



NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**EXCHANGE OF LETTERS WITH THE
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHEMICAL ASSOCIATIONS**

1. In a Note presented to the Nineteenth Session of the Conference of the States Parties entitled “Engaging the Chemical Industry Associations” (C-19/DG.14, dated 3 October 2014), and in the context of the recommendations pertaining to the chemical industry in the report of the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (RC-3/3*, dated 19 April 2013), it was noted that the Director-General would initiate an exchange of letters with the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) in order to establish a more structured and systematic dialogue between the two organisations.
2. Annexed to this Note are two letters, one from the Director-General to the President of the ICCA dated 20 November 2014, and one in response from the Council Secretary of the ICCA to the Director-General dated 24 June 2015, which constitute the exchange of letters referred to above and lay the foundation for future cooperation between the OPCW and the ICCA.
3. The Technical Secretariat will continue to inform the States Parties about the evolution of this cooperation.

Annexes:

- Annex 1: Letter addressed from the Director-General to Mr Kurt Bock, President of the ICCA, dated 20 November 2014
- Annex 2: Letter addressed from Mr Cal Dooley, Council Secretary of the ICCA, to the Director-General, dated 24 June 2015



Annex 1

**LETTER ADDRESSED FROM THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO MR KURT BOCK
PRESIDENT OF THE ICCA, DATED 20 NOVEMBER 2014**

ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS



Director-General

The Hague, 20 November 2014
L/ODG/194667/14

OPCW

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The Netherlands

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Dear Mr Bock,

I have the honour to refer to the correspondence between the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemicals Weapons (OPCW) (letter L/ODG/175067, dated 2 May 2012) and the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) (letter dated 14 June 2012), the ICCA position paper for the Third Review Conference of the States Parties of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) as well as the attached Note by the Director-General of the OPCW, entitled "Engaging the Chemical Industry Associations". (C-19/DG.14, dated 3 October 2014, Annex 1).

I also wish to take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation for the organisation of the very constructive meeting between ICCA and the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW on 11 September 2013 at the Cefic Headquarters in Brussels, as well as the opportunity for the OPCW to brief the ICCA Steering Committee on 16 October 2014 in Paris.

The chemical industry is a key stakeholder with regard to full and effective implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention. Given its role as an international voice of the chemical industry, we see the ICCA as the vital partner for the OPCW.

In order to institutionalise the cooperation, and with a view to establishing a more structured and systematic dialogue between our two Organisations, I would like to make the following proposals:

1. **Coordination mechanism for the implementation of joint projects:** In addition to the progress made to date, further steps are required by both parties to ensure that the projects previously identified during the meeting in Brussels are advanced for our mutual benefit. In order to guide these projects, I propose to establish a steering committee consisting of representatives of both the Technical Secretariat and ICCA, which would be mandated to address the identified issues and projects for their

Mr Kurt Bock
President of the International Council of
Chemical Associations (ICCA)

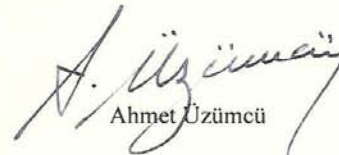
Copy: Dr. Hubert Mandery
Director General Cefic
Avenue van Nieuwenhuysse 4, box 1
B-1160 Brussels, Belgium

successful conclusion, and also to identify new areas of cooperation between our Organisations.

2. **Establishment of a “Chemical Industry Coordination Group”:** Referring to the proposal in the aforementioned ICCA position paper, I intend to establish a “Chemical Industry Coordination Group” which should include representatives of the Technical Secretariat and the global chemical industry (not limited to the ICCA). The mandate of the group would be to better coordinate our efforts and to avoid unnecessary duplication. Clearly, this should be achieved without expanding the scope of the work of the OPCW beyond that relevant to the implementation of the CWC. This group could meet twice a year to discuss topics of mutual interest such as:
 - i. Education and Outreach,
 - ii. Chemical Safety and Security,
 - iii. Implications of developments in science and technology, and
 - iv. Exchange of views on the OPCW’s Verification activities..
3. **Interaction with OPCW Member States:** The Secretariat has proposed to OPCW Member States to invite representatives of the chemical industry associations to make a collective statement or a presentation at annual sessions of the Conference of the States Parties (CSP). In this regard, an invitation has been sent out to you to attend the Nineteenth Session of the CSP which will take place from 1 to 5 December 2014. This initiative does not, of course, preclude additional interactions such as the participation of ICCA representatives in other OPCW meetings.

Should you find the above acceptable, I have the honour to propose that this letter and your reply in the affirmative shall constitute the basis for future cooperation between our two Organisations. Details about common projects, responsibilities and communication could be formalised in further correspondence.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my highest consideration.


Ahmet Üzümcü

Annex 2

**LETTER ADDRESSED FROM MR CAL DOOLEY, COUNCIL SECRETARY OF
THE ICCA, TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL, DATED 24 JUNE 2015**



June 24, 2015

Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü
Director-General
Organisation For the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
Johan de Wittlaan 32
2517 JR The Hague
The Netherlands

Dear Ambassador Üzümcü:

On behalf of the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA), it is my pleasure to formally accept the proposal made by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) (letter L/ODG/194667/14) to establish a more structured and systemic dialogue between ICCA, the OPCW organization, and the interaction with the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) Member States.

ICCA greatly appreciates the opportunity to enhance the cooperative relationship between the Organization and ICCA and create a sustainable dialogue. As outlined in the proposal, ICCA will nominate company and association experts to both the joint "Steering Committee" and The Chemical Industry Coordination Group (CICG). ICCA will submit the nominations to the OPCW by October 1, 2015.

ICCA and its member companies fully support the OPCW in its mission to ensure that chemical weapons are and remain eradicated worldwide, and is committed to and involved in implementing the Convention at national, regional, and international levels. We look forward to continuing to strengthen the relationship between the chemical industry and OPCW.

Sincerely,

Cal Dooley
Council Secretary