

**NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT****COMMEMORATION OF THE CENTENARY
OF THE FIRST LARGE-SCALE USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS
21 APRIL 2015
IEPER, BELGIUM****Addendum**

Further to the Note by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) on the commemoration of the centenary of the first large-scale use of chemical weapons (S/1214/2014, dated 16 September 2014), and the Addendum containing an updated programme for the commemoration event (S/1214/2014/Add.1, dated 13 February 2015), the Secretariat presents the following for the information of the Permanent Representations:

1. Declaration on the Occasion of the Centennial Commemoration of the First Large-Scale Use of Chemical Weapons at Ieper (Ieper Declaration)

The Declaration on the Occasion of the Centennial Commemoration of the First Large-Scale Use of Chemical Weapons at Ieper (Ieper Declaration) (S/1262/2015, dated 25 March 2015) proposed by the Director-General was circulated to all States Parties on 25 March 2015. A silence procedure was followed with a deadline of 5 April 2015 for any remarks or observations on the text before its formal issuance. In keeping with the feedback received, two stylistic changes were made to the draft declaration (S/1262/2015). Accordingly, the text of the Ieper Declaration as contained in Annex 1 to this Note will be issued at the end of the commemoration event at Ieper.

The declaration will also be issued on the OPCW official public website immediately upon its delivery at the event and translated into all OPCW official languages.

2. Publishing of statements at the commemoration event

The statements of the Director-General, and of representatives of the five OPCW Regional Groups and other guests, will be published on the OPCW official public website immediately upon their delivery at the event. These statements will also be translated into all OPCW official languages and posted on the OPCW website. For this purpose, the Secretariat advises the Regional Group representatives to send the transcripts of their statements in electronic format as soon as possible before the event.



3. Programme for the Ieper event and advisory for participants of Permanent Representations

The updated event programme and an advisory to participants from the Permanent Representations are annexed hereto.

Annexes:

- Annex 1: Text of Ieper Declaration
- Annex 2: Updated Event Programme
- Annex 3: Advisory Information

Annex 1**TEXT OF IEPER DECLARATION****Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)****Declaration on the Occasion of the Centennial Commemoration
of the First Large-Scale Use of Chemical Weapons at Ieper
(*Ieper Declaration*)**

The States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention met at Ieper, Belgium, on 21 April 2015 to mark the occasion of the Centennial Commemoration of the first large-scale use of chemical weapons at Ieper, and honoured the memory of and paid tribute to all victims of chemical weapons.

Bearing in mind the objectives of the Convention, the States Parties *hereby*:

Reaffirm their determination, for the sake of all mankind, to exclude completely the possibility of the use of chemical weapons;

Welcome the substantial progress that has been made towards this end since the entry into force of the Convention on 29 April 1997, as well as the international recognition of the OPCW through the awarding of the 2013 Nobel Peace Prize “for its extensive efforts to eliminate chemical weapons”, and *express* their commitment to the continuing full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of the Convention;

Reaffirm their condemnation, in the strongest possible terms, of the use of chemical weapons anywhere, at any time, by anyone, under any circumstances and *emphasise* that any use of chemical weapons as such is totally unacceptable and would violate the legal norms and standards of the international community, and *express* their strong conviction that those responsible for the use of chemical weapons should be held accountable;

Stress that there is no justification for anyone to possess chemical weapons, *call upon* all States not Party to the Convention to join the Convention without further delay, and *underscore* their commitment to ensuring that non-State actors do not obtain chemical weapons or their means of delivery;

Reaffirm their commitment to ensuring that toxic chemicals are used only for purposes not prohibited under the Convention and *emphasise* their desire to promote free trade in chemicals, as well as international cooperation and exchange of scientific and technical information in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention, in order to enhance the economic and technological development of all States Parties; and

Reiterate their resolve to maintain the Convention’s role as a bulwark against chemical weapons and thereby contribute to international peace and security.

The States Parties to the Convention are determined to continue to heed the lessons of history, to embrace what unites them, and to build on it.

Issued in Ieper, Belgium, on 21 April 2015

Annex 2

UPDATED EVENT PROGRAMME

**COMMEMORATION OF THE CENTENARY
OF THE FIRST LARGE-SCALE USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS
21 APRIL 2015
IEPER, BELGIUM
PROGRAMME**

Time	Programme
07:00	Departure of delegations from The Hague to Ieper by bus (OPCW Headquarters – Johan de Wittlaan 32, The Hague)
08:00	Departure of delegations from Brussels to Ieper by bus (Carrefour de L'Europe 3, Brussels)
10:30	Arrival of delegations at Het Perron Cultural Centre (Het Perron, Fochlaan 1, 8900 Ieper, Belgium)
11:00 – 12:30 <i>The Theaterzaal</i>	<p>OPCW Commemorative Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screening of an OPCW film: “<i>Remembering Ieper for a Future Free of Chemical Weapons</i>” • Opening of the meeting by the Chairperson of the Conference of the States Parties • Observance of a minute of silence to honour all victims of chemical weapons • Statement by the Director-General of the OPCW • Statement by the Minister of Defence of Belgium • Statements by representatives of the OPCW Regional Groups (Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Western Europe and Other States) • Statement by the Mayor of Ieper • Musical interlude • Reading of “<i>The Ieper Declaration</i>” by the Chairperson of the Conference of the States Parties • Presentation of a copy of the Declaration to the Mayor of Ieper by the Director-General • Closing of the meeting by the Chairperson of the Conference of the States Parties
12:45 <i>The Polyvalente Zaal</i>	<p>Unveiling of “The OPCW Commemoration Plaque” jointly by the Director-General of the OPCW, the Minister of Defence of Belgium, the Chairperson of the Conference of the States Parties, and the Mayor of Ieper</p> <p>Remarks by the Director-General of the OPCW</p>

12:55 <i>The Polyvalente Zaal</i>	Buffet lunch
14:00	Delegates leave for the Menin Gate by bus
14:30 – 15:00 <i>The Menin Gate</i>	<p>The Last Post Ceremony</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Last Post • Exhortation (from ‘For the Fallen’ by L. Binyon) • One minute of silence • Lament • Wreath laying <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Director-General of the OPCW and Chairperson of the Conference of the States Parties – Minister of Defence of Belgium and Mayor of Ieper – Representatives of the OPCW Regional Groups • Reveille
15:00 <i>(5-minute walk)</i>	Delegates walk from the Menin Gate to the Souterrains for the OPCW Exhibition
15:15 – 15:30 <i>The Souterrains</i>	<p>Opening of the OPCW Exhibition by the Director-General of the OPCW, the Chairperson of the Conference of the States Parties, and the Mayor of Ieper</p>
15:30 – 16:30 <i>(15-minute walk)</i>	Visit to the In Flanders Fields Museum (<i>optional</i>)
17:00 <i>Car park behind the In Flanders Fields Museum</i>	Departures to The Hague and to Brussels by bus

Note:

1. OPCW representatives, delegates, and staff members are requested to bring along their OPCW access badges for identification.
2. OPCW representatives, delegates, and staff members who travel by buses organised by the Technical Secretariat are requested to travel both ways in the same designated buses.

Annex 3

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Advisory for Participants from Permanent Missions

1. **Assemble and Departure from The Hague:** There will be four buses departing from the OPCW HQ at 7:00 sharp on 21 April 2015. All passengers are strongly advised to assemble at the OPCW HQ 15 minutes earlier and board their bus. A couple of OPCW staff members will travel in all buses to assist the Permanent Representation delegates.
2. **Assemble and Departure from Brussels:** One bus will depart from Brussels at Carrefour, de L'Europe 3, Brussels at 8:00 sharp on 21 April 2015. All passengers are advised to assemble at the bus stop 15 minutes earlier.
3. **Attire:** Formal or business attire.
4. **Car Parking:** Parking is arranged behind the In Flanders Fields Museum for delegates of Permanent Representations who will be travelling in their own cars. The attached OPCW sign card needs to be placed on the front and rear windshields for vehicle identification during parking. As the parking facility is limited in the Menin Gate area, it is advised that all participants including those arriving in their private vehicles take the OPCW buses to travel from Het Perron Centre to the Menin Gate.
5. **OPCW Badges and Event Passes:** OPCW delegates of Permanent Representations are required to present their OPCW badges for access to Het Perron Centre. Other invitees will be issued with special Event Passes. All these badges or passes will also be valid for entry into the In Flanders Fields Museum.
6. **On-Route Assistance:** There will be OPCW staff members on board the buses to assist the delegates. Those delegates who will not take the OPCW buses on their return trip from Ieper are requested to keep the bus assistant from the Secretariat informed of the arrangement.



ORGANISATION FOR THE
PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

OPCW Parking

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