



NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ALL VICTIMS OF CHEMICAL WARFARE
30 NOVEMBER 2017**

1. The Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) at its Twentieth Session decided that the Day of Remembrance for All Victims of Chemical Warfare would be observed on 30 November, commencing in 2016, or, when appropriate, on the first day of the regular session of the Conference, in accordance with its decision C-20/DEC.10 (dated 3 December 2015).
2. The commemoration will provide an opportunity to pay tribute to the victims of chemical warfare, as well as to reaffirm the commitment of the OPCW to exclude completely the possibility of the use of chemical weapons, through the implementation of the provisions of the Convention, thereby promoting the goals of peace, security, and multilateralism.
3. The programme for the Day of Remembrance will include the following:
 - (a) a commemorative session in the Ieper Room, including statements by the Chairperson of the Conference, who will chair the session; the Director-General of the OPCW, H.E. Mr Ahmet Üzümcü; the Deputy Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, Mr Willem Van Ee, and the Deputy Mayor of The Hague, Mrs Saskia Bruines;
 - (b) the laying of wreaths at the memorial site; and
 - (c) the observance of one minute of silence at the memorial site.
4. The invitees will include representatives of States Parties to the OPCW, the Government of the Host Country, the Municipality of The Hague, international organisations, and non-governmental organisations.
5. Additional information may be obtained from Mr João Palma Fialho, Protocol Officer, who can be reached at +31 (0)70 416 3383.

Annex: Programme



Annex



Day of Remembrance for All Victims of Chemical Warfare
Thursday, 30 November 2017
09:00 – 09:55

PROGRAMME

- 08:30 – 09:00
Arrival
- Invitees arrive at the main entrance of the OPCW Headquarters building.
- Musical accompaniment during the entrance of the invitees.*
- 09:00 – 09:40
Commemoration
- The Chairperson of the Conference of the States Parties opens the commemoration in the Ieper Room.
- The following will address the session:
1. Chairperson of the Conference of the States Parties;
 2. Director-General of the OPCW, H.E. Mr Ahmet Üzümcü;
 3. Deputy Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, H.E. Mr Willem Van Ee; and
 4. Deputy Mayor of The Hague, H.E. Mrs Saskia Bruines.
- Musical interlude*
- The Chairperson of the Conference of the States Parties invites the participants to the memorial site.
- 09:45 – 09:55
Visit to the Memorial Site
- Wreaths are laid at the monument by:
1. Chairperson of the Conference of the States Parties;
 2. Director-General of the OPCW, H.E. Mr Ahmet Üzümcü;
 3. Deputy Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, H.E. Mr Willem van Ee; and
 4. Deputy Mayor of The Hague, H.E. Mrs Saskia Bruines.
- One minute of silence will be observed.
- Guests are escorted to the Delegates' Lounge, prior to leaving the Headquarters building.
- 09:55
- Programme concludes.