoing relevance of the permanent elimination of chemical weapons. In 2017, 900 visitors were welcomed to the OPCW Headquarters—a 50% increase over 2016. The Open Day social media campaign reached over 204,000 people—double the number from 2016. The latest short documentary from the FIRES series, titled “Which Side Do You Belong To”, also premiered at the Open Day. The programme included briefings by OPCW experts as well as interactive activities to understand OPCW tasks and tools.

Other open days

- 4.19 On 7 May 2017 in Brussels, the OPCW presented its work at the Open Day of the EU External Action Service, visited by approximately 6,000 people. The OPCW was honoured to be the first non-EU institution to be invited to this event. The OPCW presented its message through a similar public event at the United Nations in Geneva on 7 October 2017, at the invitation of the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva, Mr Michael Møller.

Exhibition

- 4.20 An OPCW exhibition capturing the Organisation's progress since its establishment was developed and is on display at OPCW Headquarters. The exhibition was also displayed at other key events such as The Hague International Open Day.

T.M.C. Asser Institute

- 4.21 The eighth edition of the T.M.C. Asser Institute's annual Summer Programme, organised with the OPCW's cooperation, took place from 4 to 8 September 2017. Twenty-three junior- to mid-career professionals improved their knowledge about the diplomatic, legal, and technical aspects of the disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The OPCW provided a number of speakers and hosted a tour of the Headquarters and of the Laboratory in Rijswijk. The OPCW also publicised this valuable training through a social media campaign, including short testimonial videos.

Twenty-Second Session of the Conference of the States Parties

- 4.22 Fifty-two NGOs were represented at the Twenty-Second Session of the Conference, which is the largest NGO participation to date. Many NGOs made statements during the general debate and provided exhibits. To facilitate participation by NGOs from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, 24% of registered NGOs (up from 20% at the Twenty-First Session of the Conference) were able to attend the session thanks to financial support from the EU. The External Relations Division (ERD) provided logistical and financial support for the attendance of NGOs.
- 4.23 A branding strategy was also implemented during the Twenty-Second Session of the Conference. The strategy included improved signage, wayfinding systems, screens, and video products.
- 4.24 The Secretariat produced a live webcast of the Conference, which attracted over 6,500 viewers. Videos capturing the statements from States Parties, international organisations, NGOs, as well as other highlights were published individually on YouTube and promoted across social media, and distributed to stakeholders for further promotion. The presence of civil society was further emphasised through the release of a video on civil society's role within the Conference and the Convention.
- 4.25 A multichannel social media campaign was launched to support the Twenty-Second Session of the Conference. Social media posts reached approximately 244,000 people on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. Key areas highlighted by the campaign included The OPCW-Hague Award, the appointment of the next Director-General, the Day of Remembrance for All Victims of Chemical Weapons, other side events, NGO participation, and plenary statements.

Media interest

- 4.26 The OPCW continued to attract high media interest, especially with regard to its activities in the Syrian Arab Republic, contributions to the work of the Joint Investigative Mechanism, the OPCW's twentieth anniversary, the Organisation's work to counter the use of chemical weapons by non-State actors, and the progress in the destruction of Libya's remaining chemical weapons precursors in Germany.
- 4.27 The OPCW received 25,843 media citations in 2017, a 19% increase over 2016.

Website

4.28 Traffic to OPCW web properties increased by 53% compared to 2016, with nearly 651,000 unique users in 2017.

Website	2015	2016	2017	Change 2016/2017
Users ²³	431,512	424,860	650,984	+53%
Sessions ²⁴	639,645	663,545	942,229	+42%

4.29 A complete overhaul of the official OPCW website began in August 2016. The scope of the project includes redesigning the front end, featuring valuable content for target audiences, replacing the back end content management system, and moving to a new hosting platform. Demands for the creation of a special twentieth anniversary website slowed this project in 2017, though progress continued in 2017. The website overhaul project was on track to launch in the summer of 2018.

Social media

4.30 The Secretariat’s digital communications capacity continued to increase significantly according to metrics for social media platforms. Each social media post and campaign is designed to increase awareness and enhance stakeholder understanding of the work and activities related to the Organisation and the Convention.

Social media	2015	2016	2017	Change 2016/2017
Facebook followers	9,733	10,770	13,295	23%
Twitter followers	10,249	12,066	15,518	29%
YouTube video views	13,717	16,068	30,414	89%

Protocol and privileges and immunities support

4.31 The ERD continued to provide support to senior management and other members of the Secretariat for protocol services, as well as for the administration of privileges and immunities related to the Headquarters Agreement and relevant rules and regulations of the Host Country. Thirty-six Permanent Representatives presented their letters of credentials to the Director-General in 2017.

²³ Users = number of unique users who initiated at least one session during the reporting period.

²⁴ Sessions = a time period in which a user is actively engaged with the website.

5. EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Administrative and budgetary matters

- 5.1 The 2018 Programme and Budget was formulated taking into consideration guidance from States Parties pertaining to zero nominal growth. The Administration Division (ADM) continued to further develop templates and costing sheets for use in the preparation of the 2018 Programme and Budget. These templates further clarify the linkage between objectives, strategies, activities, and resources and feature improved standard costing. The 2018 Programme and Budget was also formulated in line with the principles of zero-based budgeting.
- 5.2 The ADM continued to closely monitor and actively address the cash situation during 2017, apprising States Parties of the financial position on a monthly basis, including the status of the payment of assessed contributions and reimbursements of Article IV and Article V invoices. These steps proved effective in continuing to improve the cash situation of the Secretariat in 2017.
- 5.3 The 2016 Financial Statements for both the OPCW and the Provident Fund were audited and certified by the External Auditor of the OPCW in May 2017; both received unqualified audit opinions.
- 5.4 The ADM supported the other divisions of the Secretariat with essential general services including travel arrangements, logistic support to the various conferences and meetings of the policy-making organs, visa and United Nations laissez-passer support, facility services, and procurement guidance, as well as management of the Secretariat's assets.
- 5.5 Secretariat procurement reached a total volume of EUR 16.4 million in 2017. This amount was reached through 365 contracts/purchase orders raised centrally by the Procurement Section for a total value of EUR 15.2 million, and 527 purchase orders raised at the individual Secretariat unit level (for low value procurements), for a total value of EUR 1.2 million.
- 5.6 Over the course of 2017, the Human Resources Branch (HRB) took the necessary steps to ensure the successful implementation of the amendments to the United Nations common system compensation elements for staff in the professional and higher categories. In collaboration with different divisions of the Secretariat, the process involved drafting, forecasting, and presenting amendments to the human resources regulatory framework for the approval of States Parties, culminating in their approval by the Conference (C-22/DEC.13), with the changes to take effect on 1 January 2018. The necessary implementing rules and administrative directives were prepared in tandem and approved through the regular process. In addition, the HRB worked closely with internal partners to review, develop, and promulgate two key policy documents concerning prohibited conduct and access to independent mediation.
- 5.7 To strengthen the HRB's strategic vision of a comprehensive approach for managing the OPCW's human resources and to align its human resources needs with the overall delivery of the organisation mandate, the Secretariat restructured the HRB. The new

structure and focus will further contribute to recruiting, retaining and developing a dynamic, cross-trained, and agile workforce that meets the business needs of the Organisation.

- 5.8 A new information technology (IT) strategy was rolled out in 2017, with an emphasis on enabling productivity improvements through the adoption of new technologies and the replacement of legacy systems no longer fit for purpose. As part of the new IT strategy, IT governance shifted to a federated model with an emphasis on ensuring that technology investments support cross-divisional Secretariat objectives, within budgetary constraints.
- 5.9 The Information Services Branch (ISB) coordinates overall IT activity and strategy and, additionally in 2017, introduced new managed services and supply agreements with other United Nations organisations. This helped to align IT investments with the overall United Nations practices through market-competitive investments.
- 5.10 The implementation of the core component of the enterprise resource planning (ERP) system solution began and remained ongoing throughout 2017. A procurement process was carried out for the remaining component (talent management) of the ERP solution, and a vendor was selected. The implementation of the remaining component also commenced and remained ongoing throughout 2017. In the fourth quarter of 2017, detailed user acceptance testing indicated that the ERP solution build would require further development to support the defined operational business requirements as set forth in, inter alia, the Note by the Director-General entitled “Enterprise-Resource-Planning Strategy of the OPCW” (Annex to EC-77/DG.15, dated 12 September 2014). As a result, the go-live of the core ERP solution was suspended until completion of the solution build.

Internal oversight

- 5.11 During the period under review, the Office of Internal Oversight (OIO) conducted its audits in conformance with the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing of the Institute of Internal Auditors. The United Nations Evaluation Group Norms and Standards for Evaluation were also observed.
- 5.12 In 2017, the OIO conducted audits of the procurement system and of the system for the statement of internal control. This audit was conducted in the context of the recommendations of the External Auditor and sought to advise management on the structured and systematic process to be set up for the implementation of the statement. The Office also completed the audit of the governance of evaluation in the Secretariat.
- 5.13 The OIO also audited the IT change management process, the implementation of the SIX system for the electronic transmission of declarations, and conducted an advisory review of the design of the established data migration process for the Unit4 Business World ERP system project. The audit of the developed selection methods for schedule 3 plant sites was also completed during the year. In addition, the OIO certified the new version of the OCAD and gas chromatography-mass spectrometry equipment used by inspectors during their missions.

- 5.14 The OIO performed an evaluation of the activities of the ERD. To manage the OPCW's quality management system (QMS), the OIO performed six QMS internal audits, provided secretarial support for the QMS Technical Committee (QMSTC), prepared management reviews of accredited areas, and assisted the OPCW Laboratory during the Dutch Accreditation Council (RvA) visits.
- 5.15 In November 2017, the QMSTC requested the OIO to prepare a draft of the Secretariat Quality Manual. For that purpose, a dedicated QMS working group was established by the OIO, which included representatives from all relevant divisions of the Secretariat.
- 5.16 In August 2017, the OIO hosted, for the first time, the annual meeting of the Representatives of Internal Audit Services of the United Nations Organisations, Intergovernmental Organisations and Multilateral Financial Institutions (UN-RIAS). The meeting facilitated the strengthening of internal auditing practices and professionalism by providing a forum for collaboration and common positions of its members to add value to their organisations.
- 5.17 The OIO continued to receive requests for advice and comments in 2017 related to, among other issues, the revision of administrative directives, the improvement of internal controls, risk assessments, the confidentiality policy, and IT governance.
- 5.18 Further, OIO auditors participated as observers in meetings of the Investment Committee, the Property Survey Board, the Committee on Contracts, the Information Services Steering Committee, the ERP Project Board, the ERP Working Group on Financial Rules and Regulations, and the Risk Management Working Group.
- 5.19 In 2017, the OIO continued to follow up on the status of the implementation of recommendations contained in all of its audit and evaluation reports, contributing to their full implementation. To facilitate the follow up, the OIO now provides an outline of the action required for implementation of the audit recommendations. The outcome of each follow-up exercise was reported quarterly to the Management Board and to the States Parties in the OIO's annual report.

Legal affairs

- 5.20 In 2017, the Office of the Legal Adviser (LAO) provided legal advice to the policy-making organs, States Parties, the Director-General, and units of the Secretariat.
- 5.21 This legal advice pertained to the interpretation and implementation of the Convention and its verification regime; the negotiation of international agreements, including voluntary contribution agreements and technical agreements on the conduct of trainings; cooperation with other international organisations; administrative policies and procedures; and financial questions, including commercial contracts for the procurement of goods and services. The LAO represented the OPCW before judicial and other quasi-judicial and administrative bodies, including the Administrative Tribunal of the International Labour Organization.

- 5.22 The Secretariat registered 31 international agreements in 2017 and nine amendments to international agreements (see Annex 8).
- 5.23 On 16 November 2017, the Secretariat hosted a legal conference entitled “The Chemical Weapons Convention in 2017: What are the Boundaries to Its Future Evolution?” (see S/1562/2017, dated 15 December 2017). Over 100 academics, legal practitioners, and representatives of States Parties attended this event.

Strategy and policy

- 5.24 In 2017, the Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism and its sub-working group on non-State actors remained the primary platforms for the States Parties to interact with international experts and to exchange their views on challenges posed by terrorism and on how the OPCW could further address this subject through the full and effective implementation of the Convention. These groups continued to focus their attention on the topic of legal accountability, through presentations from national experts on the prosecution of terrorism suspects and on the national implementation of Convention-related legal measures. The groups also heard from experts in regional organisations based in Europe and Africa on the importance of understanding the threat of terrorism, and from customs authorities about the role of trade controls in terrorism prevention.
- 5.25 In 2017, in furtherance of its support for global chemical security, the Secretariat convened an experts’ workshop on chemical security to discuss the state of international coordination of chemical security matters and to consider possible means of strengthening cooperation. The workshop was attended by 24 experts representing, inter alia, the chemical industry, international organisations, and academia.
- 5.26 The OPCW continued to co-chair, with the IAEA, the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force project related to enhancing interagency interoperability and coordinated communications in the event of an attack involving a chemical or biological weapon. As a follow-up to the working group’s table-top exercise, which was held on 19 and 20 January 2017 at the OPCW Headquarters and involved the OPCW RRAM and 14 other international organisations, the co-chairs undertook a number of preparatory steps to design and initiate the project’s next phase, with the aim of addressing recommendations stemming from that exercise. The next phase was expected to begin in 2018.
- 5.27 Recognising that the Convention and United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) are mutually reinforcing in a number of areas, such as national legislation, chemical security, and customs and border control, the OPCW continued to build on its long-standing cooperation with the 1540 Committee.
- 5.28 The OPCW in 2017 continued to increase its engagement with the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA). Meetings of the Chemical Industry Coordination Group (CICG), consisting of OPCW staff and ICCA officials, took place in June and November. The Director-General and other senior OPCW staff, as well as the ICCA Board of Directors, participated in the OPCW-ICCA Joint Steering Committee meeting in October. These meetings provided opportunities for continuing consultations on issues of priority, as well as planning for joint activities.

- 5.29 Additionally, the OPCW facilitated ICCA's participation in the annual meeting of National Authorities, which was held in The Hague in November 2017. This was the first time that ICCA participated in this event, with three ICCA representatives making presentations to National Authorities on issues of common interest. These presentations and the subsequent discussions provided a valuable opportunity to exchange views, with the goal of enhancing cooperation between industry and National Authorities.
- 5.30 ICCA was also invited to address the Twenty-Second Session of the Conference in November 2017 under an agenda item covering engagement with the global chemical industry and scientific community. The Director-General submitted a Note to the Conference entitled "Engaging the Chemical Industry Associations" (C-22/DG.18, dated 10 October 2017) to report in detail on the OPCW's engagement with industry associations since the previous session of the Conference. The report covered activities related to verification, education and outreach, and chemical safety and security.

Future priorities of the Organisation

- 5.31 The Open-Ended Working Group on the Future Priorities of the OPCW was established by the Council in June 2016 and held eight meetings in 2017, with active participation by States Parties and presentations by external experts. The substantive areas of the OPCW's work covered by the Group included verification, capacity development, engagement of external partners, and OPCW governance, resources, and management.

Education and outreach

- 5.32 The Advisory Board on Education and Outreach (ABEO) held two sessions in 2017. Based on its work throughout the year, the Board submitted a report to the Director-General in December which identified the best practices and latest advances in education and outreach theory relevant to the Organisation's engagement activities, related this education and outreach theory to the OPCW's mandate and its main areas of work, and outlined a portfolio of education and outreach projects and activities.

Confidentiality and security

- 5.33 During the reporting period, the Office of Confidentiality and Security (OCS) ensured appropriate security for OPCW personnel, facilities, operations, and information in alignment with the risk appetite of the Organisation. The OCS continued its routine work, including the provision of security briefings and training, physical security services, and investigations, collaboration with the United Nations for the security of missions, and ensuring the security of meetings held at the OPCW. The OCS continued to ensure that its policies and technical and physical measures continued to evolve both with available technology and best practices.
- 5.34 The OCS continued to provide direct support to OPCW missions, both in the Syrian Arab Republic and in Libya.

Health and safety

- 5.35 There were no significant health and safety incidents in the Secretariat in 2017. There were no delays in mission health and safety preparedness.
- 5.36 There was an increased workload in support of fact-finding missions and contingency operations.
- 5.37 The annual workplace inspection in 2017 showed that the Secretariat was a safe workplace. Issues that had been highlighted in the 2016 report were being addressed at various stages.
- 5.38 The HSB continued to assist other branches in delivering substantial input for routine work, training, and for regular and high-risk inspection missions.
- 5.39 No radiation safety-related issues, excessive noise level issues, or poor air quality issues were reported or identified in the course of the year.
- 5.40 A staff welfare officer joined the HSB team in the first quarter of 2017.
- 5.41 HSB staff continued with their professional development programmes in 2017.

6. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- 6.1 Understanding the impact of scientific and technological evolution is a key aspect of the full and effective implementation of the Convention. Given current security concerns and the rapid pace of technological change, the need for scientific expertise and literacy in chemical disarmament has never been greater. In this regard, effective implementation requires active engagement with scientific professionals, an efficient and responsive scientific advisory mechanism, the consideration of technological change as an opportunity to enhance capabilities, and a strong science-policymaker partnership.
- 6.2 In 2017, the Secretariat continued to provide support to the science and technology review of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), and to facilitate science engagement, with an emphasis on disseminating science advice to States Parties and reaching out into broader scientific communities. States Parties received briefings from the SAB Chairperson in the margins of the Twenty-Fifth and Twenty-Sixth Sessions of the Board; at a briefing to the Open-Ended Working Group on the Future Priorities of the OPCW in January; and during the Twenty-Second Session of the Conference. Further engagement with States Parties was facilitated through a plenary presentation at the Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the National Authorities in November and through the continuation of the “Science for Diplomats” initiative held in the margins of the Eighty-Fourth and Eighty-Sixth Sessions of the Council and the Twenty-Second Session of the Conference. Similar activities were planned to continue in 2018 in support of the SAB’s recommendations to the Fourth Review Conference. Science and technology engagement was further augmented with technical and educational materials made available through the special science and technology section of the OPCW public website; the Secretariat’s co-authorship of articles in science and engineering technical publications; and through participation in scientific social media.

The Scientific Advisory Board

- 6.3 During the reporting period, the Board met for its Twenty-Fifth and Twenty-Sixth Sessions to provide independent expert advice to the Director-General on science and technology matters. The Director-General also responded to the reports of the Board (EC-85/DG.8, dated 19 May 2017 and Corr.1, dated 31 May 2017; EC-87/DG.11, dated 25 January 2018). An updated report (SAB-25/WP.1, dated 27 March 2017) on the SAB’s response to a 2013 request for advice concerning riot control agents was published prior to the Twenty-Fifth Session of the Board and discussed with States Parties through a Science for Diplomats Briefing in the margins of the Eighty-Fourth Session of the Council.
- 6.4 The 2017 programme of work of the SAB continued to focus on the preparation of a report on developments in science and technology to the Fourth Review Conference, for which two workshops were held. The first, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, considered emerging and innovative technologies (SAB-26/WP.1, dated 21 July 2017) and was co-organised with the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC); the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine of the United States of America; the Brazilian Academy of Sciences; and the

Brazilian Chemical Society. The second workshop, held in Zagreb, Croatia, considered trends in chemical production (SAB-26/WP.2, dated 19 October 2017) and was co-organised with the Croatian Institute of Medical Research and Occupational Health; the Ministry of Economy, Entrepreneurship and Crafts; and the City of Zagreb under the auspices of Croatian President Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović. Both workshops received funding from the EU. The intersessional reports from these workshops were discussed with States Parties through Science for Diplomats Briefings in the margins of the Eighty-Sixth Session of the Council and the Twenty-Second Session of the Conference.

- 6.5 In response to the Director-General's request for the SAB to establish a temporary working group on investigative science and technology, the SAB at its Twenty-Fifth Session adopted terms of reference for the Group and appointed Dr Veronica Borrett as its Chairperson (paragraphs 12.3 to 12.5 of SAB-25/1*, dated 31 March 2017). The Group, scheduled to begin its work in 2018, would undertake an in-depth review of methods and technologies that could be used by OPCW inspectors for investigative work.

Engagement with the global scientific community

- 6.6 The Secretariat continued its engagement with the global scientific community as a means to augment its watching brief on developments in science and technology, and to maintain its visibility among scientists. The Secretariat participated in meetings of the IUPAC Committee on Chemistry Education and discussed the findings of the SAB's emerging technologies workshop with the meeting of the Board on Chemical Sciences and Technology of the United States Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine (Arlington, August 2017). Additionally, members of the Secretariat delivered presentations at key events including the 253rd American Chemical Society National Meeting (San Francisco, April 2017), the 46th IUPAC World Chemistry Congress (São Paulo, July 2017), the 150th Anniversary of the German Chemical Society (at the Experiment Zukunft event; Berlin, September 2017), and Malta VIII (Malta, December 2017).
- 6.7 Additionally, the Secretariat participated in a series of scientific events related to the analysis of chemical weapons agents. These included a workshop to initiate a chemical forensics international technical working group (San Francisco, April 2017) and the international workshop on the analysis of chemical warfare agents to mark the twentieth anniversary of the Convention (Helsinki, December 2017).
- 6.8 Engagement with scientific networks has also allowed the Secretariat to raise awareness about the Convention and the work of the OPCW among science students, early career scientists, and others whose work benefits from the provision of science advice. In 2017, the Secretariat presented lectures and participated in panel discussions on science and technology issues relevant to the Convention, including at the Peace University event at the Université Paris Saclay (March 2017), the University of Groningen (February and September 2017), the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey (April 2017), the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (April 2017), the Asser Institute Summer Programme on Disarmament and

Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in a Changing World (September 2017), and the Hague University of Applied Sciences (October 2017).

Activities in conjunction with other security organisations

- 6.9 The Secretariat also engaged with other security-focused organisations and events to explore relevant science and technology issues: presentations were delivered in sessions on science in support of global policy decisions and the use of science diplomacy to support the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Science and Technology 2017 Conference (Vienna, June 2017); convergence of the sciences was discussed at the 2nd World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Global Conference on Biological Threat Reduction (Ottawa, October and November 2017); and the SAB's scientific review process was presented at a side event during the 2017 Biological Weapons Convention Meeting of the States Parties (Geneva, December 2017).

Annex 1

**STATES PARTIES TO THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017²⁵**

	State Party	Dates		
		Signature	Deposit	Entry Into Force
1.	Afghanistan	14-01-93	24-09-03	24-10-03
2.	Albania	14-01-93	11-05-94	29-04-97
3.	Algeria	13-01-93	14-08-95	29-04-97
4.	Andorra		27-02-03[a]	29-03-03
5.	Angola		16-09-15[a]	16-10-15
6.	Antigua and Barbuda		29-08-05[a]	28-09-05
7.	Argentina	13-01-93	02-10-95	29-04-97
8.	Armenia	19-03-93	27-01-95	29-04-97
9.	Australia	13-01-93	06-05-94	29-04-97
10.	Austria	13-01-93	17-08-95	29-04-97
11.	Azerbaijan	13-01-93	29-02-00	30-03-00
12.	Bahamas	02-03-94	21-04-09	21-05-09
13.	Bahrain	24-02-93	28-04-97	29-04-97
14.	Bangladesh	14-01-93	25-04-97	29-04-97
15.	Barbados		07-03-07[a]	06-04-07
16.	Belarus	14-01-93	11-07-96	29-04-97
17.	Belgium	13-01-93	27-01-97	29-04-97
18.	Belize		01-12-03[a]	31-12-03
19.	Benin	14-01-93	14-05-98	13-06-98
20.	Bhutan	24-04-97	18-08-05	17-09-05
21.	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	14-01-93	14-08-98	13-09-98
22.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	16-01-97	25-02-97	29-04-97
23.	Botswana		31-08-98[a]	30-09-98
24.	Brazil	13-01-93	13-03-96	29-04-97
25.	Brunei Darussalam	13-01-93	28-07-97	27-08-97
26.	Bulgaria	13-01-93	10-08-94	29-04-97
27.	Burkina Faso	14-01-93	08-07-97	07-08-97
28.	Burundi	15-01-93	04-09-98	04-10-98
29.	Cabo Verde	15-01-93	10-10-03	09-11-03
30.	Cambodia	15-01-93	19-07-05	18-08-05
31.	Cameroon	14-01-93	16-09-96	29-04-97
32.	Canada	13-01-93	26-09-95	29-04-97

²⁵

For each State Party listed below, the date in the “Signature” column is that on which it signed the original of the Convention, which was received by the United Nations Secretary-General as depositary, while the date in the “Deposit” column is that on which the Secretary-General received an instrument of accession or ratification by the State Party. Throughout the table, “[a]” means “deposit of instrument of accession”, “[A]” means “deposit of instrument of acceptance”, and “[d]” means “deposit of instrument of succession”.

	State Party	Dates		
		Signature	Deposit	Entry Into Force
33.	Central African Republic	14-01-93	20-09-06	20-10-06
34.	Chad	11-10-94	13-02-04	14-03-04
35.	Chile	14-01-93	12-07-96	29-04-97
36.	China	13-01-93	25-04-97	29-04-97
37.	Colombia	13-01-93	05-04-00	05-05-00
38.	Comoros	13-01-93	18-08-06	17-09-06
39.	Congo	15-01-93	04-12-07	03-01-08
40.	Cook Islands	14-01-93	15-07-94	29-04-97
41.	Costa Rica	14-01-93	31-05-96	29-04-97
42.	Côte d'Ivoire	13-01-93	18-12-95	29-04-97
43.	Croatia	13-01-93	23-05-95	29-04-97
44.	Cuba	13-01-93	29-04-97	29-05-97
45.	Cyprus	13-01-93	28-08-98	27-09-98
46.	Czech Republic	14-01-93	06-03-96	29-04-97
47.	Democratic Republic of the Congo	14-01-93	12-10-05	11-11-05
48.	Denmark	14-01-93	13-07-95	29-04-97
49.	Djibouti	28-09-93	25-01-06	24-02-06
50.	Dominica	02-08-93	12-02-01	14-03-01
51.	Dominican Republic	13-01-93	27-03-09	26-04-09
52.	Ecuador	14-01-93	06-09-95	29-04-97
53.	El Salvador	14-01-93	30-10-95	29-04-97
54.	Equatorial Guinea	14-01-93	25-04-97	29-04-97
55.	Eritrea		14-02-00[a]	15-03-00
56.	Estonia	14-01-93	26-05-99	25-06-99
57.	Ethiopia	14-01-93	13-05-96	29-04-97
58.	Fiji	14-01-93	20-01-93	29-04-97
59.	Finland	14-01-93	07-02-95	29-04-97
60.	France	13-01-93	02-03-95	29-04-97
61.	Gabon	13-01-93	08-09-00	08-10-00
62.	Gambia	13-01-93	19-05-98	18-06-98
63.	Georgia	14-01-93	27-11-95	29-04-97
64.	Germany	13-01-93	12-08-94	29-04-97
65.	Ghana	14-01-93	09-07-97	08-08-97
66.	Greece	13-01-93	22-12-94	29-04-97
67.	Grenada	09-04-97	03-06-05	03-07-05
68.	Guatemala	14-01-93	12-02-03	14-03-03
69.	Guinea	14-01-93	09-06-97	09-07-97
70.	Guinea-Bissau	14-01-93	20-05-08	19-06-08
71.	Guyana	06-10-93	12-09-97	12-10-97
72.	Haiti	14-01-93	22-02-06	24-03-06
73.	Holy See	14-01-93	12-05-99	11-06-99
74.	Honduras	13-01-93	29-08-05	28-09-05
75.	Hungary	13-01-93	31-10-96	29-04-97

	State Party	Dates		
		Signature	Deposit	Entry Into Force
76.	Iceland	13-01-93	28-04-97	29-04-97
77.	India	14-01-93	03-09-96	29-04-97
78.	Indonesia	13-01-93	12-11-98	12-12-98
79.	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	13-01-93	03-11-97	03-12-97
80.	Iraq		13-01-09[a]	12-02-09
81.	Ireland	14-01-93	24-06-96	29-04-97
82.	Italy	13-01-93	08-12-95	29-04-97
83.	Jamaica	18-04-97	08-09-00	08-10-00
84.	Japan	13-01-93	15-09-95	29-04-97
85.	Jordan		29-10-97[a]	28-11-97
86.	Kazakhstan	14-01-93	23-03-00	22-04-00
87.	Kenya	15-01-93	25-04-97	29-04-97
88.	Kiribati		07-09-00[a]	07-10-00
89.	Kuwait	27-01-93	29-05-97	28-06-97
90.	Kyrgyzstan	22-02-93	29-09-03	29-10-03
91.	Lao People's Democratic Republic	13-05-93	25-02-97	29-04-97
92.	Latvia	06-05-93	23-07-96	29-04-97
93.	Lebanon		20-11-08[a]	20-12-08
94.	Lesotho	07-12-94	07-12-94	29-04-97
95.	Liberia	15-01-93	23-02-06	25-03-06
96.	Libya		06-01-04[a]	05-02-04
97.	Liechtenstein	21-07-93	24-11-99	24-12-99
98.	Lithuania	13-01-93	15-04-98	15-05-98
99.	Luxembourg	13-01-93	15-04-97	29-04-97
100.	Madagascar	15-01-93	20-10-04	19-11-04
101.	Malawi	14-01-93	11-06-98	11-07-98
102.	Malaysia	13-01-93	20-04-00	20-05-00
103.	Maldives	04-10-93	31-05-94	29-04-97
104.	Mali	13-01-93	28-04-97	29-04-97
105.	Malta	13-01-93	28-04-97	29-04-97
106.	Marshall Islands	13-01-93	19-05-04	18-06-04
107.	Mauritania	13-01-93	09-02-98	11-03-98
108.	Mauritius	14-01-93	09-02-93	29-04-97
109.	Mexico	13-01-93	29-08-94	29-04-97
110.	Micronesia (Federated States of)	13-01-93	21-06-99	21-07-99
111.	Monaco	13-01-93	01-06-95	29-04-97
112.	Mongolia	14-01-93	17-01-95	29-04-97
113.	Montenegro		23-10-06[d]	03-06-06
114.	Morocco	13-01-93	28-12-95	29-04-97
115.	Mozambique		15-08-00[a]	14-09-00
116.	Myanmar	14-01-93	08-07-15	07-08-15
117.	Namibia	13-01-93	24-11-95	29-04-97
118.	Nauru	13-01-93	12-11-01	12-12-01

	State Party	Dates		
		Signature	Deposit	Entry Into Force
119.	Nepal	19-01-93	18-11-97	18-12-97
120.	Netherlands	14-01-93	30-06-95	29-04-97
121.	New Zealand	14-01-93	15-07-96	29-04-97
122.	Nicaragua	09-03-93	05-11-99	05-12-99
123.	Niger	14-01-93	09-04-97	29-04-97
124.	Nigeria	13-01-93	20-05-99	19-06-99
125.	Niue		21-04-05[a]	21-05-05
126.	Norway	13-01-93	07-04-94	29-04-97
127.	Oman	02-02-93	08-02-95	29-04-97
128.	Pakistan	13-01-93	28-10-97	27-11-97
129.	Palau		03-02-03[a]	05-03-03
130.	Panama	16-06-93	07-10-98	06-11-98
131.	Papua New Guinea	14-01-93	17-04-96	29-04-97
132.	Paraguay	14-01-93	01-12-94	29-04-97
133.	Peru	14-01-93	20-07-95	29-04-97
134.	Philippines	13-01-93	11-12-96	29-04-97
135.	Poland	13-01-93	23-08-95	29-04-97
136.	Portugal	13-01-93	10-09-96	29-04-97
137.	Qatar	01-02-93	03-09-97	03-10-97
138.	Republic of Korea	14-01-93	28-04-97	29-04-97
139.	Republic of Moldova	13-01-93	08-07-96	29-04-97
140.	Romania	13-01-93	15-02-95	29-04-97
141.	Russian Federation	13-01-93	05-11-97	05-12-97
142.	Rwanda	17-05-93	31-03-04	30-04-04
143.	Saint Kitts and Nevis	16-03-94	21-05-04	20-06-04
144.	Saint Lucia	29-03-93	09-04-97	29-04-97
145.	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	20-09-93	18-09-02	18-10-02
146.	Samoa	14-01-93	27-09-02	27-10-02
147.	San Marino	13-01-93	10-12-99	09-01-00
148.	Sao Tome and Principe		09-09-03[A]	09-10-03
149.	Saudi Arabia	20-01-93	09-08-96	29-04-97
150.	Senegal	13-01-93	20-07-98	19-08-98
151.	Serbia		20-04-00[a]	20-05-00
152.	Seychelles	15-01-93	07-04-93	29-04-97
153.	Sierra Leone	15-01-93	30-09-04	30-10-04
154.	Singapore	14-01-93	21-05-97	20-06-97
155.	Slovakia	14-01-93	27-10-95	29-04-97
156.	Slovenia	14-01-93	11-06-97	11-07-97
157.	Solomon Islands		23-09-04[a]	23-10-04
158.	Somalia		29-05-13[a]	28-06-13
159.	South Africa	14-01-93	13-09-95	29-04-97
160.	Spain	13-01-93	03-08-94	29-04-97
161.	Sri Lanka	14-01-93	19-08-94	29-04-97

	State Party	Dates		
		Signature	Deposit	Entry Into Force
162.	Sudan		24-05-99[a]	23-06-99
163.	Suriname	28-04-97	28-04-97	29-04-97
164.	Swaziland	23-09-93	20-11-96	29-04-97
165.	Sweden	13-01-93	17-06-93	29-04-97
166.	Switzerland	14-01-93	10-03-95	29-04-97
167.	Syrian Arab Republic		14-09-13[a]	14-10-13
168.	Tajikistan	14-01-93	11-01-95	29-04-97
169.	Thailand	14-01-93	10-12-02	09-01-03
170.	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia		20-06-97[a]	20-07-97
171.	Timor-Leste		07-05-03[a]	06-06-03
172.	Togo	13-01-93	23-04-97	29-04-97
173.	Tonga		29-05-03[a]	28-06-03
174.	Trinidad and Tobago		24-06-97[a]	24-07-97
175.	Tunisia	13-01-93	15-04-97	29-04-97
176.	Turkey	14-01-93	12-05-97	11-06-97
177.	Turkmenistan	12-10-93	29-09-94	29-04-97
178.	Tuvalu		19-01-04[a]	18-02-04
179.	Uganda	14-01-93	30-11-01	30-12-01
180.	Ukraine	13-01-93	16-10-98	15-11-98
181.	United Arab Emirates	02-02-93	28-11-00	28-12-00
182.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	13-01-93	13-05-96	29-04-97
183.	United Republic of Tanzania	25-02-94	25-06-98	25-07-98
184.	United States of America	13-01-93	25-04-97	29-04-97
185.	Uruguay	15-01-93	06-10-94	29-04-97
186.	Uzbekistan	24-11-95	23-07-96	29-04-97
187.	Vanuatu		16-09-05[a]	16-10-05
188.	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	14-01-93	03-12-97	02-01-98
189.	Viet Nam	13-01-93	30-09-98	30-10-98
190.	Yemen	08-02-93	02-10-00	01-11-00
191.	Zambia	13-01-93	09-02-01	11-03-01
192.	Zimbabwe	13-01-93	25-04-97	29-04-97

SIGNATORY STATES THAT HAD NOT RATIFIED THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

	State	Date of Signature
1.	Israel	13-01-93

Annex 2

**CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION FACILITIES OPERATIONAL OR
 UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN 2017**

Chemical Weapons Destruction Facilities by State Party	
Libya	Gesellschaft zur Entsorgung von chemischen Kampfstoffen und Rüstungsaltslasten mbH (GEKA mbH) (Germany)*
Russian Federation	Kizner
United States of America	Blue Grass Chemical Agent Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP)** Blue Grass Chemical Agent Destruction Pilot Plant Static Detonation Chamber (BGAPP-SDC)*** Pueblo Chemical Agent Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) PCAPP Explosive Destruction Facility (PCAPP-EDS) Recovered Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility (RCWDF) Prototype Detonation Test and Destruction Facility (PDDTF) Aberdeen Proving Ground Chemical Transfer Facility (APG/CTF)

- * Libyan Category 2 chemical weapons were removed and transported to Germany for destruction.
- ** Construction was complete; systemisation was ongoing at the end of 2017.
- *** Construction and systemisation were ongoing at the end of 2017.

Annex 3

**CHEMICAL WEAPONS DECLARED, DESTROYED, AND WITHDRAWN²⁶
 AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017**

Common Name of Chemical	Number of MT Declared	Number of MT Destroyed²⁷
Category 1		
Sarin (GB)	15,047.041	14,769.934
Soman (GD) + viscous soman	9,057.203	9,057.203
Tabun (GA) + GA with UCON	2.283	2.283
VX/Vx	19,586.722	19,471.324
EA 1699	0.002	0.002
Sulfur mustard (sulfur mustard, H, HD, HT, sulfur mustard in oil product)	17,439.877	15,216.482
Mixtures of sulfur mustard and lewisite (including HD/L mixture in dicloroethane)	344.679	344.679
Lewisite	6,746.876	6,746.935
DF	1,024.765	1,024.765
QL	46.174	46.173
OPA	730.545	730.545
Unknown	3.795	3.795
Toxic waste	1.705	1.705
Hexamine	78.231	78.231
IZO	133.325	133.325
Substance A	112.300	112.300
Substance B/BB	97.879	97.879
Substance B salt	40.170	40.170
Total Category 1:	70,493.572	67,877.730
Category 2		
Adamsite	0.350	0.350
CN	0.989	0.989
CNS	0.010	0.010
Chloroethanol	323.150	323.150
Thiodiglycol	50.960	50.960
Phosgene	10.616	10.616
Isopropanol	114.103	114.103
Phosphorous trichloride	154.056	154.056
Pinacolyl alcohol	19.257	19.257
Thionyl chloride	100.834	100.834
Sodium sulfide	246.625	246.625
Sodium fluoride	304.725	304.725

²⁶ Chemical warfare agents and precursors declared as Category 1 and Category 2 chemical weapons.

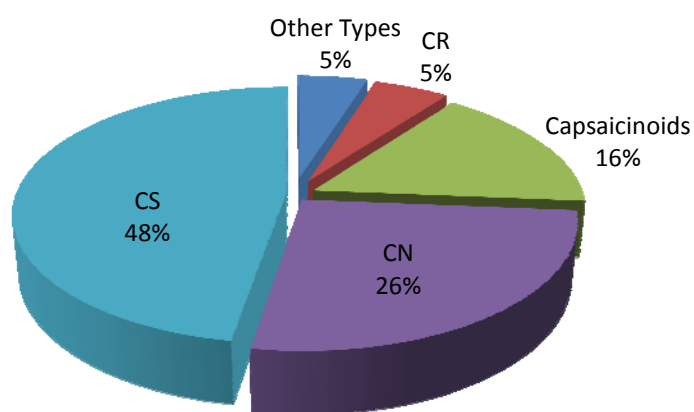
²⁷ Including Schedule 1 chemicals withdrawn from chemical weapons stocks (2.913 MT).

Common Name of Chemical	Number of MT Declared	Number of MT Destroyed²⁷
Tributylamine	238.655	238.655
DIPA ethanol	8.356	8.356
DMP	5.725	5.725
Hydrogen fluoride	31.850	31.850
Hydrogen chloride	44.500	44.500
Methanol	1.480	1.480
Monoisopropylamine	36.120	36.120
Butanol	3.792	3.792
Phosphorous pentasulfide	11.250	11.250
Phosphorous oxychloride	13.500	13.500
TEA	34.000	34.000
TMP	55.800	55.800
Total Category 2:	1,810.703	1,810.703
Totals	72,304.274	69,688.433

Annex 4

NUMBER OF STATES PARTIES THAT HAD DECLARED RIOT CONTROL AGENTS, BY TYPE OF AGENT AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017²⁸

138 States Parties declared possession of riot control agents



²⁸

The Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) nomenclature for riot control agents listed in this chart is as follows:

CS: CAS number 2698-41-1;

CN: CAS number 532-27-4;

CR: CAS number 257-07-8.

Capsaicinoids include capsaicin, pelargonic acid vanillylamide, dihydrocapsaicin, E-capsaicin.

Other types include 4-Nonanoylmorpholine, adamsite, ethylbromideacetate, and mixtures of CN, CS and capsaicinoids.

Annex 5

**LIST OF DESIGNATED LABORATORIES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017
(ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS)**

	State Party	Laboratory Name	Date of Designation
1.	Belgium	Defence Laboratories Department*	12 May 2004
2.	China	The Laboratory of Analytical Chemistry Research Institute of Chemical Defence	17 Nov 1998
3.	China	Laboratory of Toxicant Analysis Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology Academy of Military Medical Sciences	14 Sept 2007
4.	Finland	Finnish Institute for Verification of the Chemical Weapons Convention (VERIFIN)	17 Nov 1998
5.	France	DGA Maîtrise NRBC Département d'analyses chimiques	29 Jun 1999
6.	Germany	Bundeswehr Research Institute for Protective Technologies and NBC Protection	29 Jun 1999
7.	India	Vertex Laboratory Defence Research and Development Establishment	18 Apr 2006
8.	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Defence Chemical Research Laboratory	3 Aug 2011
9.	Netherlands	TNO Defence, Security and Safety	17 Nov 1998
10.	Republic of Korea	Chemical Analysis Laboratory CB Department, Agency for Defence Development	3 Aug 2011
11.	Republic of Korea	Chemical, Biological and Radiological Defence Research Institute*	4 Sept 2012
12.	Russian Federation	Laboratory for Chemical and Analytical Control Military Research Centre	4 Aug 2000
13.	Russian Federation	Central Chemical Weapons Destruction Analytical Laboratory of the Federal State Unitary Enterprise, "State Scientific Research Institute of Organic Chemistry And Technology"	15 Apr 2015
14.	Singapore	Verification Laboratory Defence Medical and Environmental Research Institute DSO National Laboratories	14 Apr 2003
15.	Spain	Laboratorio de Verificación de Armas Químicas (LAVEMA), INTA Campus La Marañosa*	16 Aug 2004
16.	Sweden	FOI, CBRN Defence and Security Swedish Defence Research Agency	17 Nov 1998
17.	Switzerland	Spiez Laboratory Swiss NBC Defence Establishment	17 Nov 1998
18.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Defence Science and Technology Laboratory Chemical and Biological Systems Porton Down	29 Jun 1999
19.	United States of America	Edgewood Chemical Biological Center Forensic Analytical Center	17 Nov 1998
20.	United States of America	Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory	14 Apr 2003

* An asterisk next to the name of a laboratory means that its status as an OPCW designated laboratory remained suspended at the end of the reporting period, having performed unsuccessfully in a recent proficiency test. These laboratories will not be considered for receipt of samples taken for off-site analysis until they perform satisfactorily in future proficiency tests.

**LIST OF DESIGNATED LABORATORIES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017
 (BIOMEDICAL ANALYSIS)**

	State Party	Laboratory Name	Date of Designation
1.	Australia	Defence Science and Technology Group	1 Aug 2016
2.	China	The Laboratory of Analytical Chemistry Research Institute of Chemical Defence	1 Aug 2016
3.	China	Laboratory of Toxicant Analysis Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology Academy of Military Medical Sciences	1 Aug 2016
4.	Finland	Finnish Institute for Verification of the Chemical Weapons Convention (VERIFIN)	1 Aug 2016
5.	France	DGA Maîtrise NRBC Département d'analyses chimiques	1 Aug 2016
6.	Germany	Bundeswehr Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology	1 Aug 2016
7.	India	Vertex Laboratory Defence Research and Development Establishment	1 Aug 2016
8.	Netherlands	TNO Defence, Security and Safety	1 Aug 2016
9.	Republic of Korea	Chemical Analysis Laboratory CB Department, Agency for Defence Development	1 Aug 2016
10.	Russian Federation	Laboratory for Chemical and Analytical Control Military Research Centre	1 Aug 2016
11.	Russian Federation	Laboratory of Chemical Analytical Control and Biotesting, Research Institute of Hygiene, Occupational Pathology and Human Ecology (RIHOPHE)	1 Aug 2016
12.	Singapore	Verification Laboratory Defence Medical and Environmental Research Institute DSO National Laboratories	1 Aug 2016
13.	Sweden	FOI, CBRN Defence and Security Swedish Defence Research Agency	1 Aug 2016
14.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Defence Science and Technology Laboratory Chemical and Biological Systems Porton Down	1 Aug 2016
15.	United States of America	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	11 Jul 2017
16.	United States of America	Edgewood Chemical Biological Center Forensic Analytical Center	1 Aug 2016
17.	United States of America	Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory	1 Aug 2016

Annex 6

**INCOME, EXPENDITURE AND FUND BALANCE OF TRUST FUNDS FOR SYRIA
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2017 (EXPRESSED IN EUROS – UNAUDITED)**

	Trust Fund for Syria Missions		Trust Fund for Syria		Syria Trust Fund for the Destruction of Chemical Weapons	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016
INCOME						
Assessed annual contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-
Voluntary contributions	7,988,285	6,926,493	-	115,592	735,000	-
Miscellaneous income:	-	-	-	-	-	-
Verification contributions under Articles IV & V	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assessed contributions (new Member States)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest income	2	161	-	-	-	194
Currency-exchange gains	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other income	199,518	300,329	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOME	8,187,805	7,226,983	-	115,592	735,000	194
EXPENDITURE						
Staff costs	982,973	1,920,491	-	-	-	313,330
Travel costs	739,417	741,119	-	-	30,620	86,261
Contractual services	2,140,858	2,620,769	-	-	435,752	296,484
Internships, grants, contributions to seminars and workshops	-	-	-	-	-	-
General operating expenses	553,185	669,768	-	-	(260,945)	359,173
Furniture and equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	4,823,259	5,994,386	-	-	205,427	1,055,249
EXCESS / (SHORTFALL) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	3,364,546	1,232,596	-	115,592	529,573	(1,055,054)
Prior period adjustments	15,038	-	-	-	(819,635)	-
NET EXCESS / (SHORTFALL) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	3,379,584	1,232,596	-	115,592	(290,062)	(1,055,054)
Savings on prior period's obligations	191,631	-	-	-	137,692	70,902
Transfers to/from other funds	26,852	13,734	(26,852)	-	-	(13,734)
Credits to Member States	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other adjustments to reserves and fund balances	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves and fund balances, beginning of period	1,841,260	594,930	26,852	(88,740)	1,138,501	2,136,387
RESERVES AND FUND BALANCES, END OF PERIOD	5,439,327	1,841,260	-	26,852	986,132	1,138,501

Annex 7

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AND CHANGES IN RESERVES AND FUND BALANCES
ALL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2017 (EXPRESSED IN EUROS – UNAUDITED)**

	General Fund		Working Capital Fund		Special Accounts and Voluntary Fund for Assistance		Trust Funds		TOTAL	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016
INCOME										
Assessed annual contributions ²⁹	65,529,600	65,529,600	-	-	-	-	-	-	65,529,600	65,529,600
Voluntary contributions	-	-	-	-	5,000	10,000	9,771,399	10,485,887	9,776,399	10,495,887
Miscellaneous income:										
Verification contributions under Articles IV & V	1,581,143	1,134,765	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,581,143	1,134,765
Assessed annual contributions - new Member States	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest income	16,559	5,132	-	-	979	579	2	7,238	17,540	12,948
Currency-exchange gains	(305,269)	41,671	-	-	-	-	-	-	(305,269)	41,671
Other income	1,028,089	181,219	-	-	-	-	474,884	664,407	1,502,974	845,626
TOTAL INCOME	67,850,124	66,892,387	-	-	5,979	10,579	10,246,285	11,157,532	78,102,388	78,060,498
EXPENDITURE										
Staff costs	45,603,370	46,124,033	-	-	8,095	45,939	1,039,763	2,536,059	46,651,227	48,706,031
Travel costs	7,854,973	6,607,935	-	-	28,841	82,224	1,701,249	1,426,342	9,585,063	8,116,502
Contractual services	4,603,418	4,237,849	-	-	2,960,273	577,961	3,144,899	3,830,885	10,708,590	8,646,695
Internships, grants, contributions to seminars and workshops	248,358	452,754	-	-	-	-	16,000	28,098	264,358	480,852
General operating expenses	6,134,195	5,839,503	-	-	432,462	174,852	541,902	1,401,681	7,108,559	7,416,036
Furniture and equipment	1,941,424	1,442,191	-	-	21,294	705,000	448,117	240,951	2,410,835	2,388,142
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	66,385,738	64,704,265	-	-	3,450,964	1,585,976	6,891,929	9,464,017	76,728,631	75,754,258
EXCESS / (SHORTFALL) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	1,464,386	2,188,122	-	-	(3,444,986)	(1,575,397)	3,354,356	1,693,515	1,373,756	2,306,240
Prior period adjustments	(39,944)	6,774	-	-	(33,037)	(11,056)	(810,503)	(35,195)	(883,484)	(39,477)

²⁹ Assessed annual contributions received in advance, during the reporting period, are considered liabilities owed to States Parties, and are recorded as income in the periods to which the contributions relate.

	General Fund		Working Capital Fund		Special Accounts and Voluntary Fund for Assistance		Trust Funds		TOTAL	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016
NET EXCESS/(SHORTFALL) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	1,424,442	2,194,896	-	-	(3,478,023)	(1,586,453)	2,543,853	1,658,320	490,272	2,266,763
Savings on prior period's obligations	872,976	720,183	-	-	120,792	78,844	591,083	113,962	1,584,851	912,990
Transfers to/from other funds	(1,682,752)	-	1,682,500	-	-	-	252	-	-	-
Credits to Member States ³⁰	(628)	(3,495)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(628)	(3,495)
Retention of cash surplus	(1,309,669)	-	1,000,309	-	309,360	-	-	-	-	-
Increase in Working Capital Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves and fund balances, beginning of period	9,340,191	6,428,606	4,159,978	4,159,978	8,625,166	10,132,774	8,170,980	6,398,699	30,296,315	27,120,057
RESERVES AND FUND BALANCES, END OF PERIOD	8,644,560	9,340,191	6,842,787	4,159,978	5,577,296	8,625,166	11,306,167	8,170,980	32,370,810	30,296,315

30 The amount of EUR 628 (2016: EUR 3,495) represents final cash surpluses from 2011 and prior years, applied during the reporting period to States Parties which owed amounts to the OPCW and have paid their assessed annual contributions in full for the financial period to which the surplus relates. The detailed application of surpluses during 2017 for each State Party is shown in paragraph 5.13 of the 2017 OPCW Financial Statements.

Annex 8

**INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND LEGAL INSTRUMENTS REGISTERED BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT
FROM 1 JANUARY 2017 TO 31 DECEMBER 2017**

International Agreements Registered in 2017				
OPCW Registration Number	Subject of agreement/instrument	Parties	Date of	
			Signature	Entry Into Force
IAR 486	Exchange of Letters between the Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals and the OPCW Technical Secretariat concerning Cooperation in Matters of Security Training	OPCW Technical Secretariat Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals	13-04-17 21-04-17	21-04-17
IAR 487	Technical Arrangement between the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the Minister of Defence of the Kingdom of Belgium regarding the Off-site Analysis of Samples	OPCW Belgium	26-04-17 21-04-17	26-04-17
IAR 488	Technical Arrangement between the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the Laboratory for the Chemical and Analytical Control of the Military Research Centre, Russian Federation regarding the Off-site Analysis of Samples	OPCW Laboratory for the Chemical and Analytical Control of the Military Research Centre, Russian Federation	24-03-17 30-01-17	24-03-17
IAR 489	Contribution Arrangement between Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada (Represented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs) and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) CWD-2014-0001 Support to the OPCW to Assist Libya in the Removal and Destruction of Chemical Weapons	OPCW Canada	03-03-17 17-03-17	17-03-17
IAR 490	Informal Record of Understanding between the National Authority of Italy and the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW regarding the conduct of training for inspectors to be held between 9 – 14 April 2017 in Italy	OPCW Technical Secretariat Italy	03-04-17 03-04-17	03-04-17
IAR 491	Exchange of Letters between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the OPCW Technical Secretariat concerning a Contribution to the Trust Fund for Syria Missions	OPCW United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	12-01-17 12-01-17	12-01-17
IAR 492	Memorandum of Understanding on Co-operation between the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the World Customs Organization	OPCW World Customs Organization	13-01-17 13-01-17	13-01-17

International Agreements Registered in 2017				
OPCW Registration Number	Subject of agreement/instrument	Parties	Date of	
			Signature	Entry Into Force
IAR 493	Technical Arrangement between the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC, United States of America, regarding the Off-site Analysis of Samples	OPCW Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC, United States of America	06-02-17 18-01-17	06-02-17
IAR 494	Arrangement between the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons for support to the Project "20 th Anniversary of the OPCW"	OPCW Netherlands-MFA	11-05-17 24-04-17	11-05-17
IAR 495	Exchange of Letters: Modalities of Cooperation in respect of the Joint Investigative Mechanism's operations in the Syrian Arab Republic	OPCW United Nations	08-05-17 15-05-17	15-05-17
IAR 496	Article VIII(50) privileges and immunities agreement	OPCW Bahrain	12-06-17 29-06-17	[not yet in force, awaiting instrument of ratification]
IAR 497	Article VIII(50) privileges and immunities agreement	OPCW Romania	06-09-17 06-09-17	[not yet in force, awaiting instrument of ratification]
IAR 498	Arrangement between the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the Republic of Panama Governing Inspections at San José Island, Panama	OPCW Panama	29-08-17 30-08-17	30-08-17
IAR 499	Agreement between the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the OPCW-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism (JIM) for the Reimbursable Loan of OPCW Staff Members	OPCW United Nations	22-09-17 22-09-17	22-09-17
IAR 500	Letter of Engagement setting out the basis on which the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) audits the financial statements of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW); and the respective responsibilities of the Technical Secretariat and the National Audit Office (NAO), acting on behalf of the C&AG	OPCW Technical Secretariat United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (National Audit Office)	25-05-16 23-05-16	25-05-16

International Agreements Registered in 2017				
OPCW Registration Number	Subject of agreement/instrument	Parties	Date of	
			Signature	Entry Into Force
IAR 501	Letter of Engagement setting out the basis on which the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) audits the financial statements of the Provident Fund of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW); and the respective responsibilities of the Technical Secretariat and the National Audit Office (NAO), acting on behalf of the C&AG	OPCW Technical Secretariat United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (National Audit Office)	25-05-16 23-05-16	25-05-16
IAR 502	Exchange of Letters concerning the contribution of the Government of New Zealand to the Trust Fund for the Implementation of Article X	OPCW New Zealand	12-05-17 24-05-17	24-05-17
IAR 503	Technical Agreement between the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the State Educational Establishment "The University of Civil Protection of the Ministry for Emergency Situations of the Republic of Belarus" concerning "Chemical Weapons Protection" Joint Basic and Advanced Course on Assistance and Protection for Russian-Speaking Participants from the Member States of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons Conducted at the Branch "Institute for Retraining and Professional Development" of the University	OPCW Technical Secretariat Belarus (Ministry for Emergency Situations)	12-05-17 12-05-17	12-05-17
IAR 504	Technical Agreement between the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the Minister of Defence of the French Republic Concerning Sample Preparation for the 42 nd Official OPCW Proficiency Test	OPCW Technical Secretariat France-MOD	26-09-17 27-09-17	27-09-17
IAR 505	Article VIII(50) privileges and immunities agreement	OPCW Cambodia	04-10-17 12-10-17	[not yet in force, awaiting instrument of ratification] 08-08-17
IAR 506	Technical Agreement between the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the Population Protection Institute of the Czech Republic concerning the Delivery of a Training Course from 18 to 25 October 2017 in Jinja, Uganda for the Benefit of the East African Community (EAC) Partner States	OPCW Technical Secretariat Czech Republic (Population Protection Institute)	02-08-17 08-08-17	08-08-17

International Agreements Registered in 2017				
OPCW Registration Number	Subject of agreement/instrument	Parties	Date of	
			Signature	Entry Into Force
IAR 507	Voluntary Contribution Agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons	OPCW Germany	27-11-17 27-11-17	27-11-17
IAR 511	European Union Delegation Agreement CFSP/2017/37/OPCW Chemical Weapons Libya	OPCW Technical Secretariat European Union	21-12-17 20-12-17	21-12-17
IAR 512	Agreement between the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the United States of America on the Contribution of Funds in Support of Certain Nonproliferation Activities Concerning Chemical Weapons in Syria	OPCW United States of America	12-10-17 06-10-17	12-10-17
IAR 513	Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Grant Arrangement Project CWD-2017-0001 Support for the OPCW to Strengthen Capacity to Investigate Chemical Weapons (CW) Incidents in Syria	OPCW Canada	31-07-17 09-08-17	09-08-17
IAR 514	Voluntary Contribution Agreement between the Government of His Serene Highness Albert II of Monaco and the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons	OPCW Monaco	20-10-17 16-10-17	20-10-17
IAR 515	European Union Delegation Agreement CFSP/2017/38 – OPCW SATCEN	OPCW Technical Secretariat European Union	19-12-17 19-12-17	19-12-17
IAR 516	Technical Agreement between the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, The Hague, Netherlands and the Central School of the State Fire Service, Częstochowa, Poland concerning the Training Course in Sampling and Analysis of Substances in a Highly Contaminated Environment on 29 May – 2 June 2017 at the Central School of the State Fire Service, Częstochowa, Poland	OPCW Technical Secretariat Poland (Central School of the State Fire Service, Częstochowa)	19-04-17 29-05-17	29-05-17
IAR 517	Voluntary Contribution Agreement between the Government of Spain and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons for the Trust Fund for the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons	OPCW Spain	04-07-17 30-06-17	04-07-17

International Agreements Registered in 2017				
OPCW Registration Number	Subject of agreement/instrument	Parties	Date of	
			Signature	Entry Into Force
IAR 518	Voluntary Contribution Agreement between the Government of Spain and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons for the Trust Fund for Libya	OPCW Spain	07-07-17 30-06-17	07-07-17
IAR 519	Voluntary Contribution Agreement between the Government of Spain and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, with the following purposes: the Trust Fund for the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons; the Trust Fund for Libya; the creation of a network of Spanish speaking designated laboratories in Latin America; and the analytical capabilities of Algeria and Morocco	OPCW Spain	22-09-17 30-08-17	22-09-17

Amendments to International Agreements Registered in 2017				
OPCW Registration Number	Subject of agreement/instrument	Parties	Date of	
			Signature	Entry Into Force
IAR 427(a)	Amendment No. 1 to the Administrative Arrangement between the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development of the French Republic and the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons	OPCW Technical Secretariat France-MFA	12-01-17 04-01-17	12-01-17
IAR 397(a)	Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons regarding the Registration of Interns who have been Accepted by the OPCW into its Internship Programme	OPCW Netherlands-MFA	30-01-17 30-01-17	30-01-17
IAR 491(a)	Amendment No. 1 to the Exchange of Letters between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the OPCW Technical Secretariat concerning a Contribution to the Trust Fund for Syria Missions	OPCW United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	09-02-17 08-02-17	09-02-17

