NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

HANDBOOK ON CHEMICALS 2009 AND LANGUAGE VERSIONS OF THE DECLARATIONS HANDBOOK 2008

1. The 2008 version of the Declarations Handbook was released in English during the National Authority days held from 28 to 30 November 2008. At that time, the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) undertook to provide versions in the other official languages of the OPCW during 2009; these versions are now ready for release. During translation, a small number of minor typographic errors were noted and corrected in the English-language version; these corrections are listed after the foreword to the Declarations Handbook in the English version.

2. In addition, the Secretariat undertook to release a new version of the Handbook on Chemicals in early 2009, which is now ready for release. The Handbook on Chemicals is intended to aid States Parties in identifying scheduled chemicals and provides information on chemical identifiers such as Chemical Abstract Registry (CAS) numbers, IUPAC and CAS chemical names, synonyms, and World Customs Organisation Harmonized System codes. The 2009 version of the Handbook on Chemicals contains information on over 1,300 scheduled chemicals and riot control agents that have been declared to the Secretariat. The Handbook on Chemicals is not a comprehensive list of all declarable scheduled chemicals.

3. Copies of the Declarations Handbook 2008 in all official languages and the Handbook on Chemicals 2009 can be obtained on CD-ROM from the documentation counter or downloaded from the OPCW website.

4. The point of contact for feedback and enquiries on the Declarations Handbook and Handbook on Chemicals is:

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