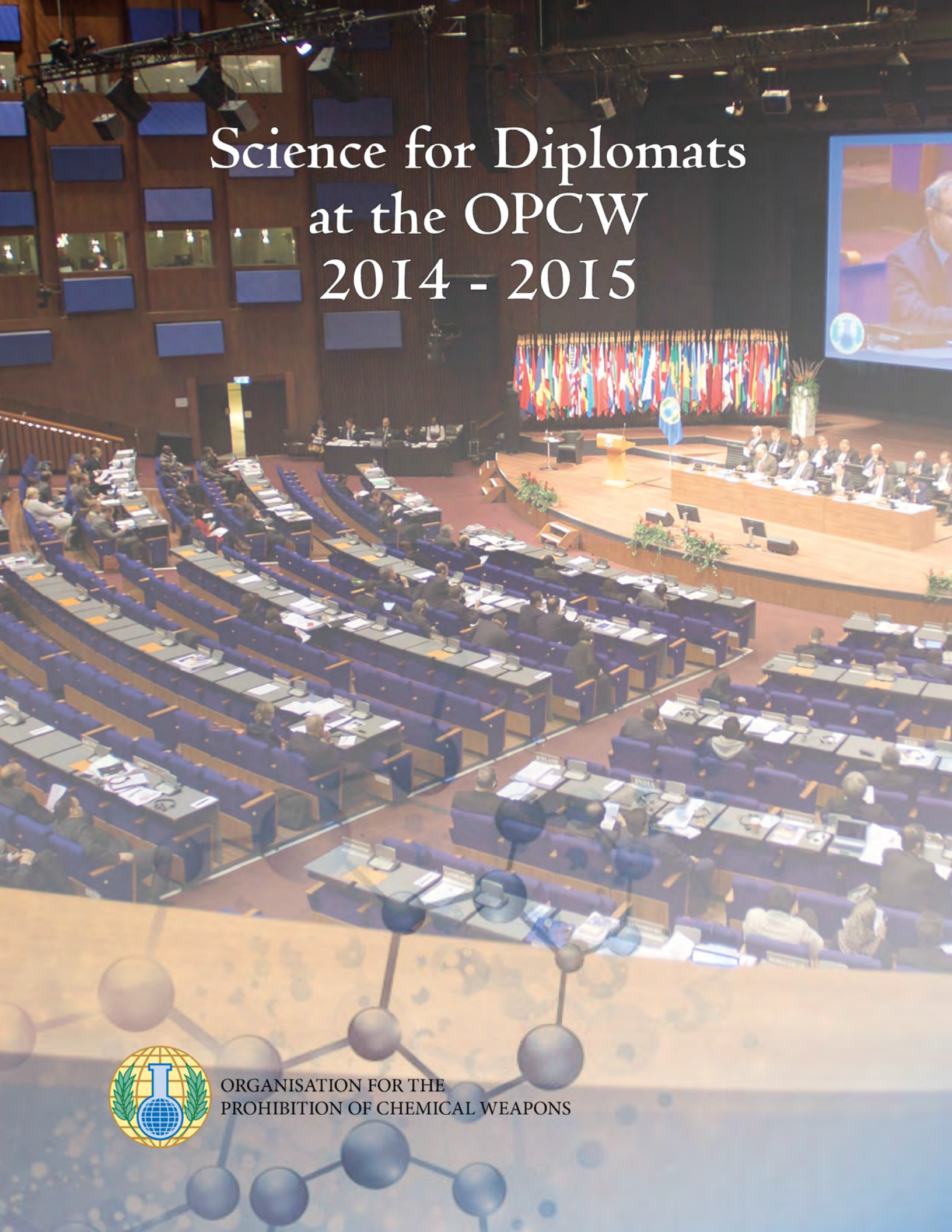


# Science for Diplomats at the OPCW 2014 - 2015



ORGANISATION FOR THE  
PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

# Science for Diplomats at the OPCW

## 2014 - 2015

A compilation of materials presented in and as part of the OPCW Office of Strategy and Policy Science for Diplomats initiative. Original materials can be downloaded from the OPCW website: [www.opcw.org/special-sections/science-technology/science-for-diplomats/](http://www.opcw.org/special-sections/science-technology/science-for-diplomats/)

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**Editors:** Jonathan E. Forman (Science Policy Adviser), Wesam Alwan

**Printing:** OPCW Reprographic Centre



## Foreword

Science and technology play a critical role in international disarmament policy and diplomacy; technical considerations inform negotiation of international agreements and underpin the key provisions that define the mechanisms of treaty implementation. To be effective, disarmament treaties require a sound science and policymaker partnership, a partnership that must overcome challenges to communication and trust (much like the partnerships between States Parties to international treaties). To make such a partnership work, clear science communication and engagement between the two perspectives is needed, where scientists provide analytical thinking and technical assessments to policy makers, who in turn provide global perspectives on the role and need for science in their work. As the dynamism of science can both improve and potentially undermine our ability to maintain an effective disarmament regime, this partnership has never been more important! For this reason, we must look at science and technology as a priority in our work, actively engage with scientific experts and ensure that policymakers use scientific insights in their decision making.

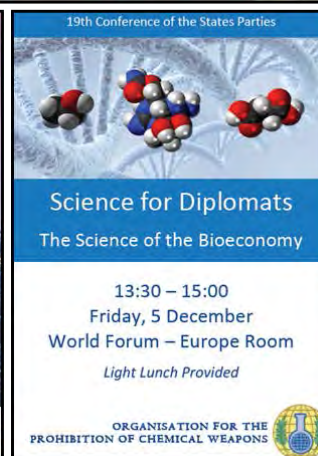
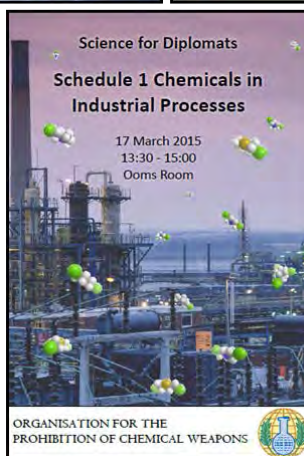
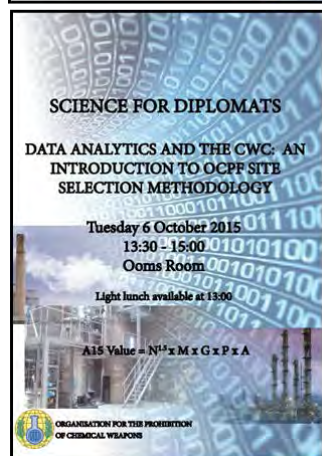
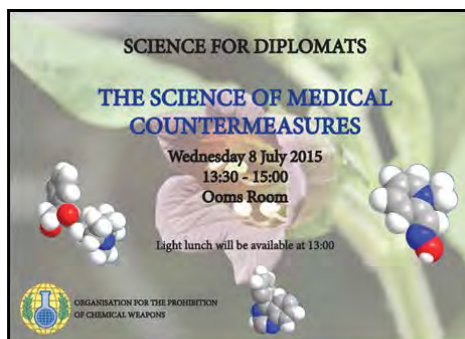
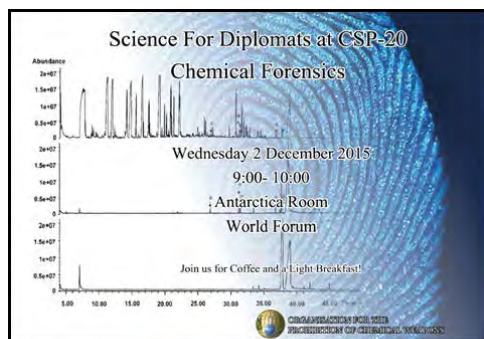
To stimulate more effective, science engagement with policy makers, the OPCW initiated a series of "Science for Diplomats" briefings in 2014. As the Science for Diplomats initiative moves into its third year in 2016, we present here a compilation of the briefings held in 2014 and 2015. Individual presentations and further materials relevant to science communication and science engagement between scientists and policy-makers can be obtained on the OPCW website at:

[www.opcw.org/special-sections/science-technology/science-for-diplomats/](http://www.opcw.org/special-sections/science-technology/science-for-diplomats/)



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- **Biomedical Sample Analysis** by Marc-Michael Blum (10 October 2014, EC-77)
- **The Science of the Bioeconomy** by Henrike Gebhardt (5 December 2014, CSP-19)
- **Schedule 1 Chemicals in Industrial Processes** by Christopher M. Timperley (17 March 2015, EC-78)
- **The Science of Medical Countermeasures** by Slavica Vučinić (8 July 2015, EC-79)
- **Data Analytics and the CWC: An Introduction to OCPF Site Selection Methodology** by Murat Gulay (6 October 2015, EC-80)
- **Chemical Forensics** by Paula Vanninen (2 December 2015, CSP-20)







## **Science for diplomats (Introduction)**

# **Scientific discovery and technology development: trends and topics for the CWC policy-maker**

*Brought to you by the Office of Strategy and Policy*

26 June 2014  
OPCW Headquarters  
The Hague, The Netherlands

Jonathan E. Forman  
Science Policy Adviser  
Office of Strategy and Policy  
Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons



## **From The Convention**

- **The Conference of States Parties Shall:**
  - **“Review scientific and technological developments that could affect the operation of this Convention and, in this context, direct the Director General to establish a Scientific Advisory Board to enable him, in the performance of his functions, to render specialized advice in areas of science and technology relevant to this Convention, to the Conference, the Executive Council or States Parties.”**
  - *CWC Article VIII, Section B, paragraph 21(h)*



## The Third Review Conference

- **“Conviction** that the provisions of the Convention are mutually reinforcing and that the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of all of its provisions, taking into account relevant developments in science, technology and industry, is of critical importance;”

*RC-3/3\* paragraph 9.4*

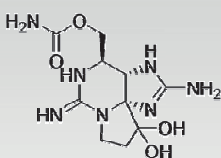
- **“Recognition** that new challenges related to the Convention continue to arise and that its implementation may need to be improved to continue to achieve the object and purpose of the Convention and to stay abreast of developments in science and technology;”

*RC-3/3\*, paragraph 9.9*

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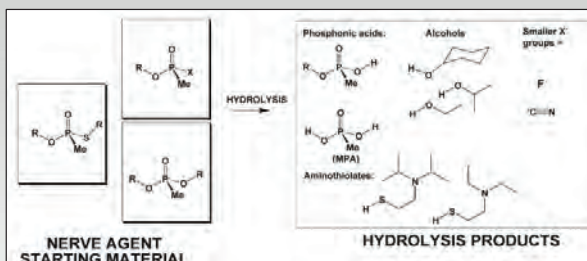
## Science and Technology Underpin the CWC



Article II



Article III



Articles IV and V



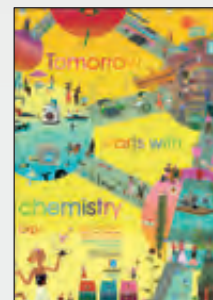
Article VI



Article VIII



Articles IX and X



Article XI



Article VII

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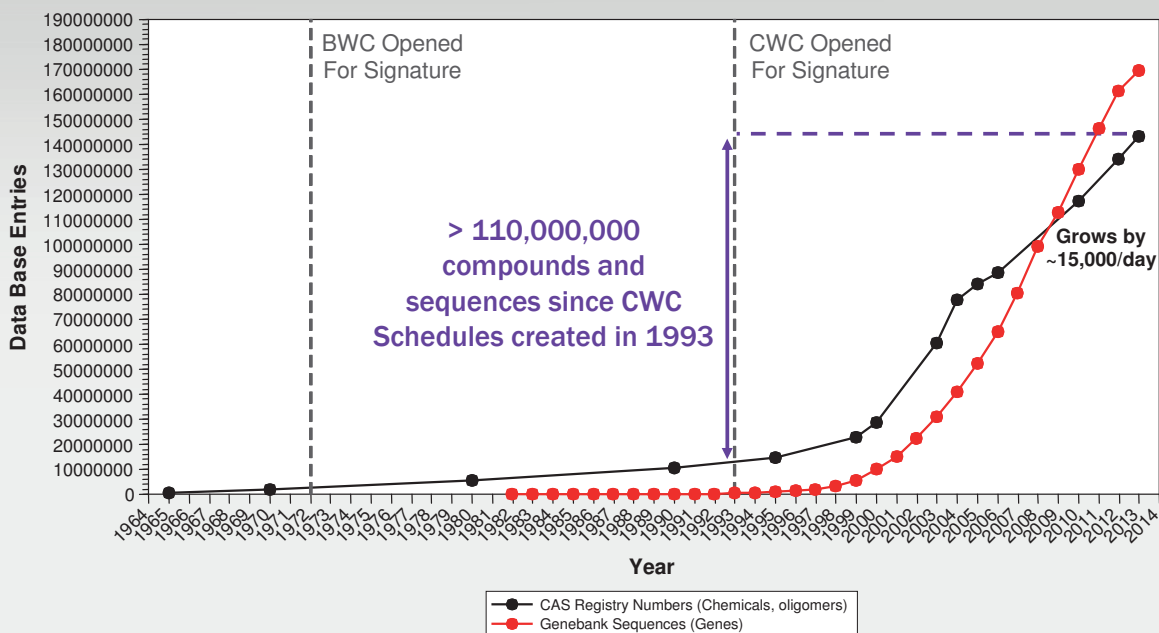


## SAB Report of the Developments in S&T to The Third review Conference (RC-3/DG.1, Dated 29 October 2012)

## Director General's Recommendations (RC-3/DG.2, Dated 31 January 2013)

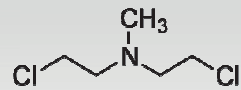


### Monitoring Science

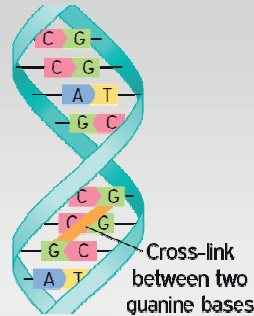




## Chemicals Have Multiple Uses



**Nitrogen Mustard**  
**Schedule 1A**



**and Anti-Cancer Drug**  
**(as a salt)**

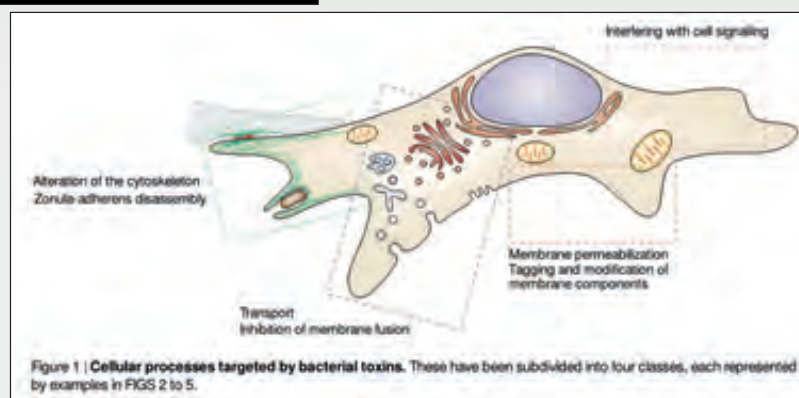


## Research On Toxic Substances

### THE BACTERIAL TOXIN TOOLKIT

*Giampietro Schiavo\* and F. Gisou van der Goot‡*

Pathogenic bacteria and higher eukaryotes have spent a long time together, leading to a precise understanding of one another's way of functioning. Through rapid evolution, bacteria have engineered increasingly sophisticated weapons to hit exactly where it hurts, interfering with fundamental host functions. However, toxins are not only useful to the bacteria — they have also become an essential asset for life scientists, who can now use them as toolkits to explore cellular processes.







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## Can This Be Easily Discussed?



[www.opcw.org](http://www.opcw.org)



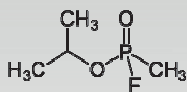
ORGANISATION FOR THE  
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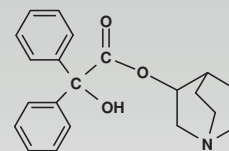
## What Defines a Chemical?

[www.opcw.org](http://www.opcw.org)

## Understanding Chemicals



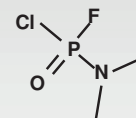
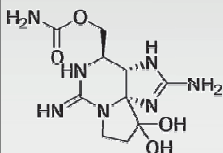
- **> 140 Million CAS Numbers!**



- **How Many Possible Scheduled Chemicals?**

**Infinite number of possibilities!**

**(generic structures in Schedule 1 and Schedule 2)**

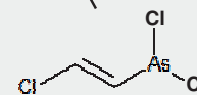
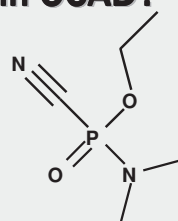
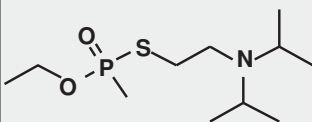
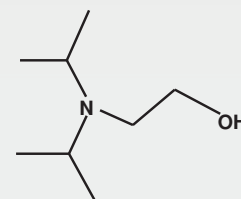
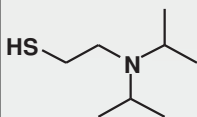


- **How Many Actual Scheduled Chemicals**

## ~35,000 CAS Numbers Reported

- **How Many Mass Spectra in OCAD?**

**~5,000**



## Organic chemicals: A broad class of substances containing carbon

**PSF = Phosphorous, Sulfur, Fluorine**

# The Elements

PSF = Phosphorous, Sulfur, Fluorine

# The Elements



The image displays a periodic table of elements, where each element is represented by a small image of the element itself. The elements are arranged in rows and columns, with their atomic numbers and symbols visible. The title "The Elements" is prominently displayed at the top. The images show various states of matter and colors, such as metals, gases, and liquids. The elements are numbered 1 through 118, following the standard periodic table layout. The elements are arranged in rows and columns, with their atomic numbers and symbols visible. The images show various states of matter and colors, such as metals, gases, and liquids. The elements are numbered 1 through 118, following the standard periodic table layout.

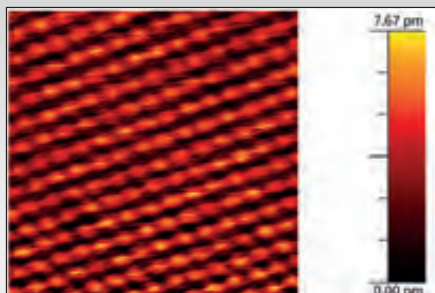




## From Atoms to Compounds

### ■ Atoms are the building blocks

Silver (Ag)  
atoms in a  
crystal



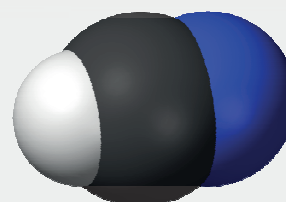
$$1 \text{ pm} = \frac{1 \text{ meter}}{1,000,000,000,000}$$

### ■ Atoms combine to form molecules

HCN  
Hydrogen (H)  
Carbon (C)  
Nitrogen (N)



Depiction of how atoms are bonded to one another



3D Representation showing  
relative sizes of atoms

[www.opcw.org](http://www.opcw.org)



## Some Definitions

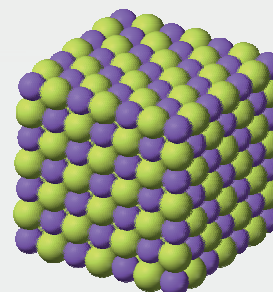
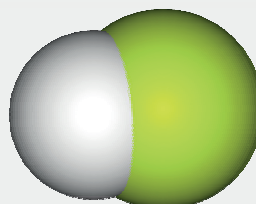
### ■ Elements can be described as atoms or molecules

- Fluorine atom (F)
- Fluorine molecule (F<sub>2</sub>)



### ■ Compounds are composed of multiple elements

- Hydrogen Fluoride (HF)
- Sodium Fluoride (NaF)



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## Scheduled Chemicals Span a Broad Range of Properties

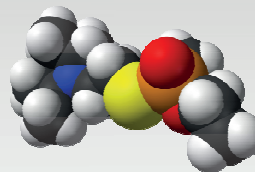
### O-ethyl-S-[2(diisopropylamino)ethyl] methylphosphonothiolate (VX)

43 atoms ( $C_{11}H_{26}NO_2PS$ )

Schedule 1

liquid

Molecular mass = 267



### Hydrogen Cyanide (HCN)

3 atoms

Schedule 3

Gas

Molecular mass = 27



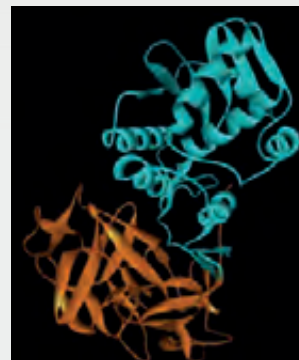
### Ricin

A sequence of  
> 520 amino acids

Schedule 1

Solid

Molecular mass ~62,000  
(~260X larger than VX)

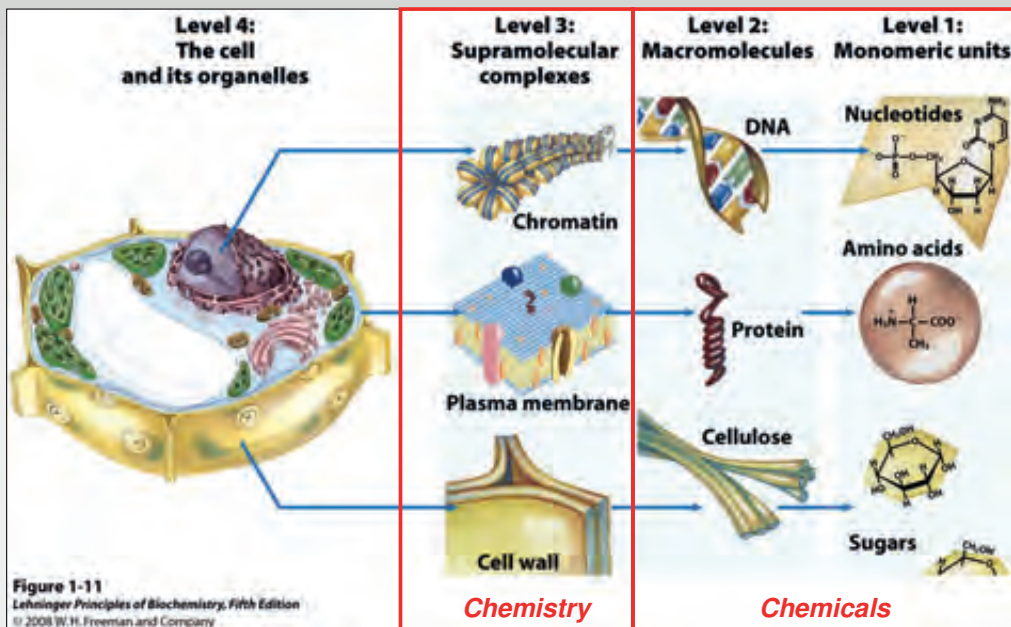


## The Convergence of Chemistry and Biology





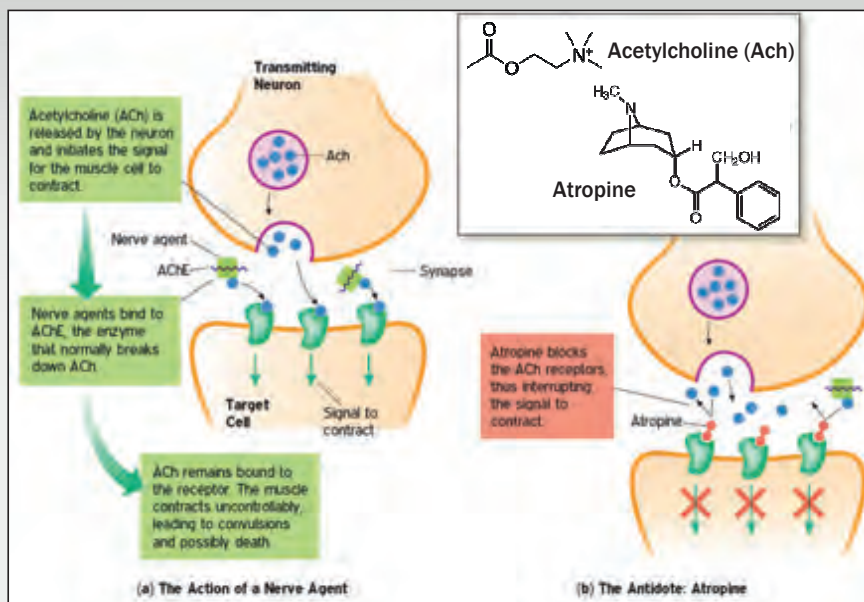
## Chemistry Underpins Biology



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## Chemicals Influence Biology



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## Chemical Production

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## Chemistry is a Science of Change



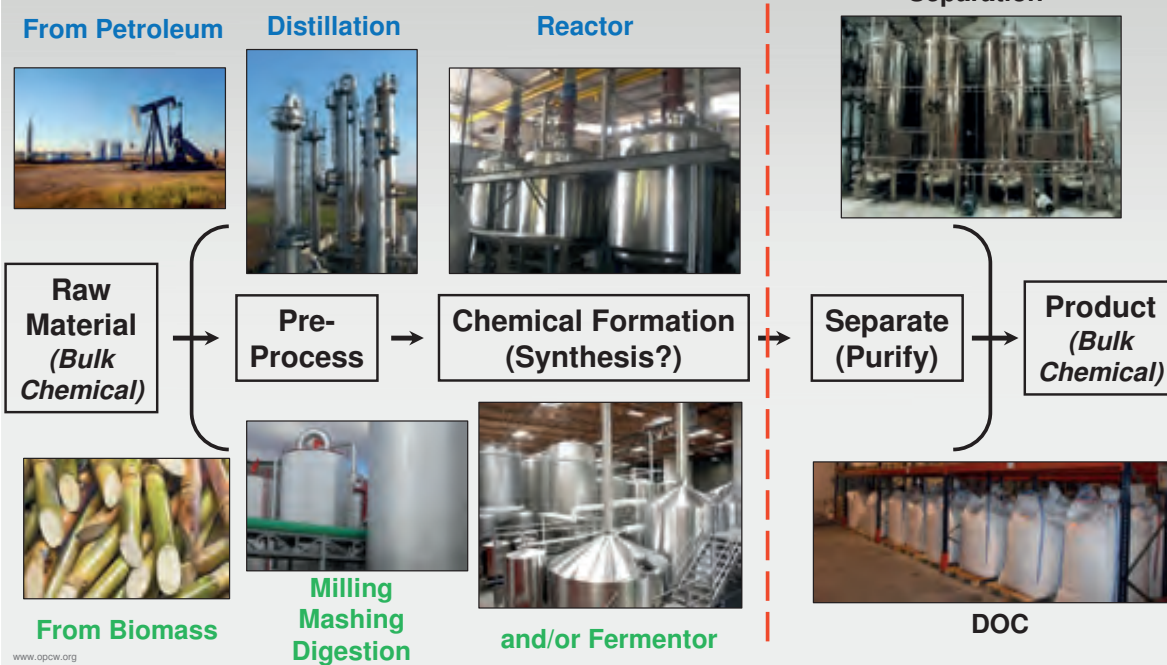
[www.opcw.org](http://www.opcw.org)



## Technology is the Integration of functional components into Multifunctional Tools



## Production Technology: Production by Synthesis?







## Continuous Flow Technologies



**Microreactor**  
1 metric tonne ~700,000 days



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**Larger "Microreactor"**  
1 metric tonne ~1,070 days  
"number up" to increase throughput



## Production Scale Continuous Flow System



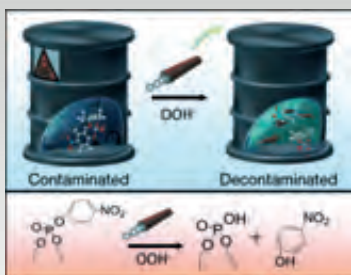
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## Scientific and Technological Development



## Basic Research vs. Fieldable Applications

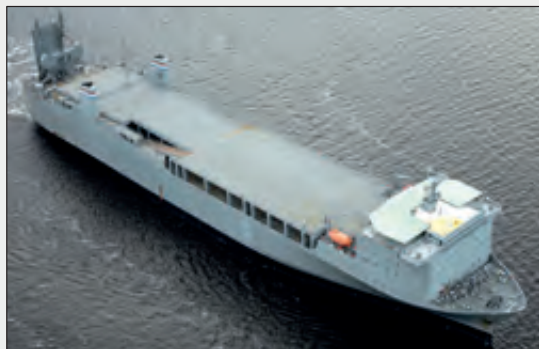


**Clever ideas – but are they practical and effective?**

~150,000/ml ~ 200 rpm mechanical stirring in 15 ml volume  
using  $H_2O_2$  as both fuel for stirrers and neutralization agent

*Angewandte Chemie International Edition*, 2013, 50, p13276

**Portable systems adopted for use in 2013**





## How Do Ideas and Research Results Become Realities?



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## Converging Science is the Norm, Not the Exception!



**Chemistry – Biology – Physics – Engineering – Informatics and More...**

[www.opcw.org](http://www.opcw.org)





## Deciphering Technical Reports



## What Does It Mean and How Applicable Is it?





## Scrutinizing Technical Reports

- Differences and chance cause variation
- No measurement is exact
- Bias is rife
- Bigger is usually better for sample size
- Correlation does not imply causation
- Regression to the mean can mislead
- Extrapolating beyond the data is risky
- Beware the base-rate fallacy
- Controls are important
- Randomization avoids bias
- Seek replication, not pseudoreplication
- Scientists are human
- Significance is significant
- Separate no effect from non-significance
- Effect size matters
- Study relevance limits generalizations
- Feelings influence risk perception
- Dependencies change the risks
- Data can be dredged or cherry picked
- Extreme measurements may mislead

From: "Twenty tips for interpreting scientific claims", *Nature*, 2013, 503,p337



## Summary and Future Discussion



## From The Director General's Recommendations to RC-3 (RC-3/DG.2, Dated 31 January 2013)

- **Monitoring S&T Developments (paras 7, 8, 29, 37)**
- **Verification (paras 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22)**
  - Includes recommendations on Transfer Notifications (para 11) and
  - Incapacitating Agents (paras 15, 16)
- **Laboratory Capabilities and Analysis (paras 24, 25, 26, 30, 32)**
- **Expertise, Training and Knowledge (paras 34, 36, 37)**
- **Assistance and Protection (para 35)**
- **Education and Outreach (para 28)**



## S & T For Diplomats: A Series of Discussions

- **9 July (On the margins of EC-76)**
  - **S&T for Diplomats (1): Chemical analysis in verification**
    - SAB Laboratory recommendations
    - Sampling and analysis
- **October (On the margins of EC-77, To be confirmed)**
  - **S&T for Diplomats (2): Biological processes and chemical production**
    - SAB convergence related recommendations
    - Production by synthesis
- **Other topics to be scheduled**

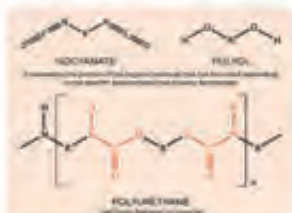




# THE CHEMISTRY OF THE WORLD CUP BALL

## POLYURETHANE COVERING

The surface covering of a football is composed of synthetic leather; in professional footballs, this is made from polyurethane polymer. The World Cup ball is made from six polyurethane panels, which are thermally bonded together. This covering protects the ball and minimises water absorption. In cheaper footballs, the coating can be made from PVC.



Polyurethane is a polymer - a very large molecule built up from many smaller units bonded together. The basic synthesis of polyurethanes involves the addition reaction of isocyanate and polyol molecules to form urethane groups.

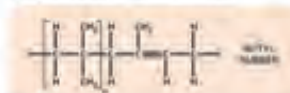
## NYLON LINING

Several layers of lining are used between the covering of the football and the bladder to improve the bounce and strength of the ball. This lining is made of nylon, another class of polymers also known as polyamides. Polyesters can also be used for this purpose.



## BUTYL BLADDER

The bladder is the part of the ball in which the air is contained. Butyl rubber is often used because it retains the air better than the other option, latex. However, latex bladders can provide better surface tension.



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## **Science for diplomats (1)**

### **Chemical Analysis in Verification**

9 July 2014

OPCW Headquarters  
The Hague, The Netherlands

Jonathan E. Forman, Ph.D.  
Science Policy Adviser, Office of Strategy and Policy

Hugh Gregg, Ph.D.  
Head Laboratory  
Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons



## **SAB Report of the Developments in S&T to The Third review Conference (RC-3/DG.1, Dated 29 October 2012)**

### **Director General's Recommendations (RC-3/DG.2, Dated 31 January 2013)**

## Laboratory Capabilities and Analysis

"The Secretariat will continue to monitor developments relating to **unscheduled and novel toxic chemicals** and will explore ways in which to augment its **technical capabilities** in this area."

"...notes the SAB's views on the **OPCW Central Analytical Database** and...the Secretariat needs to have analytical data on relevant unscheduled chemicals."

(paragraphs 9 and 32 of RC-3/DG.2)

- The OPCW Laboratory (LAB) is monitoring developments, has noted the SAB's advice on RCAs and is working with the Validation Group to obtain analytical data on relevant unscheduled chemicals
- LAB is establishing a training laboratory
- LAB participates in various activities and programmes (e.g. EQuATox).
- OCAD continues to be regularly updated, it currently contains validated data for > 5000 scheduled chemicals

"...note the importance of continuing to **improve on-site and off-site analysis**"

"...future such exercises will progress towards the more difficult analysis of longer-lived biomarkers of exposure, such as protein adducts"

"...resources be made available to enable **regular exercises of the entire off-site analysis process** to be conducted in conjunction with OPCW field exercises."

(paragraphs 24, 25, and 30 of RC-3/DG.2)

- Effective capability was demonstrated in the investigation of alleged use in 2013.
- LAB and OPCW Designated Laboratories are continually working on refining methodologies.
- LAB is continuing to improve its capabilities for conducting biomedical sampling and analysis.

"...a **review of the proficiency-testing programme** be undertaken"

(paragraph 26 RC-3/DG.2)

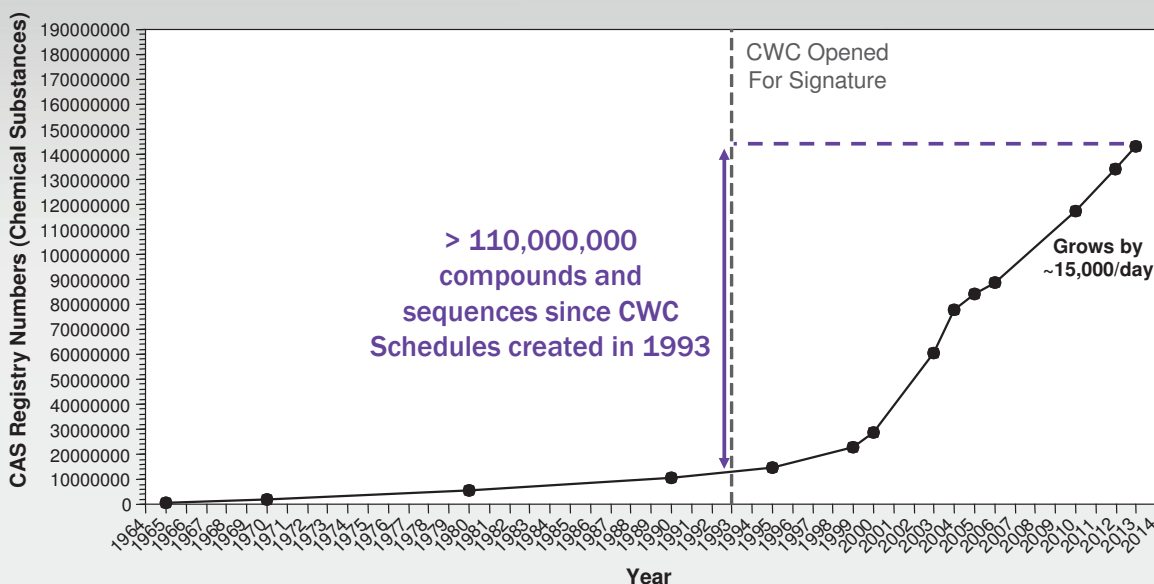
- Dr. Robin Black, former SAB member, is chairing a group to review the proficiency testing programme



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## Reported Chemical Substances 1965-2013



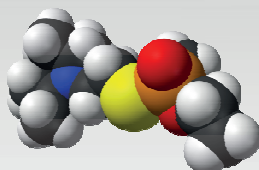


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## Scheduled Chemicals Span a Broad Range of Properties

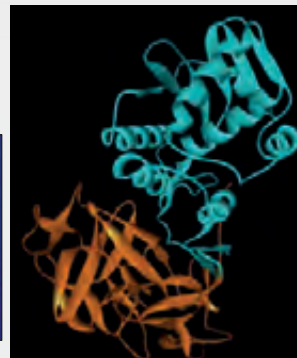
VX (O-ethyl-S-[2(diisopropylamino)ethyl] methylphosphonothiolate



Hydrogen Cyanide (HCN)



Ricin



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## The Most Appropriate Analytical Method?

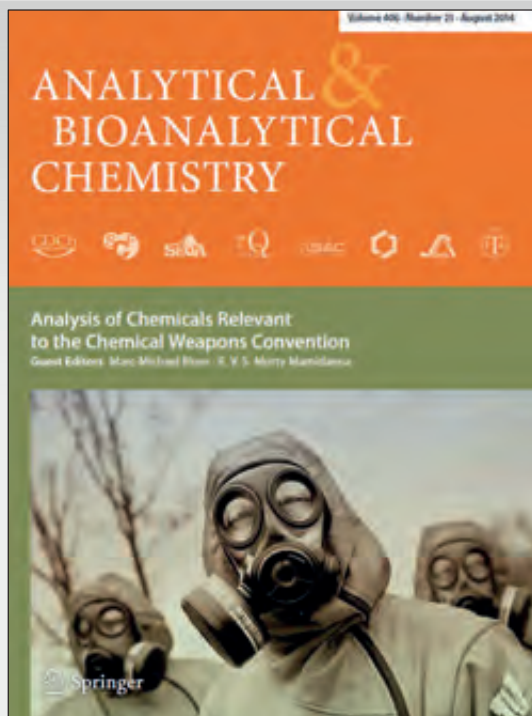






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**Presentation by Hugh Gregg**

[www.opcw.org](http://www.opcw.org)



# Chemical Analysis in the Verification of the Chemical Weapons Convention

Presentation given in the series  
Science for Diplomats  
9 July 2014

Hugh Gregg, Ph.D.  
Head, OPCW Laboratory



## Outline

- **Basis for Sampling and Analysis**
- **Sampling & types of samples**
  - Industry inspections
  - Challenge Inspection or Investigation of Alleged Use
    - Environmental
    - Biomedical
- **Analysis**
  - On-site
    - Primary tool: GC/MS
    - Other tools: FTIR, Raman
    - Test kits (Saxitoxin, Ricin)
  - Off-site
  - **S&A in support of the UN mission to Syria in 2013**



## Verification Annex of the CWC: S&A

VER annex	Text
Part VII, §27 Ind., S2	Sampling and analysis <u>shall</u> be undertaken to check for the absence of undeclared scheduled chemicals. 68 S2 S&A missions to date
Part VIII, §22 Ind., S3	Sampling and on-site analysis <u>may</u> be undertaken to check for the absence of undeclared scheduled chemicals. ...
Part IX, §19 Ind., OCPF	Sampling and on-site analysis <u>may</u> be undertaken to check for the absence of undeclared scheduled chemicals. ...
Part X, §36 Challenge Inspection	In conducting the perimeter activities, the inspection team <u>shall</u> have the right to: ... (b) Take wipes, air, soil or effluent samples; ...
Part XI, §16-17 Investigation of Alleged Use	The inspection team <u>shall</u> have the right to collect samples of types, and in quantities it considers necessary. ... Samples of importance in the investigation of alleged use include toxic chemicals, munitions and devices, remnants of munitions and devices, environmental samples (air, soil, vegetation, water, snow, etc.) and biomedical samples from human or animal sources (blood, urine, excreta, tissue etc.).

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## Sampling at Industry Inspections

- Samples collected by plant personnel, following plant protocols and their health and safety policies
- Samples can be any of the following:
  - Bulk (pure) final product
  - Bulk starting materials
  - Intermediate chemicals
  - Waste materials
  - Wipes of reactors, piping, etc.
- Goal: check for the absence of undeclared scheduled chemicals



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## Sampling at Challenge Inspections or Investigations of Alleged Use

- Samples collected by OPCW Inspectors
- Samples can be any of the following:
  - Bulk (pure) chemicals
  - Waste materials
  - Wipes of reactors, piping, etc.
  - Soil/vegetation samples
  - For IAU: Blood, urine, tissue
- Goal: Determine if the Challenge was correct or not, or determine if toxic chemicals were used



## Sample types and assumed concentrations

- “Environmental” samples may include
  - “Neat” agent from a reactor or bomb
  - Residue from a reaction or waste container
  - Contaminated clothing, hair, soil, water, etc.
  - Concentrations usually expected  $>1 \mu\text{g/g}$  (ppm)
  - Survey analysis is possible
- “Biomedical” samples may include
  - Urine, blood, plasma, tissue, etc.
  - Intact analyte likely not present (degradation/reaction product or metabolite)
  - Concentration levels quite low,  $< 5 \text{ ng/g}$  (ppb)
  - Survey analysis not possible; must use targeted analysis





## How much is one part per million (ppm)?



Four drops of ink in one 55-gallon (200 liter) barrel of water (mixed thoroughly) would produce an ink concentration of 1 ppm.

- This concentration is easily identified using GC/MS
- Survey mode is possible (i.e. you don't need to know what you are looking for)



## How much is one part per billion (ppb)?



One ppb is like one sheet in a roll of toilet paper stretching from New York to London

- This concentration is difficult to identify using simple GC/MS
- Survey mode is NOT possible
- Must use targeted analysis and/or other techniques (e.g. MS/MS)



## Star Trek's Tricorder: the ideal analytical tool

- Instant answers!
- Small, portable!
- Easy to operate!
- No false positives!
- No sampling required, just point and get the answer!
- Cons:
  - Not available for purchase (yet)



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## Transportable Agilent GC/MS

- Research grade
- Very low detection limits
- Analysis of wide range of chemicals
- Flexible instrument
- Restricted mode of operation possible
- Cons:
  - Bulky equipment
  - Lengthy setup time
  - Sample prep time



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## How does a GC/MS work?

**Mass Spectrometer:**  
Creates a **spectrum** or “fingerprint” of each compound as it elutes from the GC



**Autosampler:**  
Injects a small amount (1 µL) of sample into the Gas Chromatograph

**Gas Chromatograph:**  
Separates chemical species, in time, to create a **chromatogram** of all the species in the sample.



## Animation of how a GC works (courtesy of Thermo)



### Compound Separation:

- Compounds separate according to volatility and polarity
- As compounds elute they are quantified by the detector

Retention Time	Compound
04:48 min	Methprylon
04:48 min	Butalbital
04:48 min	Amobarbital
04:48 min	Meprobamate
04:48 min	Gluthethimide
04:48 min	Phenolbarbital
04:48 min	Methaqualone
04:48 min	Primidone



## Animation of how a MS works (courtesy of NASA)

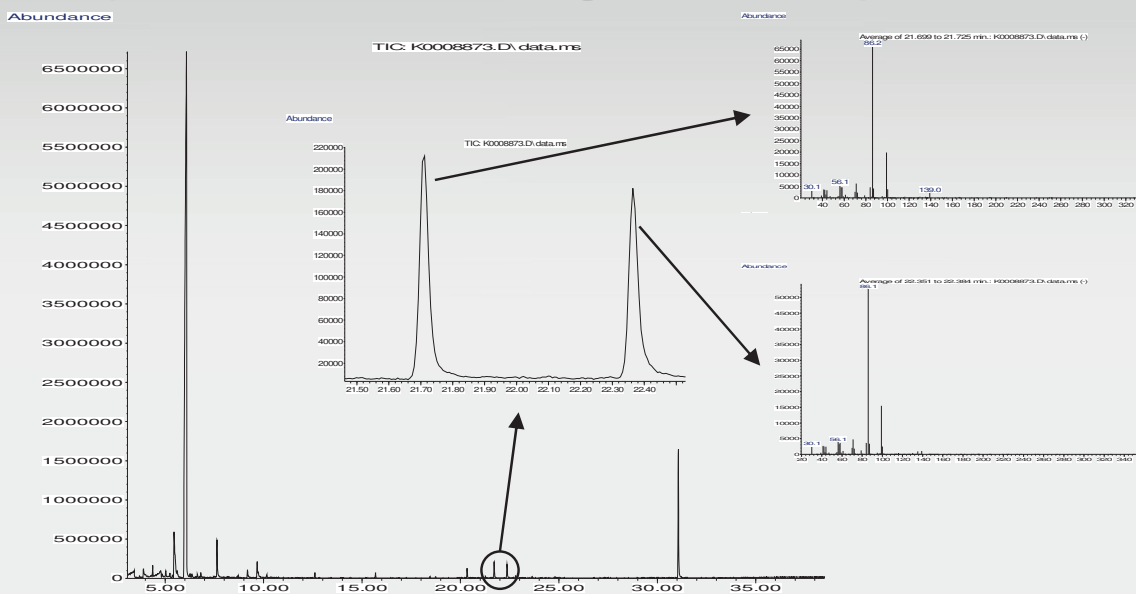


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## GC/MS data: Chromatograms and Spectra



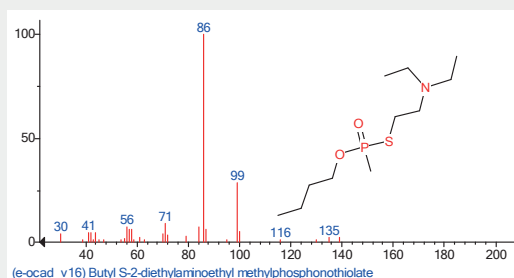
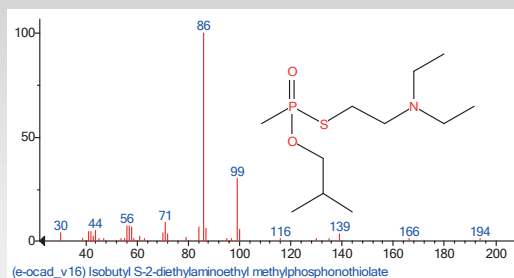
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## GC/MS results: Spectra match to library



- Note the major ions in both spectra are identical
- Small differences in mass spectra indicate different structures
- The first chromatographic peak matches the top spectra with a match factor of 97 of 100
- Likewise, the second peak and spectrum match at 97
- Both are V-agents

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## Confidentiality during analysis: no disclosure of proprietary business information

- **AMDIS: Automatic Mass spectral Deconvolution and Identification Software**
  - Developed at NIST (USA) for the OPCW
  - Identify low concentrations of *target* compounds in complex matrices
  - Low levels of false positive identifications
  - Ability to restrict access to non-treaty related data
- Only searches for compounds that are in the analytical reference database, i.e. those compounds that are relevant to the inspection

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## AMDIS shows only the chemicals identified using OCAD

AMDIS-Results - E0091304.D

C:\DATA\WERIFIN\PAINT MATRIX\E0091304

Analyze... Help Done

RT (min): 5 identifications have been made:

3.8246	Isopropyl methylphosphonofluoridate
7.5632	sec-Butyl isopropylphosphonofluoridate
9.7125	Dodecane
12.4701 - 2	2-Ethylhexyl ethylphosphonofluoridate
12.7317	Tris(2-chloroethyl)amine

Confirm Print... Load Results...

Component: Match:

RI = 1406.9	RI-RI(lib) = -4.1
Model = 154 m/z	Net = 84
Min. Abund. = 2.2%	Weighted = 94
Scan = 1158	Simple = 68

Library Spectra Settings Standards QA/QC S/N Options

3972 spectra in C:\Data\onsite.msl View

538-07-8	Tris(2-chloroethyl)amine
538-07-8	..... Synonyms .....
541-25-3	HN3
541-25-3	
544-76-3	
544-76-3	
555-77-1	
555-77-1	
555-77-1	

Formula: C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>12</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>N RI: 1411.00 Class: 1.A.06

Chemicals  
Identified

Analysis  
Information

Chemical  
Identification  
Information

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Chemical Analysis in the Verification of the Chemical Weapons Convention



## Any tools other than GC/MS?

- Yes, there are other analytical tools that can assist with sampling and analysis
- Different tools have different pros and cons
- Analytical tools in use by the OPCW include:
  - Infrared spectroscopy
  - Raman spectroscopy
  - Test kits
  - Various hand-held (non-specific) detectors (CAM, RAID, AP2C, LCD 3.3, etc.)

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## Bruker mobile FT-IR

- Attenuated total reflectance fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (ATR FT-IR)
- No sample prep
- Fast analysis
- Portable
- Easy use
- Cons:
  - Not as sensitive as GC/MS
  - Works best with pure chemicals
  - Not set to work in restricted mode



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## Thermo hand-held FT-IR

- Attenuated total reflectance fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (ATR FT-IR)
- No sample prep
- Fast analysis
- Portable
- Easy use
- Cons:
  - Not as sensitive as GC/MS
  - Works best with pure chemicals
  - Not set to work in restricted mode



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## Thermo hand-held Raman

- Laser driven Raman Spectroscopy
- Analysis through glass!
- No sample prep
- Fast analysis
- Portable
- Easy use
- Cons:
  - Not as sensitive as GC/MS
  - Works best with pure chemicals
  - Not set to work in restricted mode



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Chemical Analysis in the Verification of the Chemical Weapons Convention



## Hapsite mobile GC/MS

- Minimal sample prep
- Relatively fast analysis
- Portable
- Easy use
- Cons:
  - Not as “full-range” as research grade GC/MS
  - Not set to work in restricted mode
  - Battery change every 3 hours



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Chemical Analysis in the Verification of the Chemical Weapons Convention





## Test kits for “problematic” scheduled chemicals

- Ricin is a protein that cannot be analyzed by GC/MS
- Saxitoxin, due to its chemical nature, cannot be analyzed by GC/MS
- Test kits similar to pregnancy test kits
- Relatively fast analysis (20 min)
- Portable, easy use



- Cons:
  - Need different kit for Ricin and Saxitoxin
  - Single use kits
  - Kits expire in 2 years

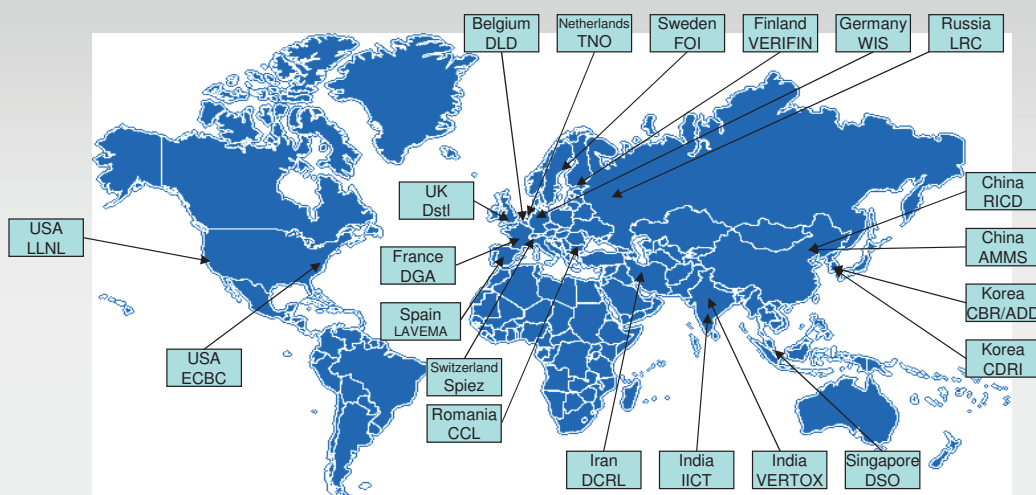
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## OPCW Designated Laboratories



21 Designated Laboratories in 17 countries

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Chemical Analysis in the Verification of the Chemical Weapons Convention

as of May 2014

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## Designated Laboratories: equipment

GC/MS



GC/FTIR



GC/FPD



LC/MS



GC/AED



LC/HRMS



NMR



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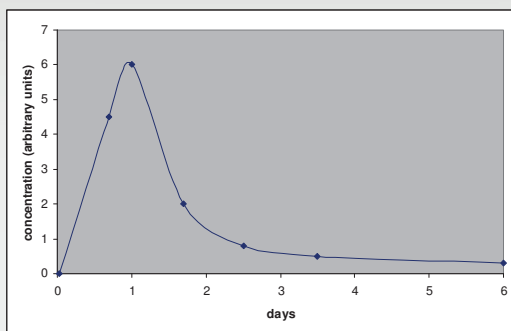
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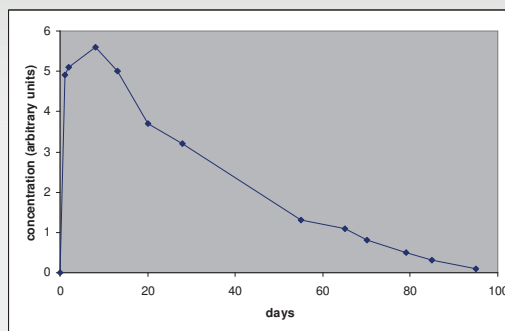


## Biomarkers of exposure

- Intact agent
- Metabolites
- Adducts with DNA
- Adducts with proteins



Typical excretion profile:  
Urine metabolites\*



Typical concentration  
profile: Protein adducts\*

\*Data extracted from a report by TNO, Netherlands

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## Syria: Environmental sampling & analysis

- **Sample collection**
  - Used standard OPCW sample collection techniques
- **Sample splitting**
  - Not done in country
  - Samples split and/or extracted at the OPCW Laboratory
- **Sample analysis**
  - On-site – not performed
  - Off-site – samples sent to two Designated Laboratories



## Syria: Biomedical sampling & analysis

- **Sample collection**
  - OPCW and WHO staff interviewed victims and collected samples
- **Sample splitting**
  - Blood samples were centrifuged, plasma separated and refrigerated on-site
  - No splitting on-site – done at OPCW Laboratory
- **Sample analysis**
  - On-site – not possible
  - Off-site – samples sent to two Designated Laboratories



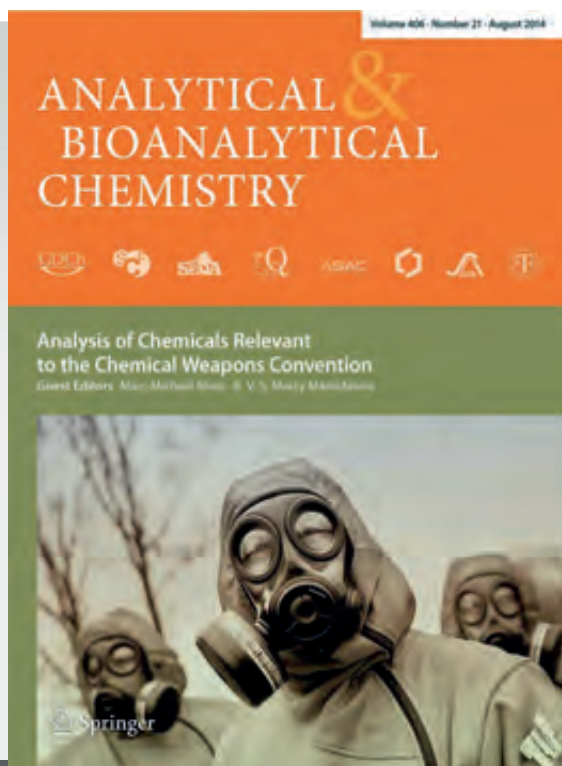
## Timeline and conclusion

- **21 August: the attack**
- **26, 28, 29 August: Samples collected**
- **30 August (late): Samples received at OPCW Laboratory**
- **2 & 4 September: Samples dispatch to Designated Laboratories**
- **8-10 September: Preliminary summary analysis reports from the 4 labs were received by the UN team**
- **13 September: The UN team report was transmitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations**
- **Conclusion: Sarin was used in the attack**
- **These results would not be possible without our partner laboratories excellent work – Thank you!**



## ABC Special Issue

- **High impact scientific journal - agreed to the special issue in June 2013**
- **Guest editors: two Senior Analytical Chemists from the OPCW Laboratory**
- **17 peer-reviewed articles plus feature article by the Director-General**
- **To be published mid/late July**
- **Articles freely available for 24 weeks**
- **Notice will be placed in OPCW social media**







## S & T For Diplomats: A Series of Discussions

- October (On the margins of EC-77, to be confirmed)
  - **S&T for Diplomats (2): Biomedical Samples**
    - SAB Laboratory recommendations
    - Sampling and analysis
- December (On the margins of CSP-19, To be confirmed)
  - **S&T for Diplomats (3): The meaning of production by synthesis and biomediated chemical production**
    - SAB convergence related recommendations
    - Production by synthesis
- **Other topics to be scheduled**



## **Science for Diplomats (2)**

### **Biomedical Sample Analysis**

**10 October 2014  
OPCW Headquarters  
The Hague, The Netherlands**

**Jonathan E. Forman, Ph.D.  
Science Policy Adviser  
Office of Strategy and Policy**

**Marc-Michael Blum, Ph.D.  
Senior Analytical Chemist  
Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons**



## **SAB Report of the Developments in S&T to The Third review Conference (RC-3/DG.1, Dated 29 October 2012)**

### **Director General's Recommendations (RC-3/DG.2, Dated 31 January 2013)**

### **Status of the Follow-Up to the Recommendations on S&T to the Third Review Conference (EC-77/DG.11, Dated 5 September 2014)**



#### Laboratory Capabilities and Analysis

"The Secretariat will continue to monitor developments relating to **unscheduled and novel toxic chemicals** and will explore ways in which to augment its **technical capabilities** in this area."

"...notes the SAB's views on the **OPCW Central Analytical Database** and...the Secretariat needs to have analytical data on relevant unscheduled chemicals."

(paragraphs 9 and 32 of RC-3/DG.2)

- The OPCW Laboratory (LAB) is monitoring developments, has noted the SAB's advice on RCAs, and is working with the Validation Group to obtain analytical data on relevant unscheduled chemicals
- LAB is establishing a training laboratory
- LAB participates in various activities and programmes (e.g. EQuATox).
- OCAD continues to be regularly updated, it currently contains validated data for > 5000 scheduled chemicals

"...note the importance of continuing to **improve on-site and off-site analysis**"

"...future such exercises will progress towards the more difficult analysis of longer-lived biomarkers of exposure, such as protein adducts"

(paragraphs 24 and 25 of RC-3/DG.2)

- Effective capability was demonstrated in the investigation of alleged use in 2013.
- LAB and OPCW Designated Laboratories are continually working on refining methodologies.
- Workshops are routinely held with the Designated Laboratories and for review of proficiency testing
- LAB is continuing to improve its capabilities for conducting biomedical sampling and analysis.
- Chemical analysis was the topic for the first workshop (on 9 July) of the "Science for diplomats" series

"...a review of the proficiency-testing programme be undertaken"

"...resources be made available to enable **regular exercises of the entire off-site analysis process** to be conducted in conjunction with OPCW field exercises."

(paragraphs 26 and 30 of RC-3/DG.2)

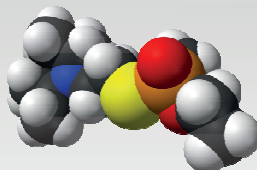
- In July 2014, LAB held discussions with Designated Laboratories.
- Dr. Robin Black, former SAB member, is chairing a group to review the proficiency testing programme
- TS intends to seek funding through the annual programme and budget; not yet done due to the financial situation.

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## Scheduled Chemicals Span a Broad Range of Properties

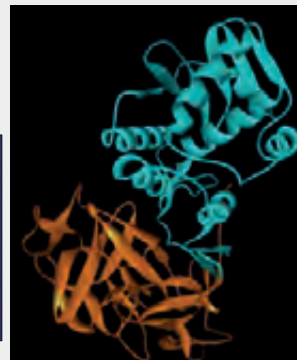
### VX (O-ethyl-S-[2(diisopropylamino)ethyl] methylphosphonothiolate



### Hydrogen Cyanide (HCN)

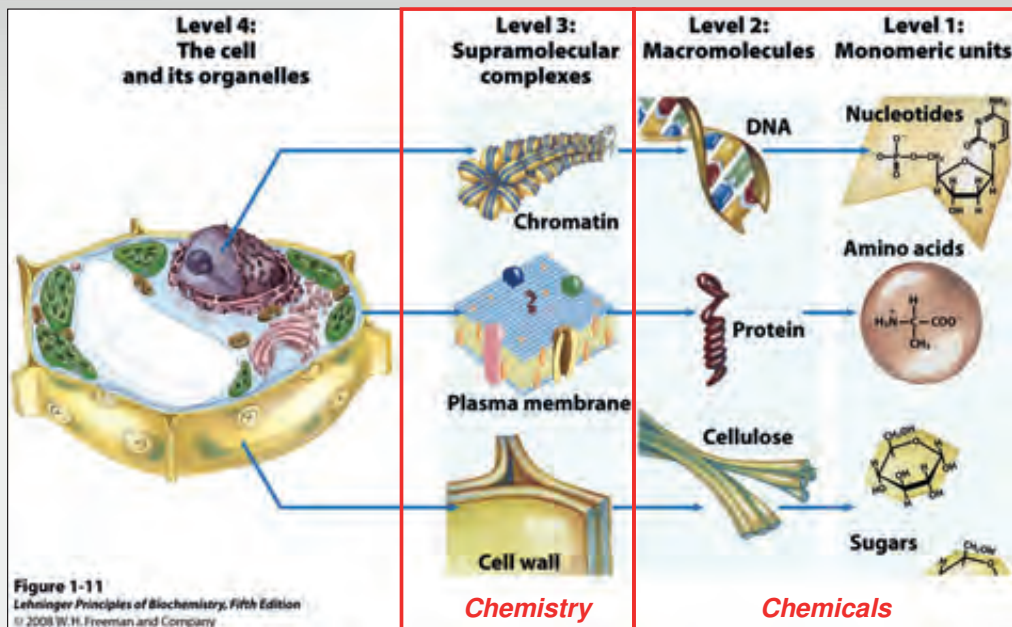


### Ricin



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# Chemistry Underpins Biology



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# Biomedical Sample Analysis



**Table 4.2** Summary table of laboratory results for biomedical samples taken from one deceased individual

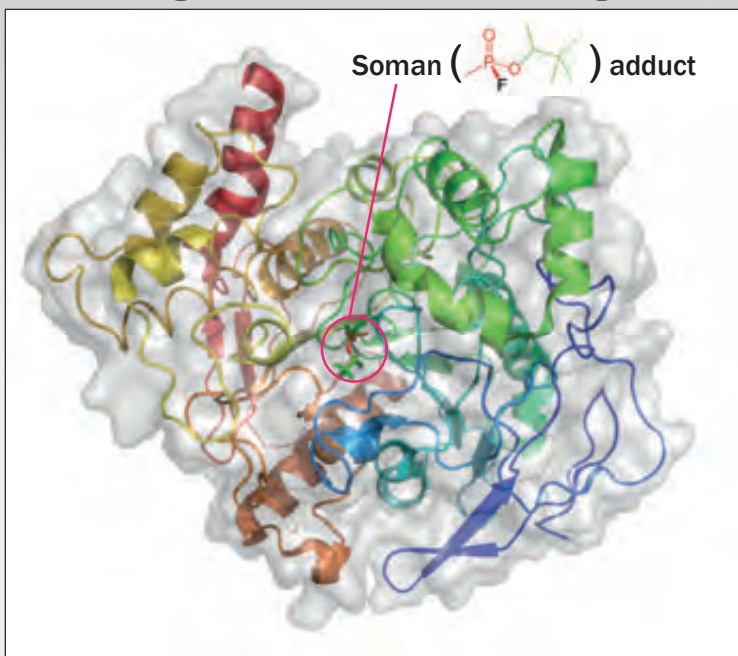
		Laboratory 1	Laboratory 2
SN	Sample	Sarin and its metabolites	Sarin and its metabolites
1	Hair	Positive	Positive
2	Kidney	Positive	Positive
3	Skin	Positive	Positive
4	Blood	Positive	Positive
5	Liver	Positive	Positive
6	Breast fat	Positive	
7	Muscle	Positive	
8	Bronchus	Positive	Positive
9	Lung	Positive	Positive
10	Eye	Positive	
11	Brain	Positive	Positive
12	Heart	Positive	

*Note: Identification is positive when either the Sarin metabolite isopropyl methylphosphonic acid (IMPA) or the fluoride reactivation product of IMPA (Sarin) is detected.*

*From: Final Report of United Nations Mission to Investigate Allegations of the Use of Chemical Weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic (13 December 2013)*

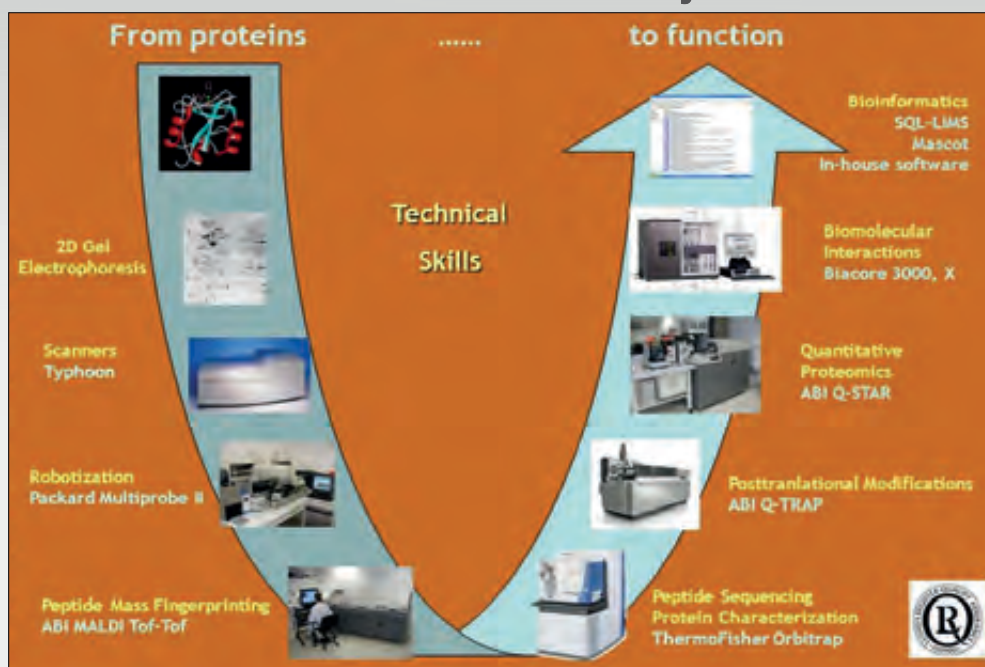


# Chemical Signatures in a Biological System



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## Tools for Protein Analysis



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ORGANISATION FOR THE  
PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

*Working together for a world free of chemical weapons*

## **Presentation by Marc-Michael Blum**





# CONDUCTING ANALYSIS OF BIOMEDICAL SAMPLES TO ASSESS EXPOSURE TO ORGANOPHOSPHORUS NERVE AGENTS

Marc-Michel Blum, Mervyn Moolenaar, Haplo Fong  
OPCW Laboratory, Rijswijk, The Netherlands

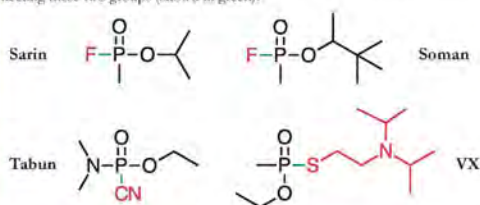
## ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

### 1. INTRODUCTION

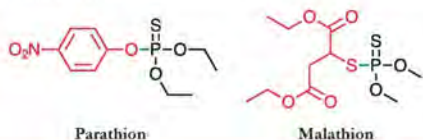
Highly toxic nerve agents such as Tabun, Sarin, Soman and VX are banned under the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and formed major parts of large stockpiles of chemical weapons during the Cold War. Terrorist attacks carried out by the cult Aum Shinrikyo in Japan in 1994/95 employed Sarin. The OPCW supported UN mission that investigated the August 2013 chemical attacks in Ghouta/Syria determined that the chemical agent used was also Sarin. Sampling and analysis of environmental samples can reveal the presence of absence of these agents (and/or their degradation products) but in order to assess if a potential victim was exposed, the analysis of biomedical samples is required. Blood and urine samples are preferred as they are easily collected but the analysis of body tissues is also possible. Tissue samples are especially relevant in case of deceased individuals.

### 2. NERVE AGENTS - CHEMISTRY AND STRUCTURE

Nerve agents are organophosphorus compounds and are liquid at room temperature. For understanding their reactions in the human body it is helpful to introduce the concept that the molecules are made up by two different parts: A. The phosphorus containing part (shown in black) in which a phosphoryl group (P=O) is bonded to an O-alkyl (-O-R) group and a short alkyl group (R) or a small dialkylamino group (-NR<sub>2</sub>) in case of Tabun. The other part of the molecule is the so-called "leaving group" (shown in red). In case of Sarin and Soman this is a fluorine atom (-F), in case of Tabun a cyano group (-CN) and in case of VX a larger group containing nitrogen and sulphur. Most relevant reactions of the agents involve the chemical bond connecting these two groups (shown in green).

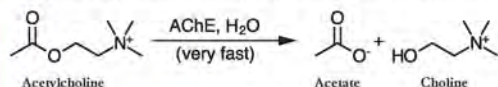


Organophosphorus pesticides are similar in structure (nerve agents were found while looking for new effective pesticides) and mode of action. Parathion and Malathion are shown as examples below. The substitution of oxygen in the phosphoryl group with sulphur lowers toxicity for humans.



### 3. ACETYLCHOLINESTERASE - THE TARGET

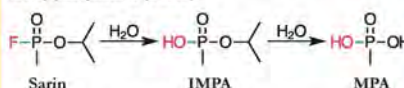
The primary toxicity of nerve agents is due to their ability to inhibit the action of an enzyme (protein with catalytic activity) crucial in the process of conducting nerve signals. Acetylcholinesterase (AChE) is responsible to break down the neurotransmitter acetylcholine at neuronal junctions by hydrolysis (reaction with water, see figure below). In a simplified view this switches a nerve signal from on to off. If the enzyme is blocked, acetylcholine will accumulate and signal transmission cannot be terminated. This leads to cholinergic crisis and typical symptoms including sweating, salivation, miosis (pinpoint pupils), paralysis, respiratory failure and eventually death. Because AChE is a very fast and efficient enzyme (one enzyme molecule can break down 25000 molecules of acetylcholine per second) and is not present in very large amounts, blocking of the enzyme quickly leads to fatal consequences.



Human AChE consists of 640 amino acids. In the human body most of the AChE is found as units of two (dimer) or four (tetramer) AChE molecules that are anchored to a membrane. The figure to the left shows the complicated folding of the protein leading to its three dimensional structure. Helical substructures and so called beta-sheets (thick arrows) can be identified. The catalytic active site is buried deep inside the enzyme. It contains three amino acids crucial for catalytic activity: Serine 200, Histidine 440 and Glutamate 327. The nerve agents attach to Serine 200 to block the enzyme.

### 4. ANALYSIS OF METABOLITES

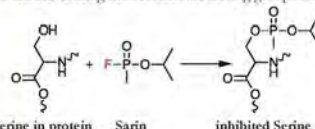
Nerve agents that are not interacting with AChE or other proteins in the human body (see below) normally hydrolyze quite rapidly. This is especially the case of hydrophilic agents such as Sarin while lipophilic agents such as VX can form depots of intact agent in fatty tissues. In case of Sarin the primary hydrolysis product (which is unable to block AChE) is isopropyl methylphosphonic acid (IMPA) that can further degrade to methylphosphonic acid (MPA). Other indicators for the presence of the agent are typical sideproducts formed during Sarin synthesis such as diisopropyl methylphosphonate (DIMP).



These compounds can be detected in urine and blood samples using liquid or gas chromatography. Due to the low concentrations in body fluids (in the parts per billion range) GC-MS/MS or LC-MS/MS methods employing single ion monitoring (SIM) or multiple reaction monitoring (MRM) modes are commonly used. This requires targeted analysis, meaning that one has to specifically analyze for a specific compound such as IMPA.

### 5. PROTEIN ADDUCTS AND THEIR FATE

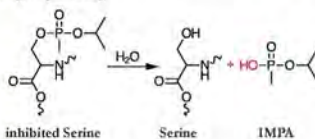
Nerve agents do not only react with AChE but also with other proteins. One highly similar to AChE is Butyrylcholinesterase (BChE). In contrast to the membrane anchored AChE, BChE is found in blood serum and can be used for analysis more easily. The active site of BChE also contains a catalytic triad of serine, histidine and glutamate and the molecular mechanism of inhibition is identical with AChE with the agent attaching itself to the serine residue. During this reaction the leaving group is lost.



After the attachment of the agent to the serine residue, the enzyme is blocked and cannot perform its normal activity. This primary protein adduct can react further in a number of ways:

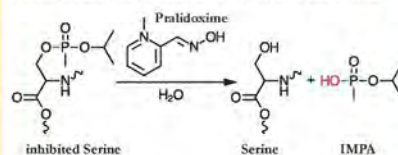
#### Spontaneous reactivation:

The inhibited Serine might react with water to produce the original and functional serine residue plus the hydrolysis product of the agent (IMPA in case of Sarin). While this process plays a role for certain pesticides, it is too slow to be of relevance in case of nerve agent poisoning.



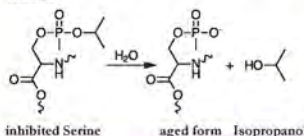
#### Reactivation with a nucleophile

Nucleophilic compounds such as oximes can be used for induced reactivation. Such oximes are commonly used as therapeutics in case of nerve agent poisoning. They include compounds such as 2-PAM (Pralidoxime), Obidoxime, HI-6, MMB-4 and TMB-4.



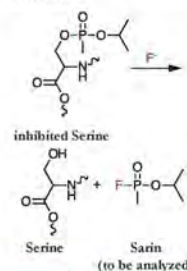
#### Ageing

The inhibited serine can lose an additional group from the phosphorus atom leading to a structure with a negative charge at an oxygen connected to the phosphorus (a process called ageing). This structure cannot be reactivated using oximes. While some agents age relatively slowly (over hours and days) others are much faster. Soman ages within minutes, making medical therapy even more difficult.



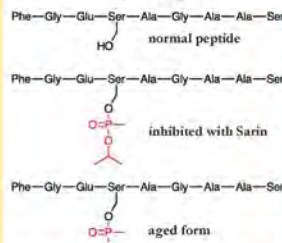
### 6. FLUORIDE REACTIVATION

One advantage of analysing protein adducts over free metabolites in blood is that they persist for much longer times. While free metabolites are cleared from blood in a couple of days, protein adducts may persist for several weeks. One approach for analysis that does not require a look at large protein molecules or fragments is fluoride regeneration. Sodium fluoride solution is added to the blood or plasma sample and the fluoride ions react with the protein adducts to release the agent again. In case of Sarin, Soman and Cyclosarin the original agent is regenerated. In case of Tabun, Fluorotabun is produced and in case of VX the product of fluoride regeneration is Ethylsarin. The one problem that exists with this procedure is that aged protein does not react with fluoride and these molecules escape detection.



### 7. DIRECT ANALYSIS OF ADDUCTS

When a nerve agent binds to AChE or BChE there is a characteristic mass change in the protein that can be used to identify the agent. The established procedure is relying on BChE in human blood plasma. Instead of using the intact protein (consisting of 574 amino acids) the protein is cut into smaller pieces (so called peptides) by using the digestive enzyme Pepsin. The fragment of interest is a peptide of nine amino acids that contains the serine residue inhibited by nerve agents:

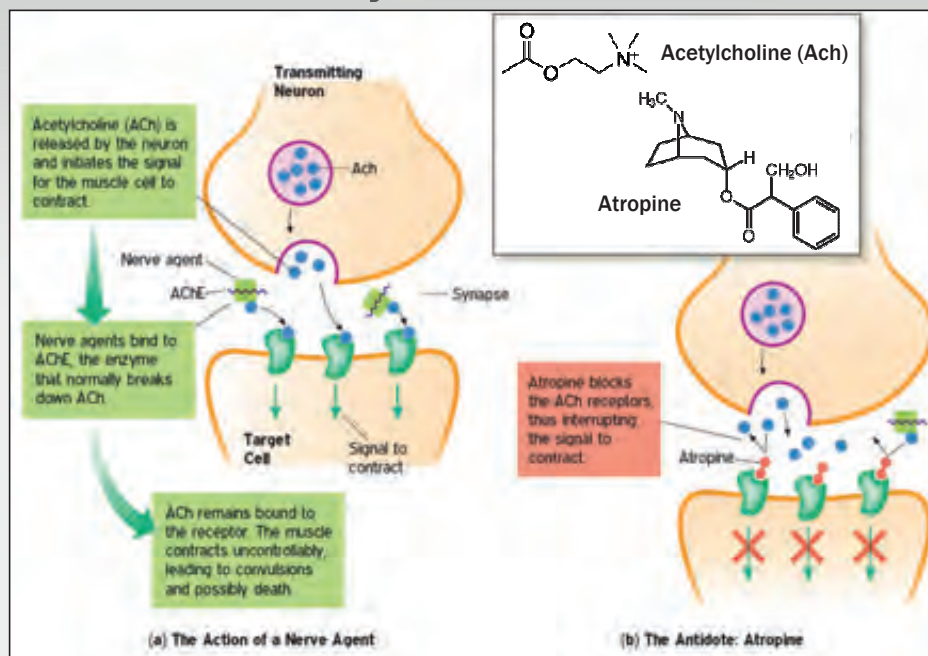


The different peptides generated by the Pepsin digest are separated using liquid chromatography (LC) and analysed using tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS). As the leaving group of the agent is lost when binding to AChE or BChE, this analysis can not reveal the absolute identity of the used agent (the same is true for fluoride regeneration and any other analysis that does not identify the intact agent). For example, an adduct that is identical to the one produced upon exposure to Sarin might actually come from an agent that featured a leaving group similar to that of VX. Aged adducts contain less information, but these peptides contain more information than just finding free MPA, as MPA is also a degradation product of some legitimate chemicals such as the flame retardant dimethyl methylphosphonate (DMMP). The aged adduct is clear proof that the body was exposed to a toxic methyl-phosphonic chemical that is able to bind to and block AChE and BChE. DMMP, for example, is unable to do this. An alternative source for protein adducts is serum albumin. After digestion with Pepsin adducts with the amino acid Tyrosine can be detected.





## The Chemistry of Countermeasures



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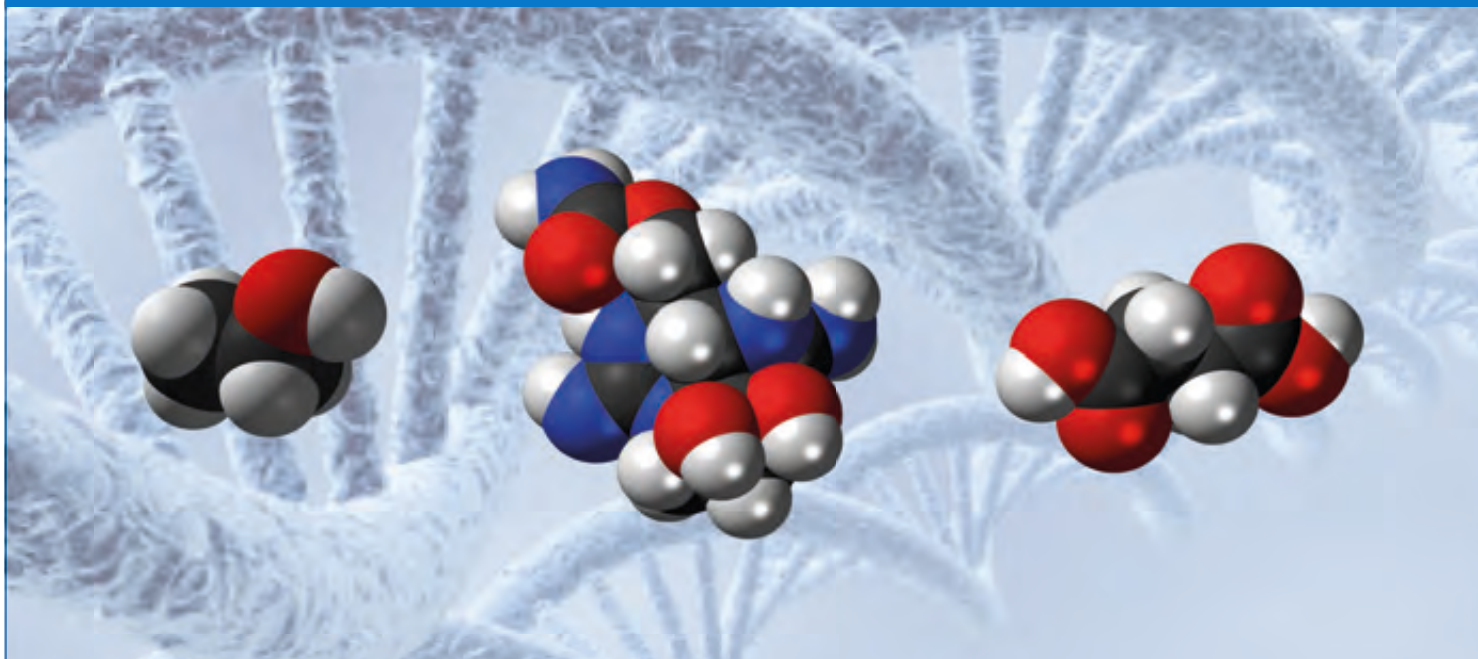
## S & T For Diplomats: A Series of Discussions

- December 2014 (On the margins of CSP-19, to be confirmed)
  - **S&T for Diplomats (3): The meaning of production by synthesis and biomediated chemical production**
    - SAB Convergence Related Recommendations
    - Production by Synthesis
- March 2015 (On the margins of EC-78, To be confirmed)
  - **S&T for Diplomats (4): The Chemistry of Countermeasures**
    - Assistance and Protection Related Recommendations
    - Immediate response and longer term considerations
- **Other topics to be scheduled**

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19th Conference of the States Parties



# Science for Diplomats

## The Science of the Bioeconomy

13:30 – 15:00

Friday, 5 December

World Forum – Europe Room

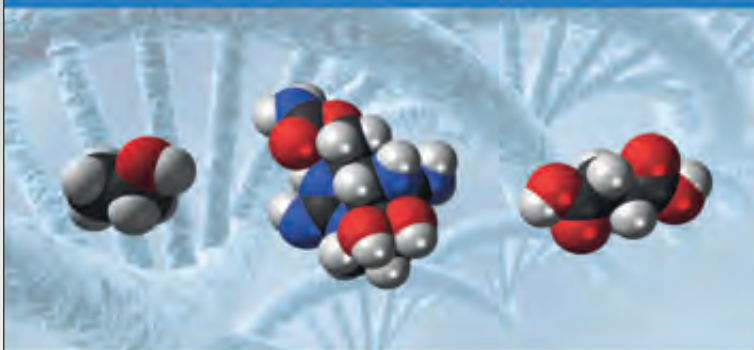
*Light Lunch Provided*

ORGANISATION FOR THE  
PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS





19th Conference of the States Parties



Science for Diplomats  
The Science of the Bioeconomy

Jonathan E. Forman, Ph.D.  
Science Policy Adviser  
Office of Strategy and Policy  
OPCW

Dr. Henrike Gebhardt  
Senior Project Manager Bioeconomy  
Corporate Innovation Strategy & Management  
Evonik Industries AG

[www.opcw.org](http://www.opcw.org)



**SAB Report of the Developments  
in S&T to The Third review Conference**  
(RC-3/DG.1, Dated 29 October 2012)

**Director General's Recommendations**  
(RC-3/DG.2, Dated 31 January 2013)

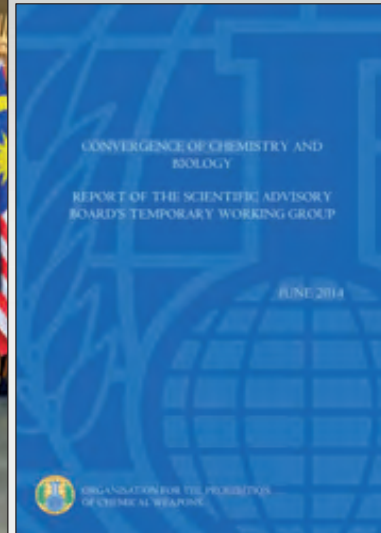
**Response to the Report of the Twenty-First  
Session of the Scientific Advisory Board**  
(EC-77/DG.10, Dated 5 September 2014)

**Status of the Follow-Up to the Recommendations  
on S&T to the Third Review Conference**  
(EC-77/DG.11, Dated 5 September 2014)

[www.opcw.org](http://www.opcw.org)



## The Temporary Working Group on Convergence



[www.opcw.org/index.php?eID=dam\\_frontend\\_push&docID=17438](http://www.opcw.org/index.php?eID=dam_frontend_push&docID=17438)

(see EC-77/DG.10, Dated 5 September 2014 for Director-General response to recommendations)

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## Recommendations from the TWG on Convergence

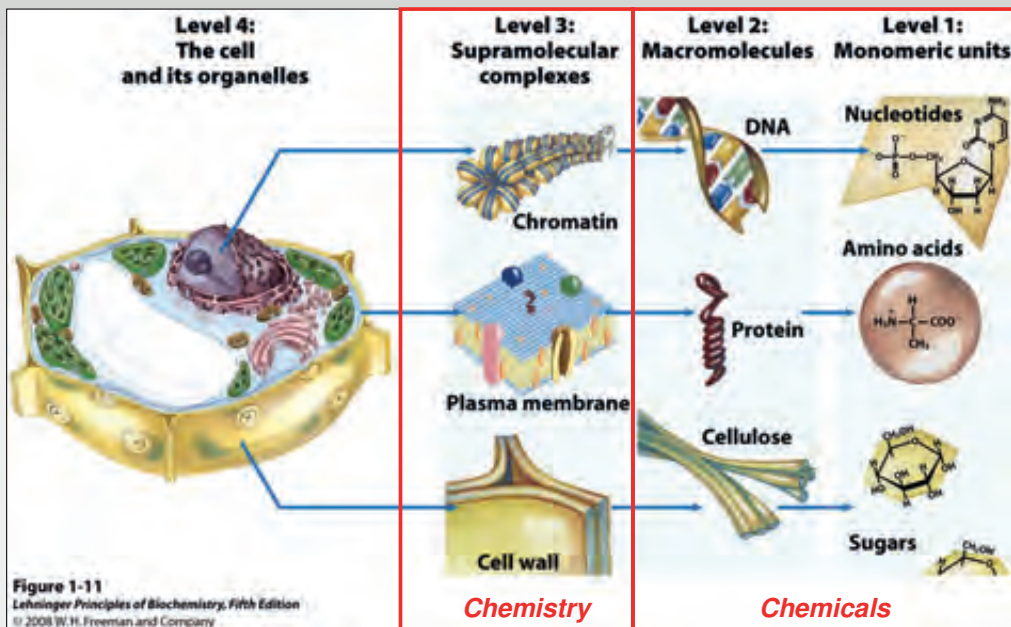
- 19 Recommendations presented in report; Status in EC-77/DG.10
- Continue to **monitor** advances and trends in **production technologies** and assess the relevance of these processes to verification under the CWC.
- **Monitor** advances in **systems and synthetic biology**, particularly in terms of enhancing the capability and capacity to synthesise more complex chemicals.
- **Monitor** advances in **nanotechnology**, particularly as they apply to improved defensive countermeasures against CW.
- Consider **development of outreach materials** to assist States Parties in understanding possible implications for the CWC.
- Establish a structured approach to maintain contact with the BWC community.
- Consider re-activating the TWG on Convergence periodically, in order to assess recent advances

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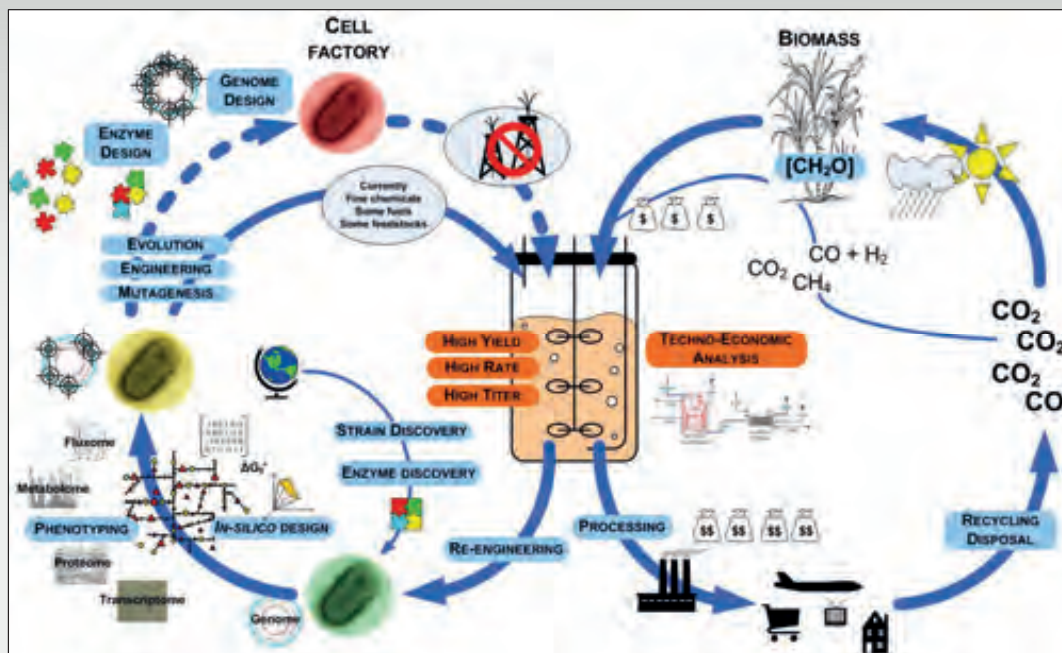
## Chemistry Underpins Biology



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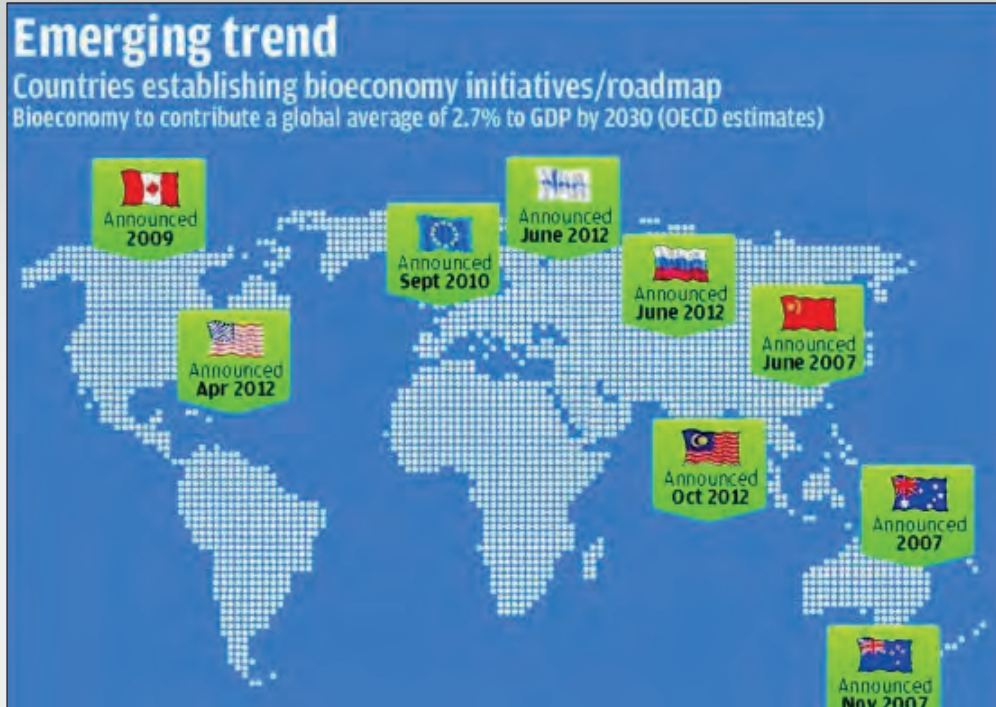


## Bio-Mediated Chemical Production



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## Presentation by Dr Henrike Gebhardt

# The science of the Bioeconomy

Dr. Henrike Gebhardt  
05 December 2014



Our positioning

**Evonik is the creative industrial group from Germany and one of the world's leading specialty chemicals companies.**



Our credo

**The Bioeconomy is one driver to promote a more resource-efficient and sustainable economy.**

**Industrial biotechnology is a key technology for realising the bioeconomy.**

## Overview

**Bioeconomy**



**Biotechnology**

**Genetic engineering**



# Definitions

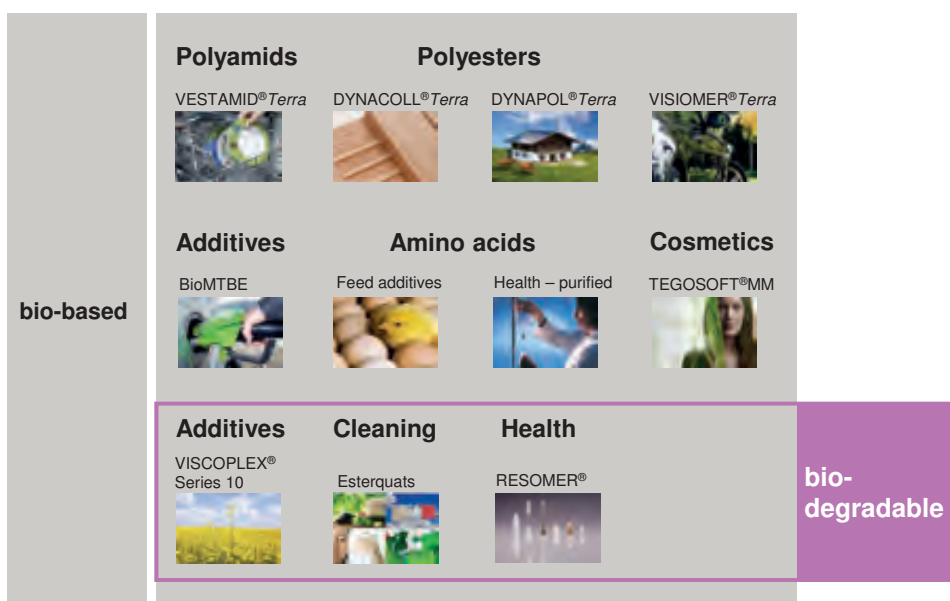
## Bioeconomy

Production of renewable biological resources and the conversion of these resources and waste streams into value added products, such as food, feed, and other industrial products and energy. COM(2012) 60, EU Commission, mod.

## Bio-based products

Products wholly or partly derived from biomass. EN 16575

# Bio-based products offered by Evonik



# Evonik invests in high-growth chemical megatrends

## Lighthouse investment projects



The Science of the Bioeconomy

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## Bioeconomy Press releases

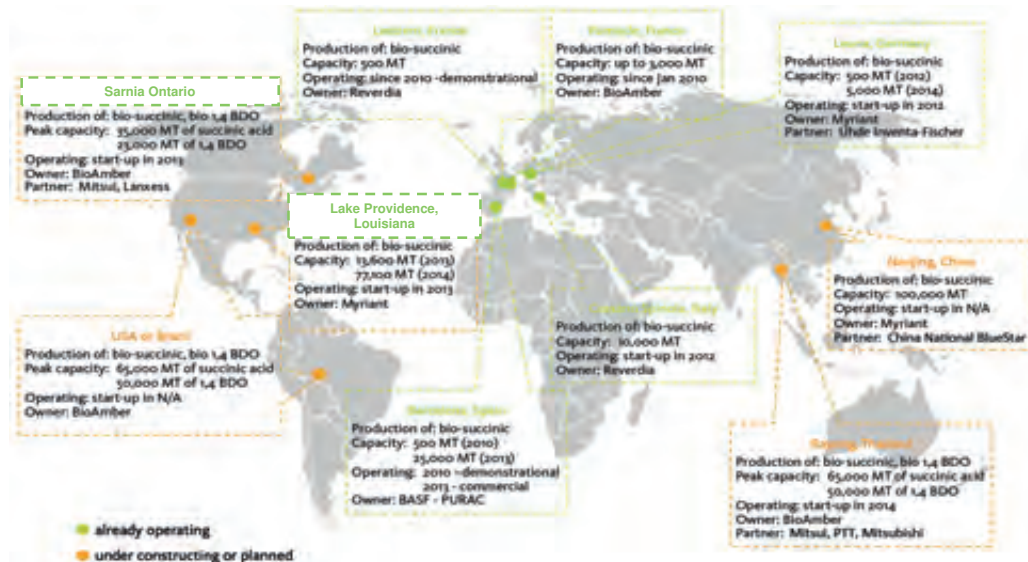


Company Date of Issue	Raw Material	Intermediate Volume	Product Commissioning
<b>DSM/POET (USA)</b> Jan 2012	Cellulosics from corn cobs	Ethanol 90 kta	Biofuels H1.2014
<b>Purac/BASF (ES)</b> Mar 2014	Cellulosics	Succinic acid 10 kt	e. g. Biopolymers 03.2014
<b>Solvay/NBE (US)</b> Mar 2014	Sawmill residues	Torrefied biomass 250 kt	Substitute coal Q4.2014
<b>LanzaTech (USA)</b> Aug 2010	Wood residues (syngas)	Ethanol 15 kt	Biofuels 2014
<b>Butamax (USA)</b> Oct 2013	Corn mash	Butanol ~180 kt	Biofuels 2015

The Science of the Bioeconomy

Page 10

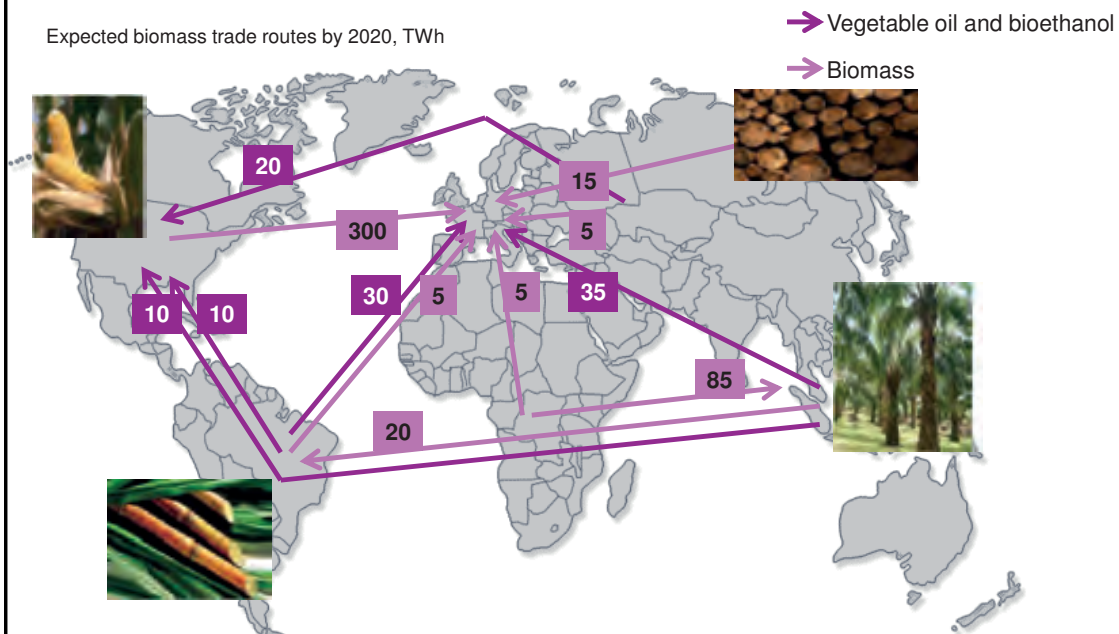
## Commercializing bio-based succinic acid technology – first operating plants in Europe, expansion in Asia/Americas



Source: Determination of market potential for selected platform chemicals, weastra, 2012

## Europe will depend on import of renewable carbon sources

Expected biomass trade routes by 2020, TWh



Source: World economic forum 2010; the future of industrial biorefineries

# Overview

## Bioeconomy

### Bio-based products

Products wholly or partly derived from biomass. EN 16575

## Biotechnology

### Genetic engineering

# Technologies

## Bioeconomy

### Bio-based products

can be produced by conventional chemical processes or by biotechnology

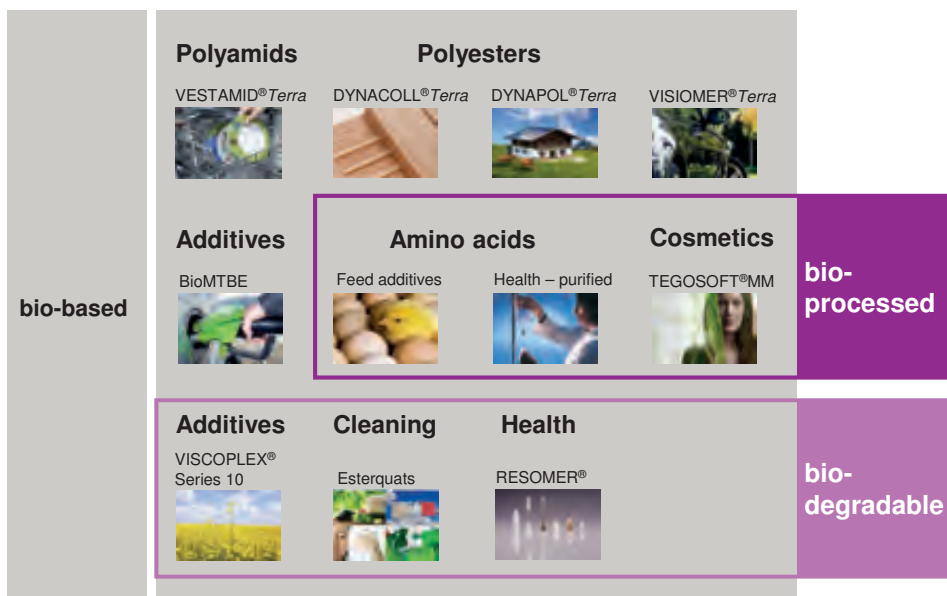
## Biotechnology

The use of living organisms or their components to make products.

### Genetic engineering



# Bio-based products offered by Evonik

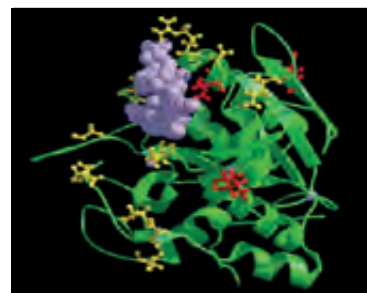


## Biotechnological processes



### Bio-catalysis:

use of natural catalysts such as isolated enzymes or whole-cells to perform chemical transformations



### Fermentation:

use the metabolism of a whole living cell to produce substances e.g. chemicals

Performed in bio-reactor or fermenter



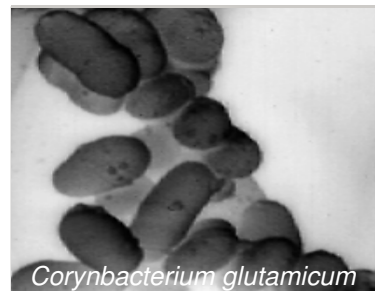
## Bio-reactor - Production



## Living Cells

### Micro-organisms

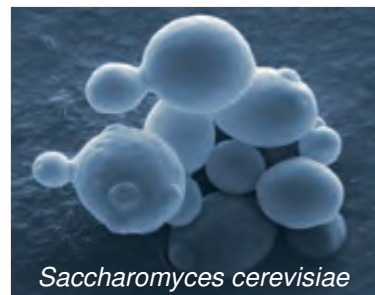
- Bacteria e. g. *Corynebacterium glutamicum*  
Product: sodium-glutamate, flavour enhancing compound, umami taste of food
- Yeast e. g. *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*  
Product: bread, beer



*Corynebacterium glutamicum*

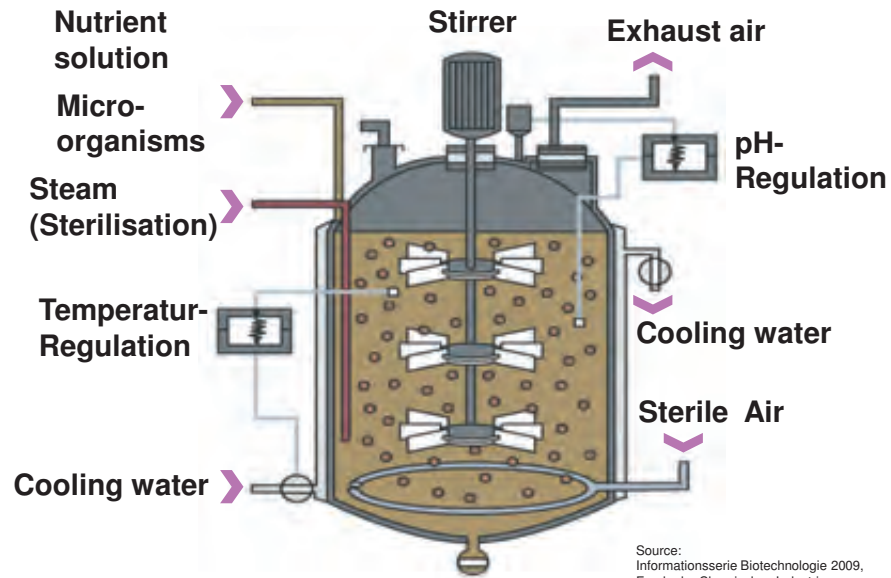
### Higher Organisms

Cells of mammals, humans, insects, plants

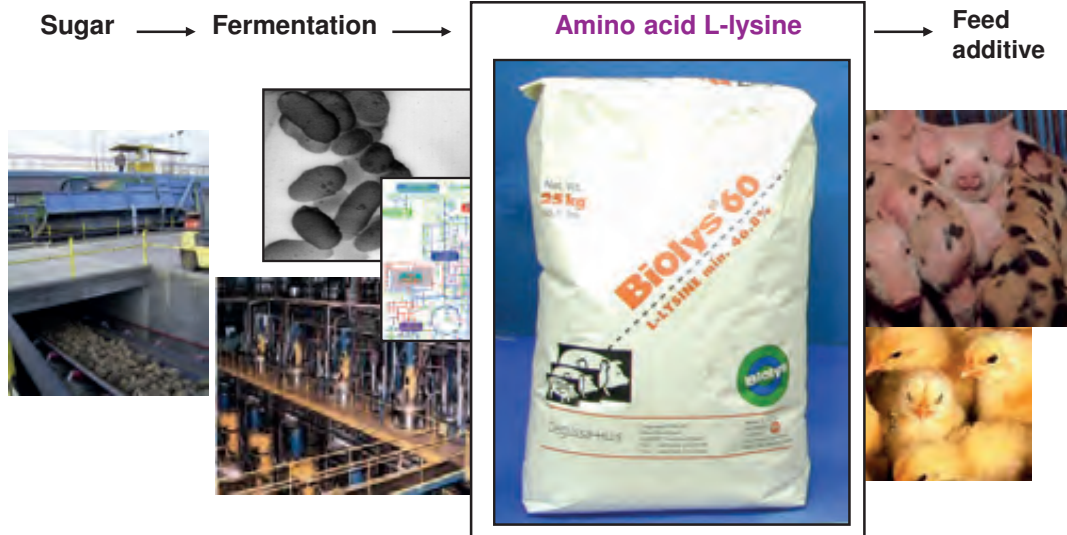


*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*

# Bio-reactor - Principle



## Example: Fermentation to produce amino acids



## Advantages of biotechnology compared to chemical synthesis



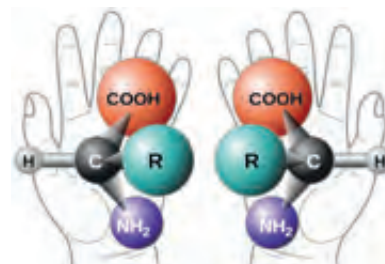
### Specificity and selectivity

Final product derived directly, not via intermediate

Stereoselective synthesis of chiral compounds

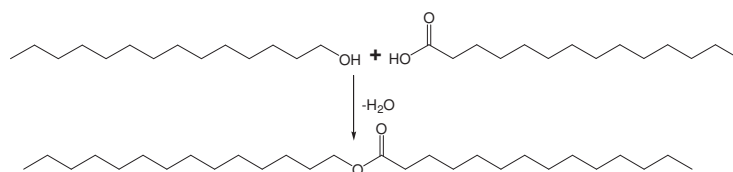
e. g. only L-amino acid, no D-amino acid

- no racemates (mixture of D/L)
- no complex separation process
- no impurities in final product

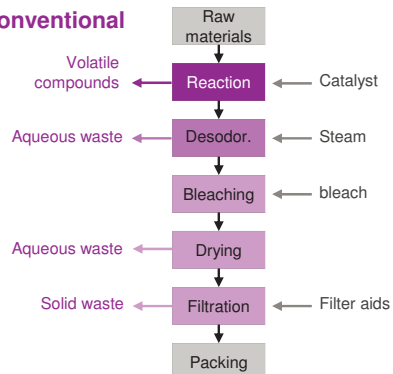


Source: Wikimedia Commons

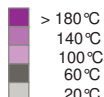
## Sustainability that goes under the skin: Myristyl myristate for cosmetics



### Conventional



Applied temperature



### Enzymatic - Biocatalysis



- Less steps
- Lower temperatures
- Less energy
- Less waste
- More resource efficiency



## Advantages of biotechnology compared to chemical synthesis

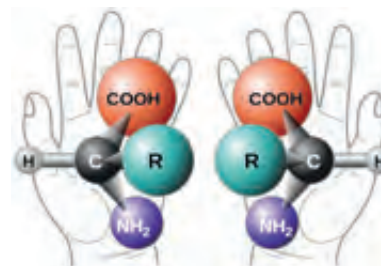


### Specificity and selectivity

Final product derived directly, not via intermediate

Stereoselective synthesis of chiral compounds  
e. g. only L-amino acid, no D-amino acid

- no racemates (mixture of D/L)
- no complex separation process
- no impurities in final product



Source: Wikimedia Commons

### Efficiency and environmental sustainability

- Economic / safe feedstocks: water, sugar, air, salts
- Mild / safe process conditions: room temperature, atmospheric pressure, medium pH
- Less energy needed, less waste produced

## Technologies

### Bioeconomy

Bio-based products can be produced by conventional chemical processes or by biotechnology

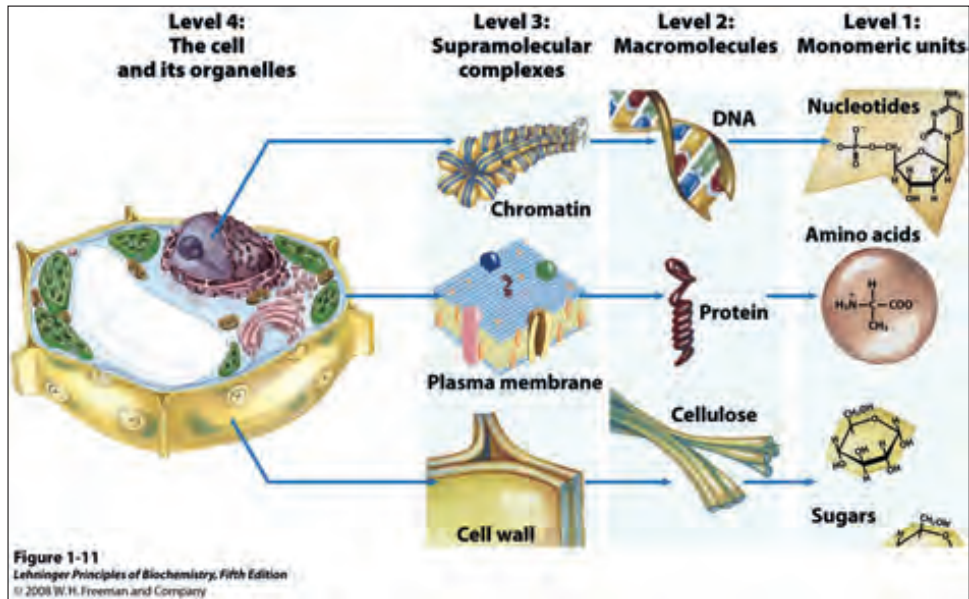
### Biotechnology

The use of living organisms or their components to make products.

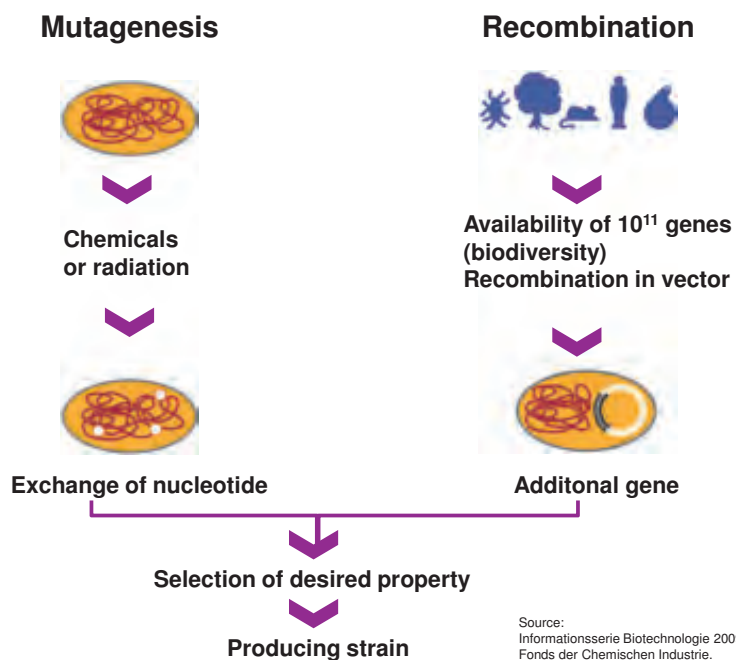
### Genetic engineering

Any of various applications of biological science used in the manipulation of the genome of an organism

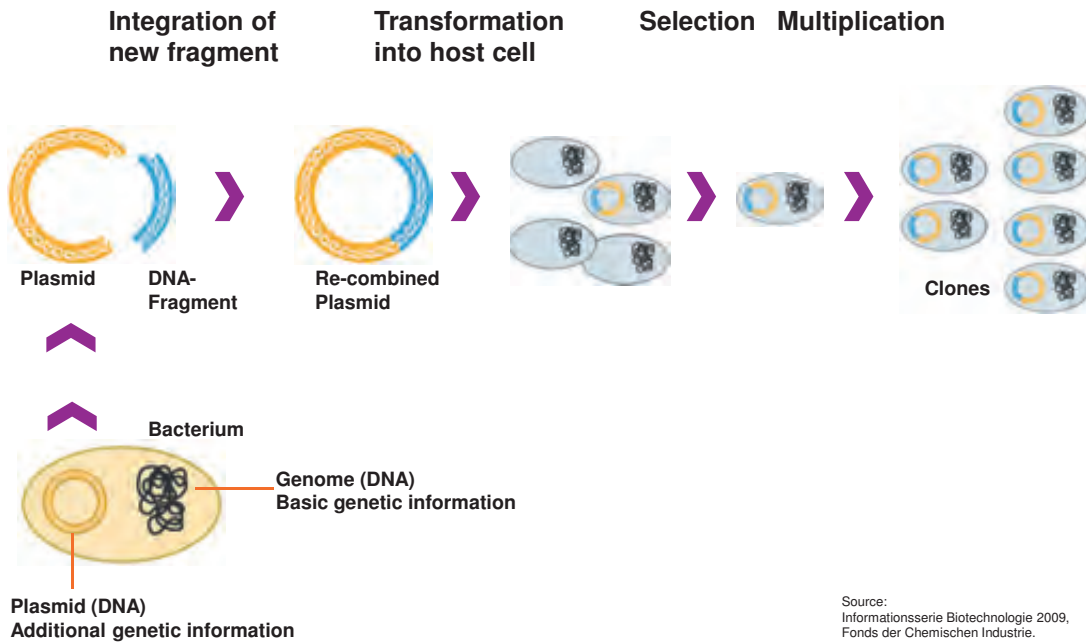
# The Genome



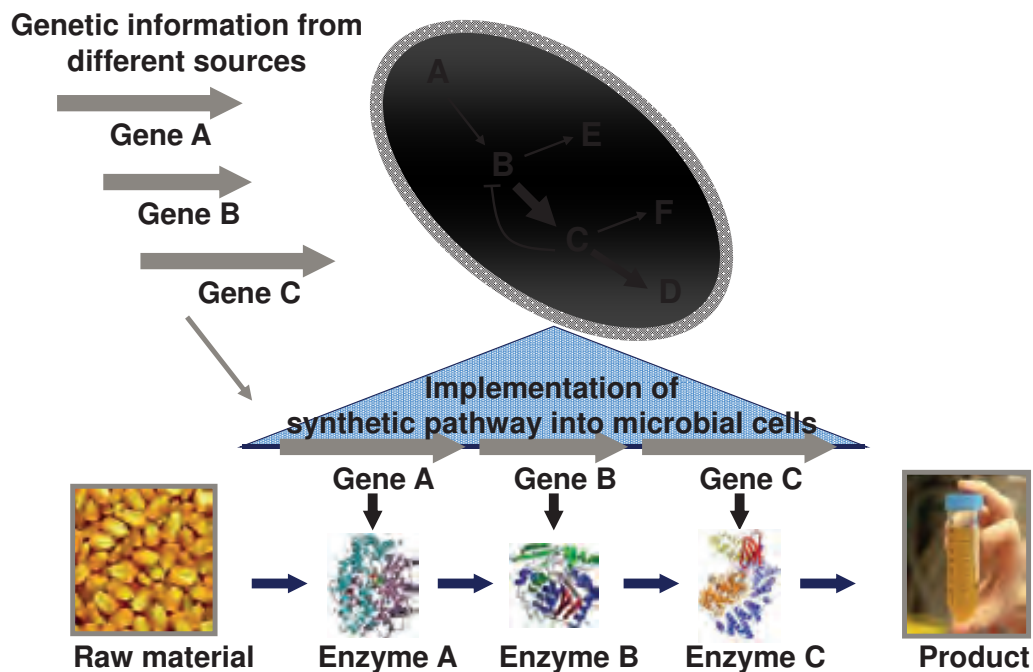
# Genetic engineering methods to generate producing strain



# Recombination of DNA and transformation into bacterial cell



# Cell factories to provide customized precursors



# Is genetic engineering dangerous?



## Risk Groups and Biosafety Level Definitions



### Risk Groups (World Health Organization)

	1	2	3	4
Viruses	Vaccination strains	Measles Virus	Hepatitis B, HIV	Pox, Ebola Viruses
Fungi	Penicillium Camemberti	Candida	Histoplasma	–
Bacteria	E. coli K 12	Salmonella	Anthrax-Bacteria	–
Safety levels/ Risk groups	1	2	3	4

increasing risk

### Biosafety Levels

Safety Level	Description
S1	no or low individual and community risk
S2	moderate individual risk, low community risk
S3	high individual risk, low community risk
S4	high individual and community risk

Source: Informationsserie Biotechnologie 2009, Fonds der Chemischen Industrie.



## Potential chemical weapons from living organisms: Toxins



- Use of toxins is covered by  
1925 Geneva Protocol  
Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention of 1972  
Chemical Weapons Convention
- Toxins are poisons produced by living organisms e.g. bacteria, fungi, algae and plants
- Toxins are peptides, proteins or low-molecular organic compounds
- Toxins are less suitable for dispersal on a large scale. Nonetheless, they could be used for sabotage or in especially designed inputs, e.g. against key persons.
- Most toxins are unstable in alkaline water solutions and are thus easily destroyed by means of normal decontamination methods.

Source: A FOA Briefing Book on Chemical Weapons.  
The Science of the Bioeconomy

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## Examples Bacterial Toxins



### **Botulinum toxin**

produced by *Clostridium botulinum*, causes a severe form of food-poisoning (botulism),  
used in treating squinting and other muscular disorders.

### **Staphylococcus enterotoxin type B**

produced by *Staphylococcus aureus*,  
causes food-poisoning symptoms

### **Saxitoxin**

produced by blue-green algae (*cyanobacteria*) which are food for mussels,  
attacks the nervous system and has a paralyzing effect,  
included in Schedule 1 of the CWC

Source: A FOA Briefing Book on Chemical Weapons.

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## Examples Plant Toxin and Bioregulators



### Plant Toxin

**Ricin** extracted from seeds of the castor oil plant or produced by *E. coli*, blocks the body's synthesis of proteins, death frequently occurs through heart failure, included in Schedule 1 of the CWC

### Bioregulators

No toxins, but possible use is similar

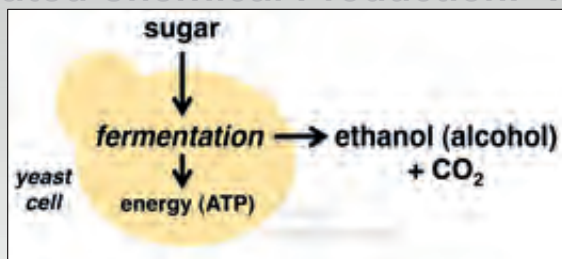
Example: Substance P, a polypeptide, causes a rapid loss of blood pressure which may cause unconsciousness

Source: A FOA Briefing Book on Chemical Weapons.





## Bio-Mediated Chemical Production: The Basics



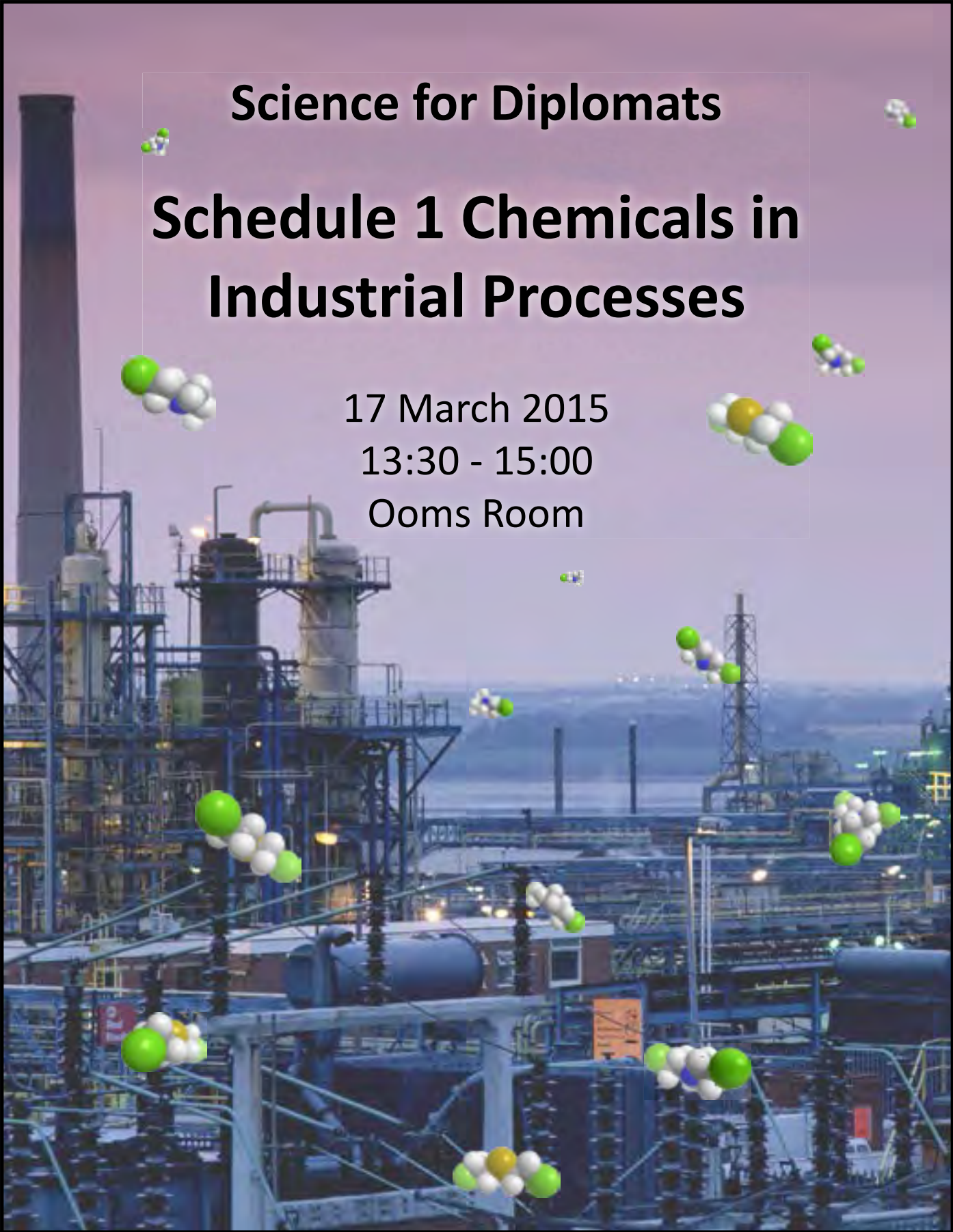
[www.opcw.org](http://www.opcw.org)



## S & T For Diplomats: A Series of Discussions

- March 2015 (On the margins of EC-78, To be confirmed)
  - **S&T for Diplomats (4): Schedule 1 Chemicals**
    - Verification related SAB recommendations
    - Low concentration limits and captive use
- June (SAB-22) or July 2015 (EC-79); To be confirmed
  - **S&T for Diplomats (5): The Chemistry of Countermeasures**
    - Assistance and protection related SAB recommendations
    - Immediate response and longer term considerations
- **Other topics to be scheduled**

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# Science for Diplomats

## Schedule 1 Chemicals in Industrial Processes

17 March 2015

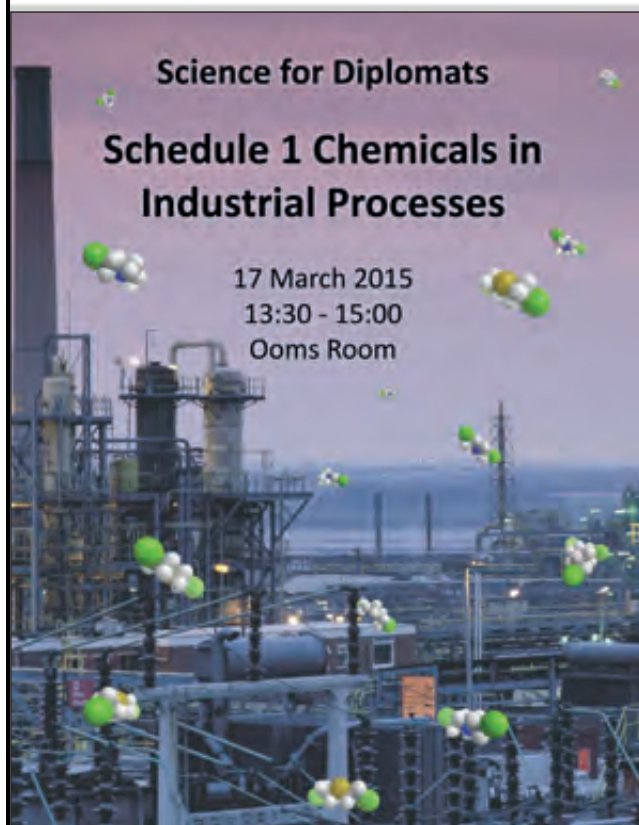
13:30 - 15:00

Ooms Room

ORGANISATION FOR THE  
PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS







**Science for Diplomats**  
**Schedule 1 Chemicals in**  
**Industrial Processes**

17 March 2015  
13:30 - 15:00  
Ooms Room

**Dr Christopher M. Timperley**  
Vice Chair, OPCW Scientific Advisory Board  
Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl),  
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

**Jonathan E. Forman, Ph.D.**  
Science Policy Adviser  
Office of Strategy and Policy  
OPCW



**SAB Report of the Developments**  
**in S&T to The Third review Conference**  
(RC-3/DG.1, Dated 29 October 2012)

**Director General's Recommendations**  
(RC-3/DG.2, Dated 31 January 2013)

**Status of the Follow-Up to the Recommendations**  
**on S&T to the Third Review Conference**  
(EC-77/DG.11, Dated 5 September 2014)

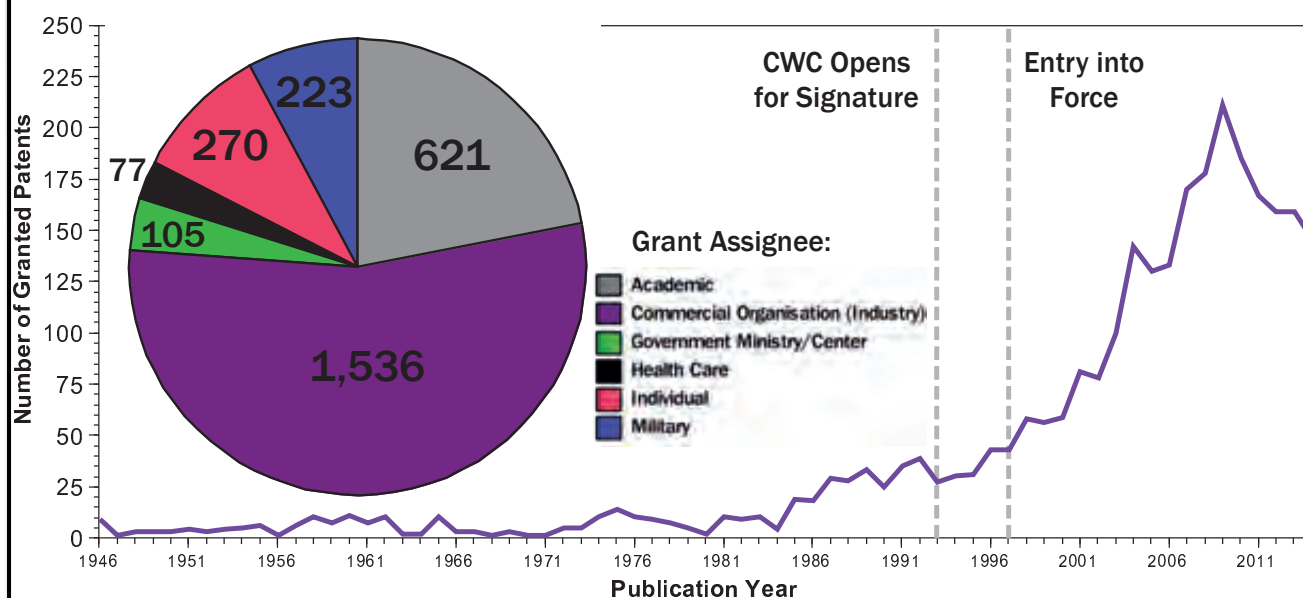


## Recommendations Concerning Schedule 1 Chemicals (from EC-77/DG.11, Dated 5 September 2014)

Recommendation	Status of Implementation
<p>"...establishment of a <b>low-concentration limit for Schedule 1 chemicals</b> ...which could be achieved through various mechanisms."</p> <p>"...encourage States Parties to further discuss this regulatory aspect"</p> <p>(paragraphs 21 and 22 of RC-3/DG.2]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The TS intends to issue a Note on its procedure for handling cases of unavoidable Schedule 1 by-products</li><li>Schedule 1 issues will be a topic for one of the "Science for Diplomats" workshops.</li></ul>
<p>"...<b>captive use of Schedule 1 chemicals</b>...an important issue about which the chemical industry needs to be informed through the National Authorities"</p> <p>"...request States Parties to share the relevant information with their chemical industry and to report other examples of captive use of Schedule 1 chemicals to the Secretariat"</p> <p>"...encourage States Parties to assess if some Schedule 1 chemicals could occur in certain types of their industries."</p> <p>(paragraphs 17, 18 and 20 of RC-3/DG.2)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Schedule 1 issues will be a topic for one of the "Science for Diplomats" workshops.</li><li>The DG is reminding States Parties of these recommendations.</li></ul>

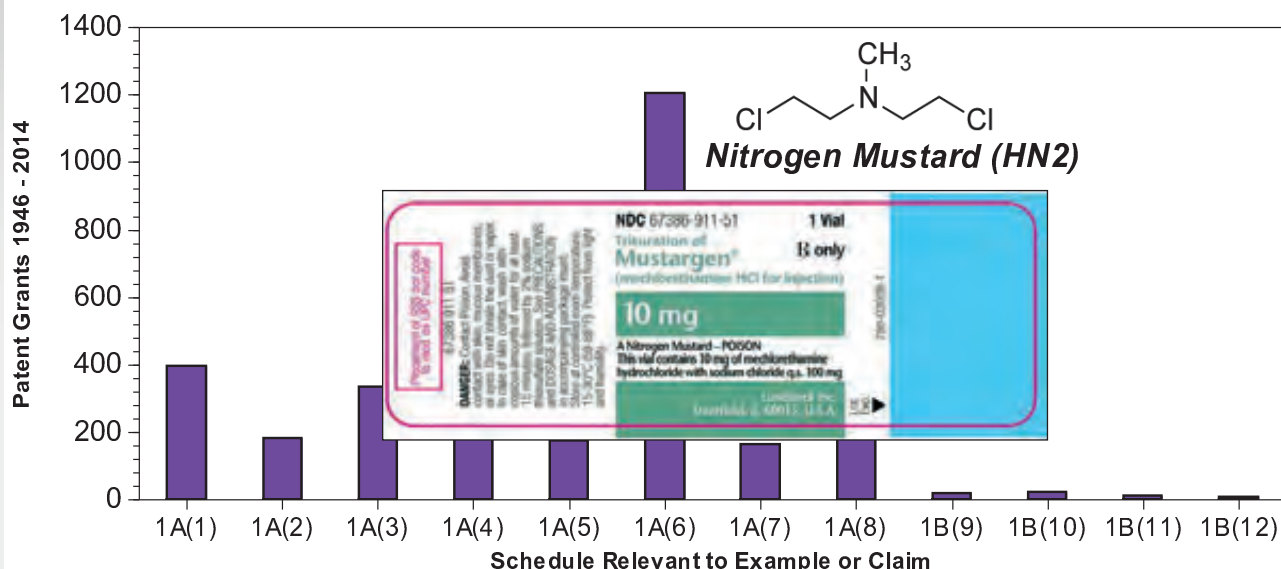


## Schedule 1 Chemicals in Patent Grants 1946 - 2014

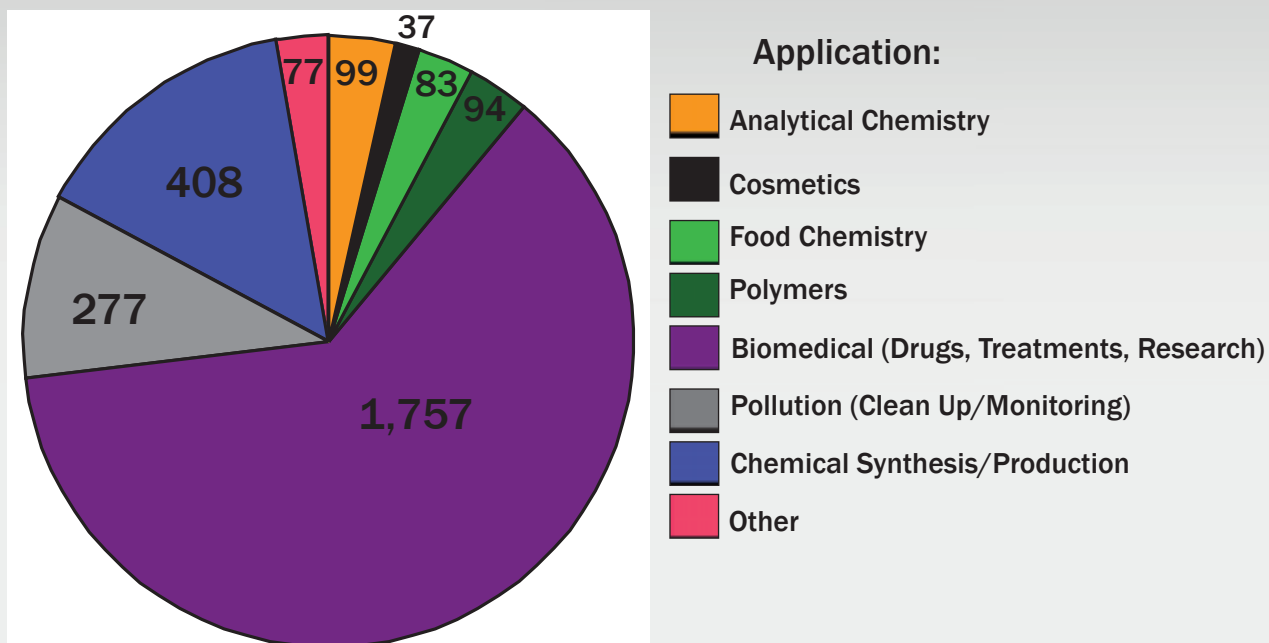




## Schedules Represented



## What Are All These Patents About?







## Abstracts for 146 Patent Grants References to Schedule 1 Chemicals From 2014



WWW.OPCW.ORG





# Presentation by Dr Christopher M. Timperley



## Science for Diplomats

### Schedule 1 and 2 chemicals as captive intermediates and unintended by-products

Dr. Christopher M. Timperley

www.opcw.org

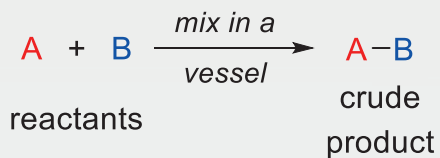
Science for Diplomats, 17 March 2015



## Chemical production

The deliberate encouragement of chemical reactions to obtain one or more products by physical manipulations

What is a chemical reaction?



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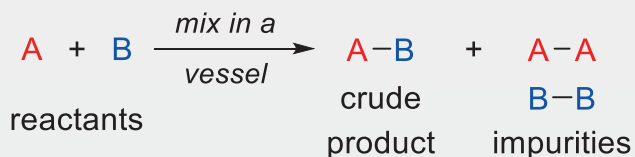
EC-77 Meeting, 9 October 2014



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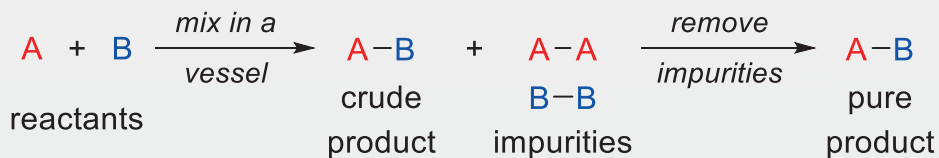
Science for Diplomats, 17 March 2015



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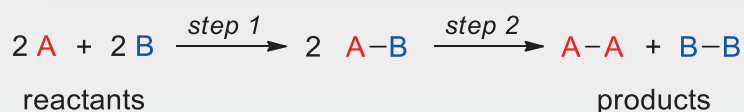
Science for Diplomats, 17 March 2015



## Chemical production

The deliberate encouragement of chemical reactions in a stepwise sequence to obtain one or more target products

An example of two step reaction sequence :



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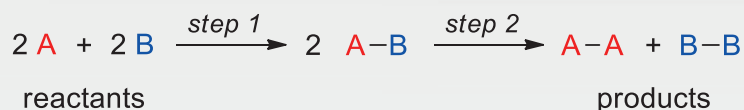
Science for Diplomats, 17 March 2015



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An example of two step reaction sequence :



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Science for Diplomats, 17 March 2015

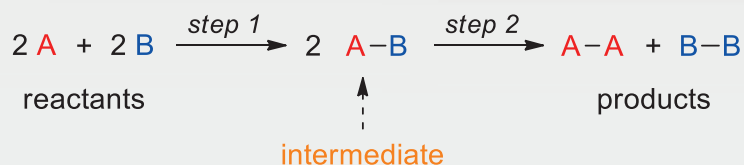




## Chemical production

The deliberate encouragement of chemical reactions in a stepwise sequence to obtain one or more target products

An example of two step reaction sequence :



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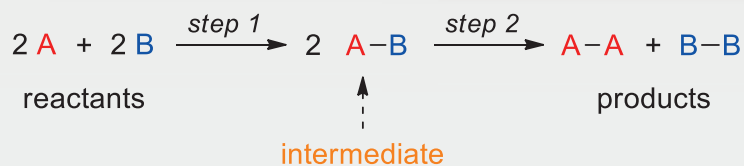
Science for Diplomats, 17 March 2015



## Chemical production

The deliberate encouragement of chemical reactions in a stepwise sequence to obtain one or more target products

An example of two step reaction sequence :



Some intermediates can be made biologically

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Science for Diplomats, 17 March 2015





# Schedules of Chemicals

## Schedule 1

- Developed, produced, stockpiled or used as a chemical weapon
- Pose otherwise a high risk to the object and purpose of the CWC
- Have little or no use for purposes not prohibited under the CWC

## Schedule 2

- Possesses lethal or incapacitating toxicity and other properties that could enable them to be used as chemical weapons or to obtain Sch. 1
- Not produced in large commercial quantities in chemical industry

## Schedule 3

- Have been produced, used or stockpiled as a chemical weapon
- Possess lethal or incapacitating toxicity and other properties that could enable them to be used as a chemical weapon or to obtain Sch. 1 or 2
- Produced in large commercial quantities in the chemical industry

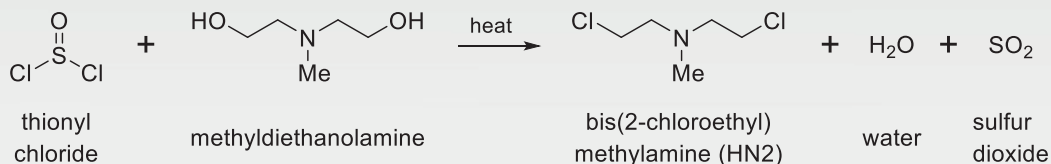
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Science for Diplomats, 17 March 2015

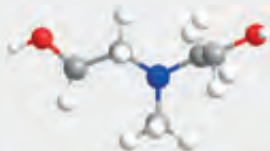


# Nitrogen mustard HN2

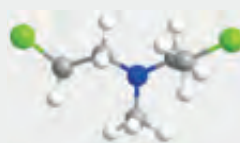
Moving through the Schedules to make a chemical warfare agent :



Schedule 3B14



Schedule 3B16



Schedule 1A6



Not scheduled

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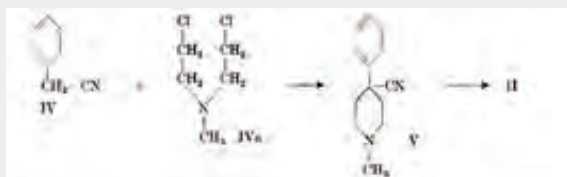
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## Schedule 1 captive intermediate in production of a pharmaceutical

HN2 can be used to make the anti-cancer drug ketobemidone, a pain-killer for children with cancer that are allergic to morphine

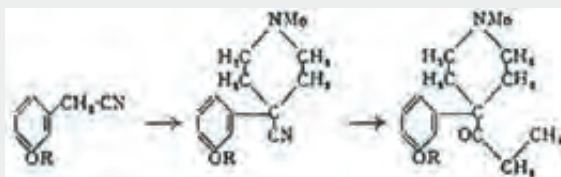
323. Über eine neue Synthese morphinähnlich wirkender 4-Phenylpiperidin-1-alkylketone und verwandter Verbindungen von H. Kägi und S. Miescher.  
stehenden und unter dem Namen „Nitrogen mustard“ bekannt gewordenen sehr giftigen Amins IVa zu vermeiden, beschränken wir einen



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Helv. Chim. Acta 1949, 32, 2489

303. Synthetic Analgesics. Part VI. The Synthesis of Ketobemidone  
By A. W. D. AVONNE and A. L. MORGAN.  
Ketobemidone (Hoechst 10729) has been prepared from m-methoxybenzyl cyanide by condensing it with methyl-2-chloroethylamine in the presence of sodium, substituting the resulting cyanopropidine derivative in a Grignard reaction, and demethylating the product with hydrobromic acid.



J. Chem. Soc. 1950, 1469-1471

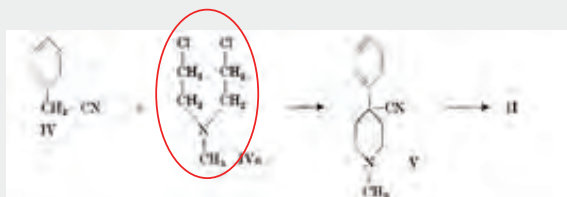
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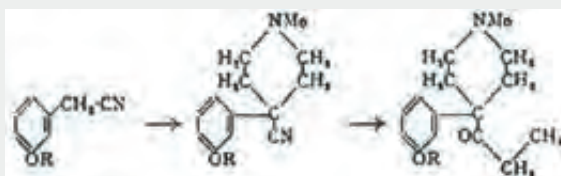
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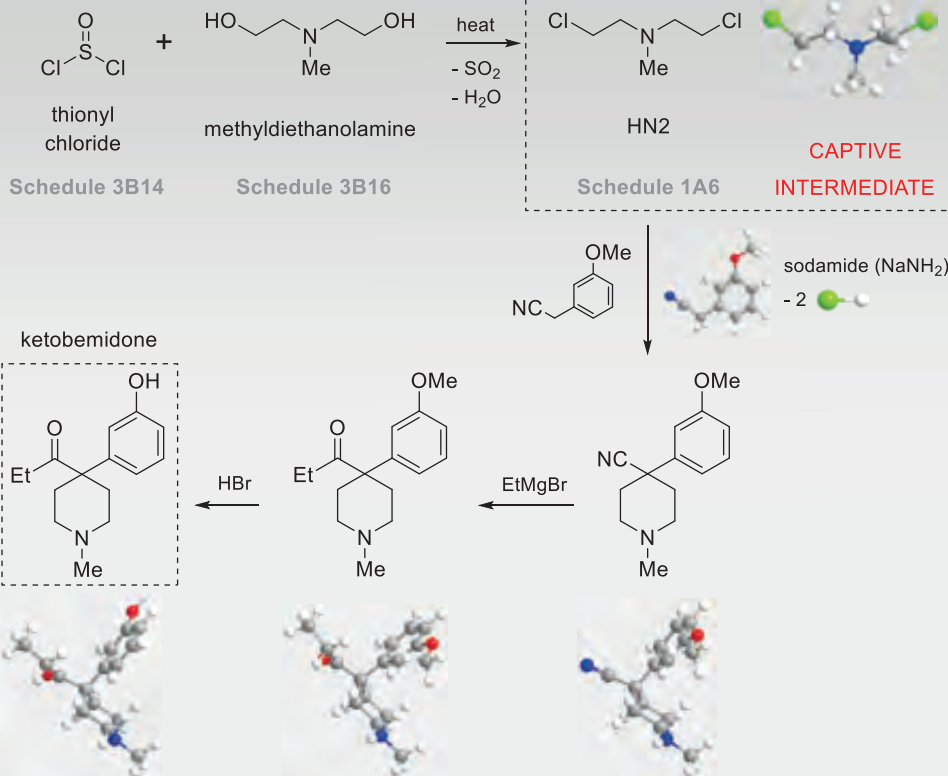
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J. Chem. Soc. 1950, 1469-1471

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## Production of Schedule 1 chemical

'is understood for declaration purposes to include intermediates, by-products, or waste products that are *produced and consumed* within a defined chemical manufacturing sequence, where such products are chemically stable and therefore exist for a *sufficient time* to make isolation from the manufacturing stream possible, but where, under normal design or operating conditions, isolation does not occur'

Decision of OPCW CSP (C-10/DEC.12 dated 10 November 2005)

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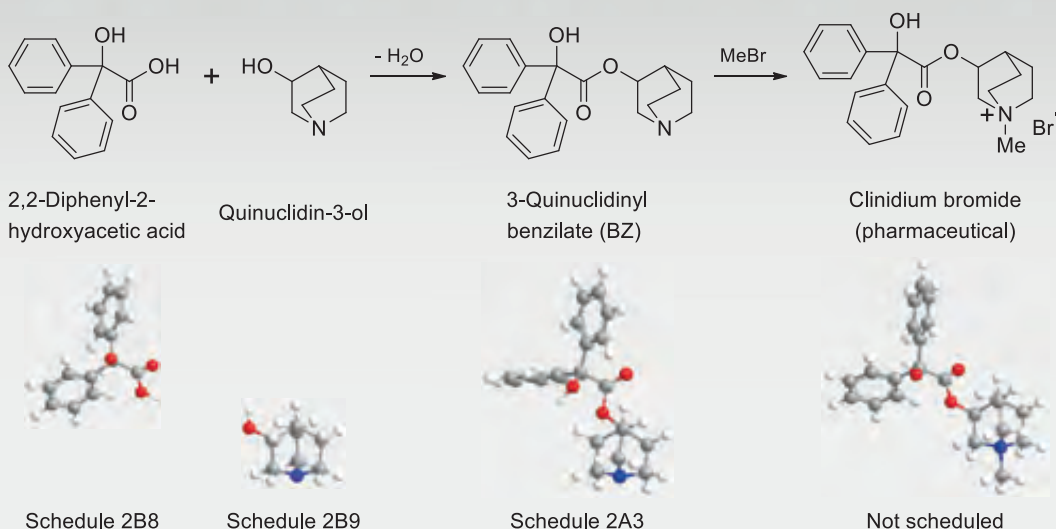
Expectation to declare a facility consuming a Schedule 1 chemical as an intermediate in production of, for example, a pharmaceutical

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## BZ as a captive intermediate



Clinidium bromide (Librax®) is used to treat irritable bowel syndrome

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## Unintended by-products

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## Unintended by-products

**An unintended by-product is a Schedule 1 or 2 chemical formed unintentionally during a sequence of planned chemical reactions**

**Processes most likely to involve the formation of a blister agent**

**An accident involving the formation of the Schedule 1 chemical agent sulfur mustard occurred 6 years ago during cleaning of an industrial plant that manufactured polyvinylchloride (PVC) pipes**

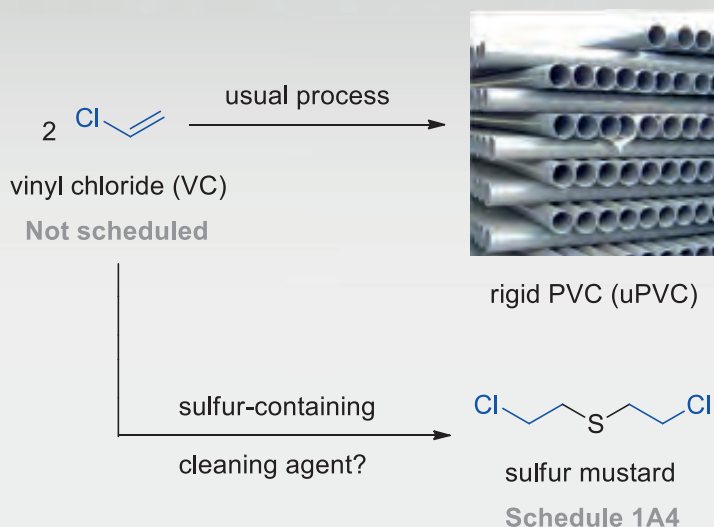
***C Curty, J Ducry, S Mogl. Schedule 1 chemicals as captive intermediates or unavoidable by-products in chemical production: technical feasibility assessment based on literature review, LN 2013-01-CC, Spiez Laboratory, Switzerland, 2013.***

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## Unintended Schedule 1 production



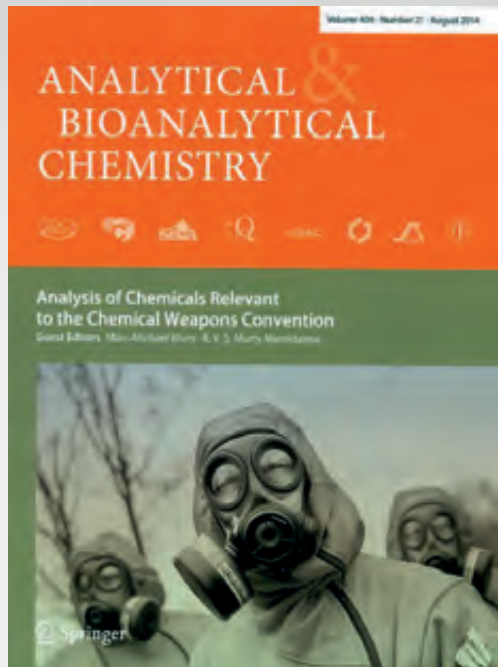
Employees experienced skin blistering, burns and respiratory problems

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## Improved analytical capabilities



Over the last decade the power of analytical chemistry techniques has increased hugely

Analysis using mass spectrometers allows detection of minute amounts of chemicals

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## Practical aspects of isolating Schedule 1 captive intermediates and by-products

Infrastructure of chemical plants that employ a process that involves captive use of a Schedule 1 chemical - or that yields a Schedule 1 chemical as a by-product - would generally be suitable for producing nitrogen or sulfur mustard

Schedule 1 by-products are likely to be present in reaction mixtures as impurities in low concentrations and therefore not suitable for activities prohibited by CWC (i.e. to be used as a toxic agent)

In theory, it is possible to extract a Schedule 1 chemical by-product using an extra purification step or to concentrate it in the reaction mixture, but the cost to isolate a low concentration of pure material would be unreasonably high (versus the ease of deliberate synthesis)

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## Conclusions

Very few examples of captive use or production as a by-product of Schedule 1 chemicals have been officially reported up to this day

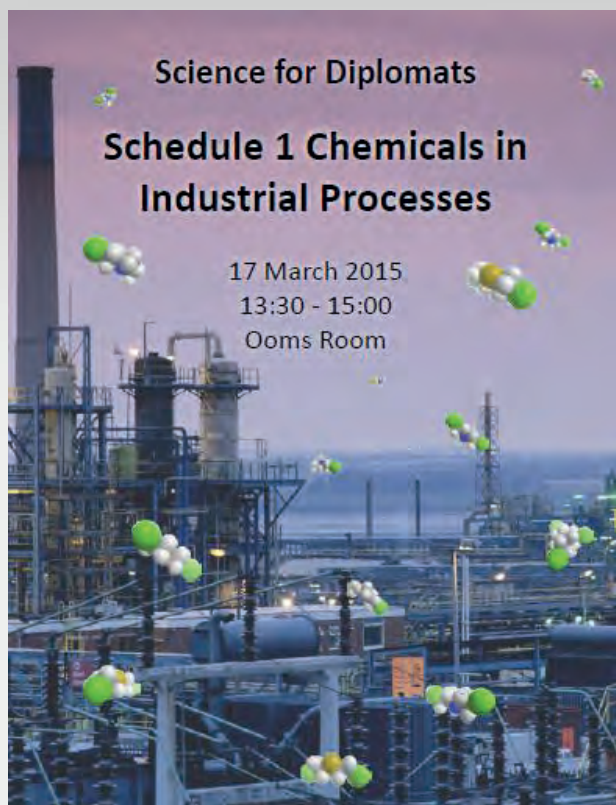
Alternative synthetic methods can be found to avoid this problem

Discussion on the topic of this presentation initiated through the OPCW SAB in 2012: up to the policy making organs and Technical Secretariat to find solutions in cooperation with chemical industry

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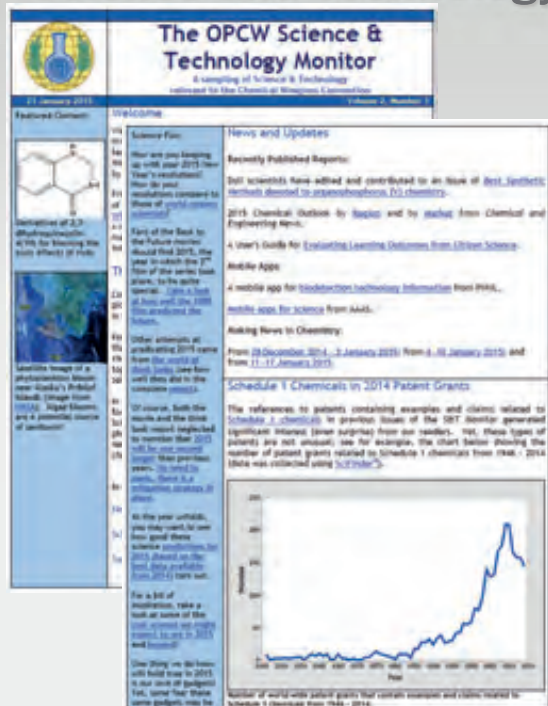
Questions?

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Science for Diplomats, 17 March 2015



## Science and Technology Awareness and Communication



Contact us at: [SciTech@OPCW.org](mailto:SciTech@OPCW.org)

[www.opcw.org/special-sections/science-technology/](http://www.opcw.org/special-sections/science-technology/)

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## S & T For Diplomats: A Series of Discussions

- July 2015 (On the margins of EC-79, To be confirmed)
  - **S&T for Diplomats (5): The Chemistry of Countermeasures**
    - Assistance and protection related SAB recommendations
    - Immediate response and longer term considerations
- October 2015 (On the margins of EC-80, To be confirmed)
  - **S&T for Diplomats (6): Chemical Forensics**
    - Introduction and overview of developments in the field

- **For more information on S&T from OPCW**

[SciTech@OPCW.org](mailto:SciTech@OPCW.org) (email)

@OPCW\_ST (Twitter)

[www.opcw.org/special-sections/science-technology/](http://www.opcw.org/special-sections/science-technology/)

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# SCIENCE FOR DIPLOMATS

## THE SCIENCE OF MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES

**Wednesday 8 July 2015**

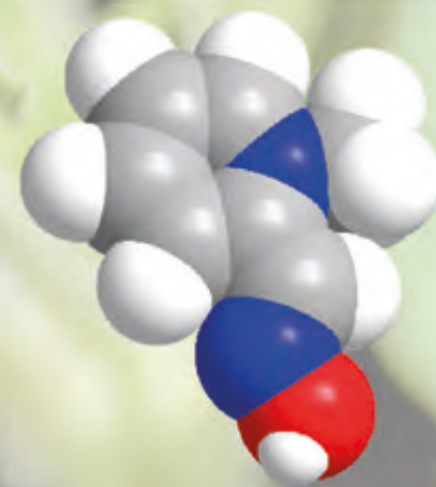
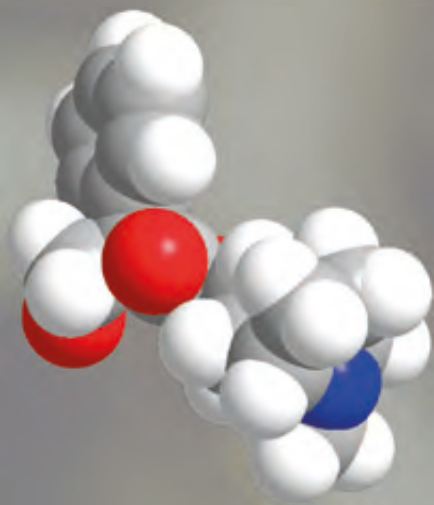
**13:30 - 15:00**

**Ooms Room**

Light lunch will be available at 13:00



ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION  
OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS





# SCIENCE FOR DIPLOMATS

## THE SCIENCE OF MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES

Wednesday 8 July 2015

13:30 - 15:00

Ooms Room

Light lunch will be available at 13:00



ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION  
OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

**Professor Slavica Vučinić**  
National Poison Control Centre  
Military Medical Academy, Belgrade, Serbia  
nckt@vma.mod.gov.rs

**Jonathan E. Forman, Ph.D.**  
Science Policy Adviser  
jonathan.forman@opcw.org



ORGANISATION FOR THE  
PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

*Working together for a world free of chemical weapons*

### Advice on Assistance and Protection



OPCW

Scientific Advisory Board

Twenty-First Session  
23 – 27 June 2014

SAB-21/WP.7  
29 April 2014  
ENGLISH only

**RESPONSE TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S REQUEST TO THE  
SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD TO PROVIDE FURTHER ADVICE ON  
ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION**

#### DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S REQUEST TO THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

- Article X establishes the obligations and rights of a State Party concerning the assistance and protection against chemical weapons, and accords each State Party the right to request and to receive assistance and protection against the use or threat of use of chemical weapons. It is anticipated that, in most cases, the main assistance needed from the OPCW would be provision of medical countermeasures and treatment for chemical weapons casualties.
- At its Sixteenth Session (in 2012) the Conference of States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention established the international support network for the victims of chemical weapons. This decision requires the establishment of a webpage and a databank to include information on offers by Member States relevant to the victims of chemical weapons and information on needs of the victims of chemical weapons. In order to be in a position to fully meet the expectations of the Convention States Parties with regard to the victims' network, it is necessary for the Technical Secretariat to compile information on relevant scientific advances with respect to new medical countermeasures and treatments of victims of nerve and blister agents.
- In its report on developments in science and technology to the Third Review Conference (cf. paragraphs 120-123 in RC-3/DG.1, dated 29 October 2012), the Scientific Advisory Board informed the Technical Secretariat on the status of currently available countermeasures and treatments. As a follow up to this information, the Director-General requests the Scientific Advisory Board to:
  - recommend to the Technical Secretariat pre-treatments, vaccines, emergency care, and long term treatments that are currently available for blister and nerve agents; and
  - To inform the Technical Secretariat of the most relevant information sources that can be monitored to keep abreast of new developments in these areas.

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OPCW

Scientific Advisory Board

Twenty-Second Session  
8 – 12 June 2015

SAB-22/WP.2/Rev.1  
10 June 2015  
ENGLISH only

**RESPONSE TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S REQUEST TO THE  
SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD TO PROVIDE FURTHER ADVICE ON  
ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION**

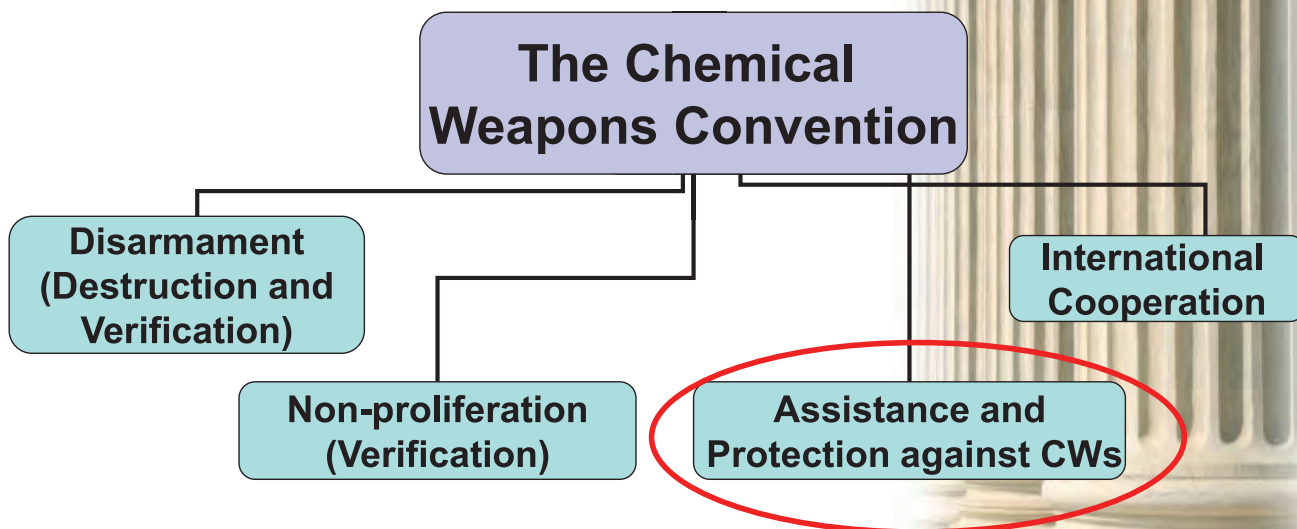
#### 1. DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S REQUEST

- At the Twentieth Session of the OPCW Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), the Director-General requested that the SAB provide further advice on assistance and protection against chemical weapons (see Annex 6 of the SAB-20/1, dated 14 June 2013). The SAB completed its work and provided the Director-General with the report of their findings (see SAB-21/WP.7, dated 29 April 2014).
- In light of recent events and victims of chemical weapons currently undergoing medical care, there is a compelling need to have a better understanding of what can be done to mitigate the longer term effects of chemical agent exposure. Such information would be a valuable addition to the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons (C-16/ DEC.13, dated 2 December 2011).
- At the Twenty-First Session of the SAB (Paragraph 9.20 of SAB-21/1, 27 June 2014) the Director-General requested the SAB to provide further advice, namely:
  - identify best practices for preventing and treating the health effects that arise from acute, prolonged, and repeated organophosphorus nerve agent exposure; and
  - identify any emerging medical countermeasures, intended for use at the point of exposure, that can reduce or eliminate longer term health effects arising from acute, prolonged, and repeated organophosphorus nerve agent exposure.
- This report addresses these questions and reviews current and promising developments in nerve agent medical countermeasures.

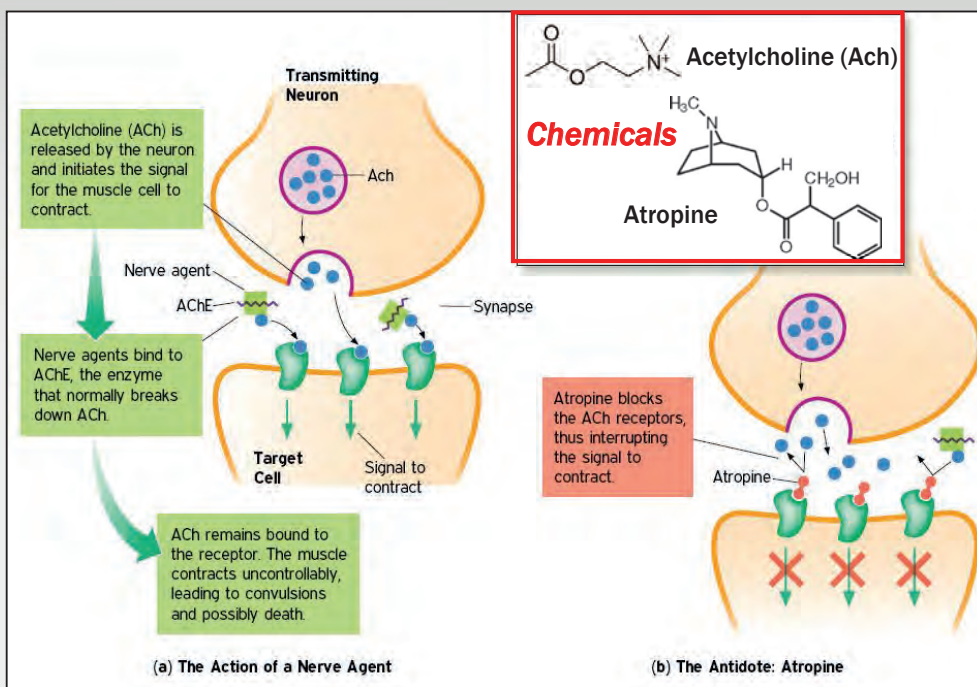




## Treaty Implementation



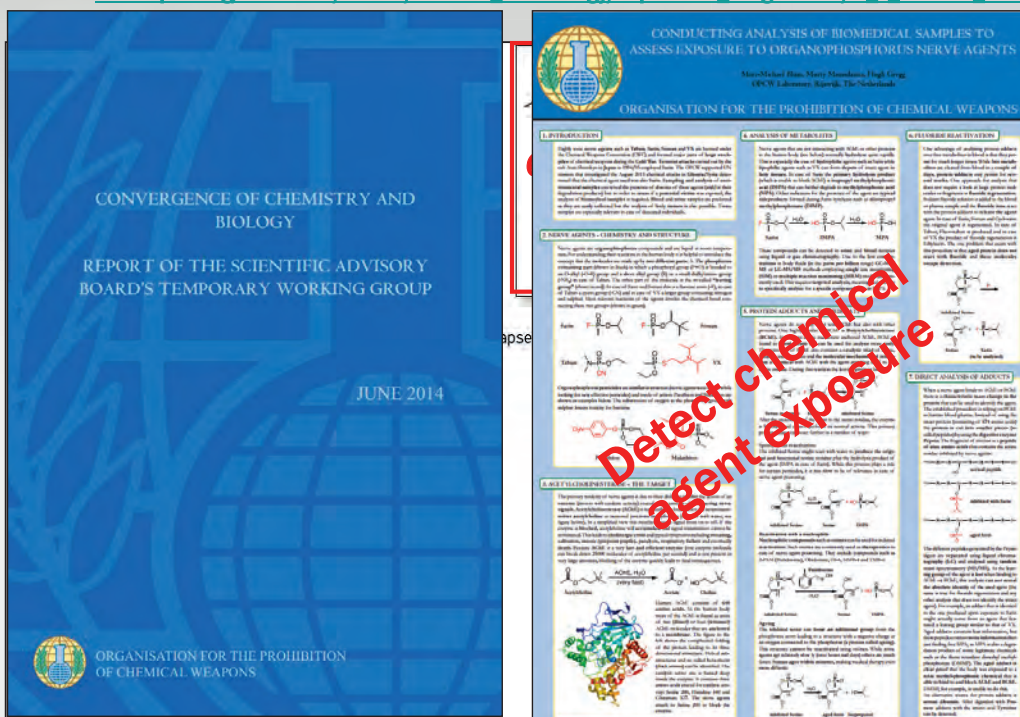
## Medical Countermeasures: Cross-Cutting S&T





## Medical Countermeasures: Cross-Cutting S&T

[www.opcw.org/fileadmin/OPCW/Science\\_Technology/Diplomats\\_Programme/S\\_T\\_Biomed\\_Analysis\\_Poster.pdf](http://www.opcw.org/fileadmin/OPCW/Science_Technology/Diplomats_Programme/S_T_Biomed_Analysis_Poster.pdf)



[www.opcw.org/fileadmin/OPCW/SAB/en/TWG\\_Scientific\\_Advisory\\_Group\\_Final\\_Report.pdf](http://www.opcw.org/fileadmin/OPCW/SAB/en/TWG_Scientific_Advisory_Group_Final_Report.pdf)

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## Presentation by Professor Slavica Vučinić



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# Response to the DG's request to the SAB to provide further advice on assistance and protection

## The Science of Medical Countermeasures

Slavica Vucinic  
Member of the SAB  
The Hague, 8 July 2015



## Overview

1. Executive summary
2. Nerve agents
3. Adjunct agents and new trends in the treatment of NA poisoning
4. Acknowledgement



## Executive summary

The Director-General requests the SAB to:

- identify best practices for preventing and treating the health effects that arise from acute, prolonged, and repeated organophosphorus (OP) nerve agent (NA) exposure; and
- identify any emerging medical countermeasures, intended for use at the point of exposure, that can reduce or eliminate longer term health effects arising from acute, prolonged, and repeated OP NA exposure.

This report addresses these questions and reviews current and promising developments in NA medical countermeasures.



## Nerve agents

- Organophosphorus (OP) nerve agents (NAs) are stable OP compounds. They are easily dispersed and highly toxic when inhaled or absorbed through skin. They are classified into G and V agents, but some are hybrid in structure, and are called GV agents.





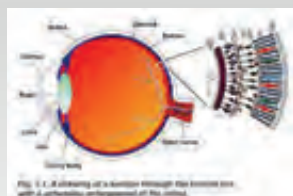
## Nerve agents

G agents		
GA	Tabun	<i>O-ethyl N,N-dimethylphosphoramidocyanidate</i>
GB	Sarin	<i>O-isopropyl methylphosphonofluoridate</i>
GD	Soman	<i>O-pinacolyl methylphosphonofluoridate</i>
GF	Cyclosarin	<i>O-cyclohexyl methylphosphonofluoridate</i>
V agents		
VE		<i>O-ethyl S-2-(diethylamino)ethyl ethylphosphonothiolate</i>
VM		<i>O-ethyl S-2-(diethylamino)ethyl methylphosphonothiolate</i>
VG	Amiton	<i>O-O-diethyl S-2-(diethylamino)ethylphosphorothiolate</i>
VR		<i>O-isobutyl S-2-(diethylamino)ethyl methylphosphonothiolate</i>
VX		<i>O-ethyl S-(diisopropylamino)ethyl methylphosphonothiolate</i>
GV agents		
GV		<i>2-(dimethylamino)ethyl N,N-dimethylphosphoramidofluoridate</i>



Psychological reactions always have an organic background.

### senses



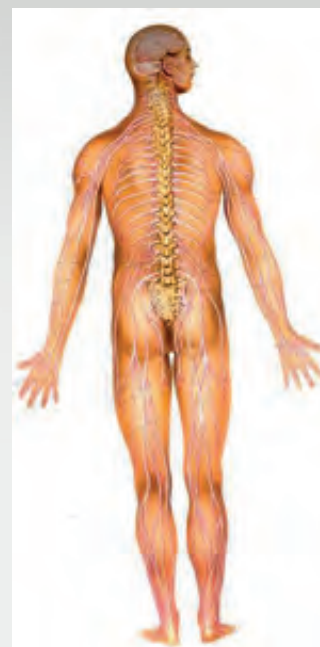
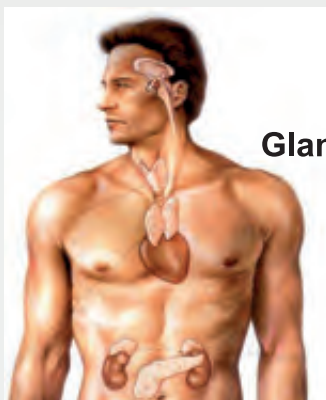
Nervous system is the organic base for psychological life. Every man has a couple of billions of neurons.

Senses, muscles and glands are important.

### muscles



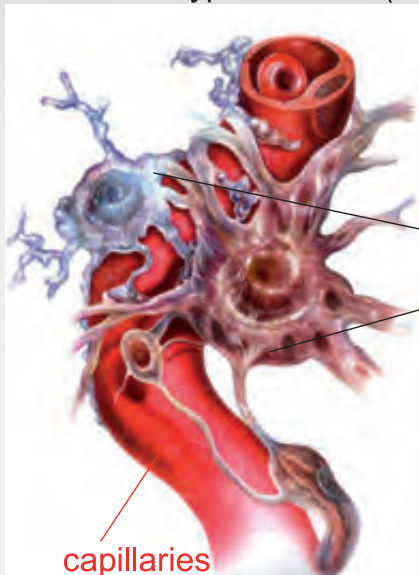
### Glands



### Nervous system

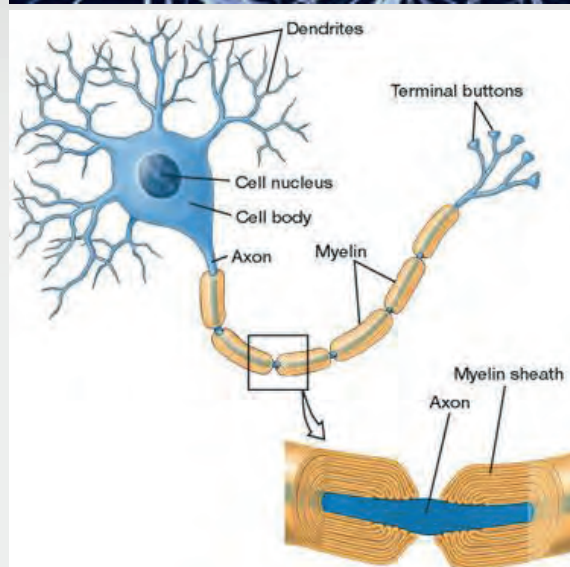


**Neuron** possesses a cell body (soma), dendrites and an axon. Generates and transmits the impulses between neurons and other types of cells (muscles, glands).



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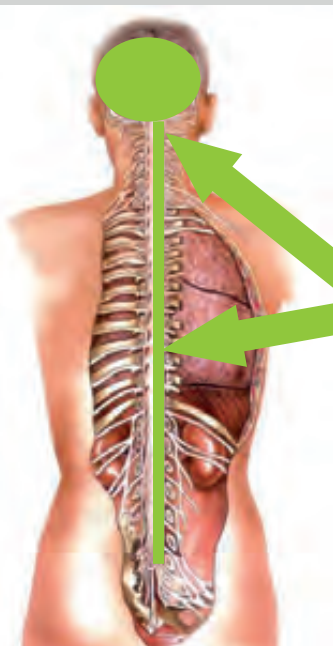
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## 1. Central nervous system

Brain and spinal cord



CNS

PNS

## 2. Perif. nervous system

Neurons outside the CNS, muscles, senses, organs



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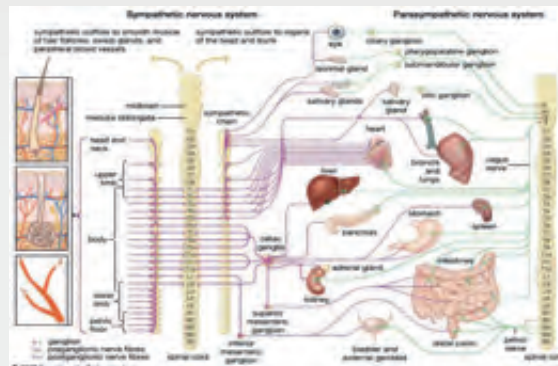
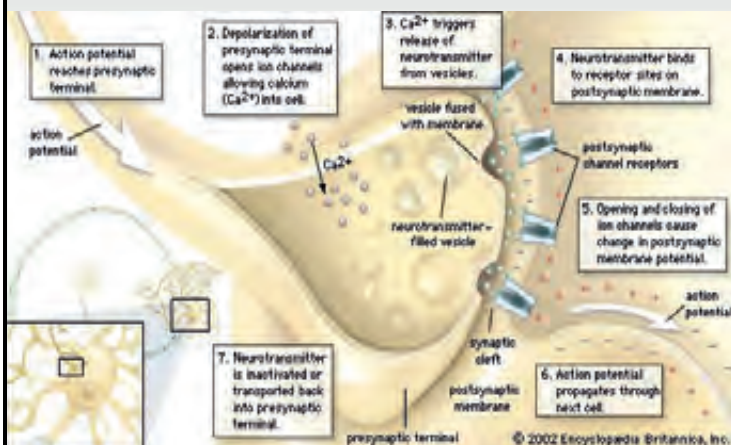


## ACh, AChE, Mechanism of OP NA

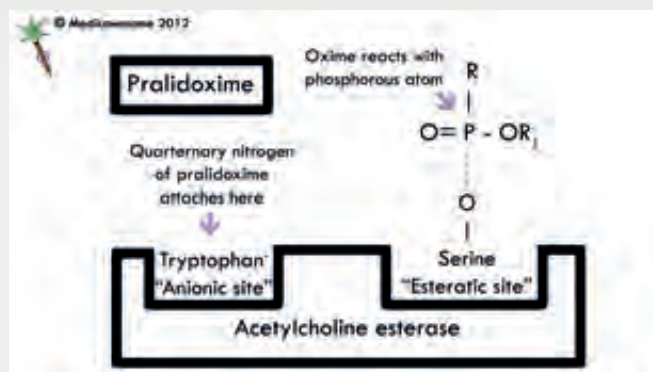
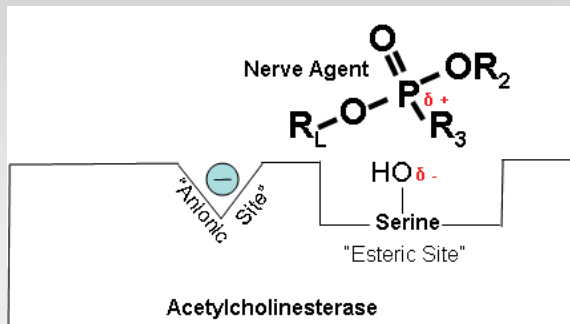
ACh functions in the PNS (activates muscles) and CNS (forms a cholinergic system with other neurons- inhibitory actions). Major NT in ANS.



Henry Hallett Dale, 1914, Otto Loewi 1936



## Nerve agent, acetylcholinesterase and oxime







SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS AFTER ACUTE INHALATION EXPOSURE TO NA	SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS AFTER ACUTE DERMAL EXPOSURE TO NA
<b>Low-dose with mild effects</b>	<b>Low-dose with mild effects</b>
Runny nose	Localized sweating at exposure site
Miosis (blurred vision)	Fine muscle fasciculations at exposure site
Conjunctival inflammation	Miosis not an early sign and may be absent
Bronchoconstriction (chest tightness)	
Mild bronchosecretion	
<b>Medium-dose with moderate effects</b>	<b>Medium-dose with moderate effects</b>
Shortness of breath	Nausea and vomiting
Coughing	Severe headache
Wheezing	Generalized fasciculation
Nausea and vomiting	Feelings of weakness
Fasciculation	BEWARE: No respiratory signs present yet
Generalized feelings of weakness	
<b>High-dose with severe effects</b>	<b>High-dose with severe effects</b>
Loss of consciousness	Sudden loss of consciousness
Seizures	Seizures
Flaccid paralysis	Flaccid paralysis
Apnea	Apnea
Death usually within minutes	Death

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From Crit. Care Med. 30 (2002)

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## Medical treatment of NA exposure

- Pretreatment and prophylaxis
- Post-exposure therapy







## Pretreatment

- Pretreatment - before poisoning, to increase the efficacy of treatment post-exposure. Carbamates, e.g. pyridostigmine, have the ability to carbamoylate AChE, preventing the OP inhibitor from binding.
- Pyridostigmine (30 mg/8 h) provides good protection against lethality within 2 h of the 1st dose, but is not optimal until the 3<sup>rd</sup> dose. To be stopped upon observation of NA poisoning symptoms and post exposure therapy started.
- Pretreatment for poisoning (tablets, sublingual or transcutaneous patch).



## Prophylaxis

- Administration of drugs before poisoning, designed to prevent poisoning.
- In the last decades, several topical skin protectants (TSP) have been produced (SERPACWA, AG7, IB1) but they have not always been fielded. They will increase the protection afforded by other protective equipment.
- Its purpose is to reduce or delay the absorption of CWA through the skin. However, effectiveness can only be expected when the TSP is applied prior to exposure.



## Post - exposure treatment

A therapeutic scheme for NA poisoning includes early decontamination, supportive measures and specific pharmacological treatment to achieve:

- muscarinic cholinergic blockade (atropine),
- enzyme reactivation (oximes),
- and anticonvulsant effect (benzodiazepines associated with other drugs in case of refractory seizures).



## Emergency field therapy



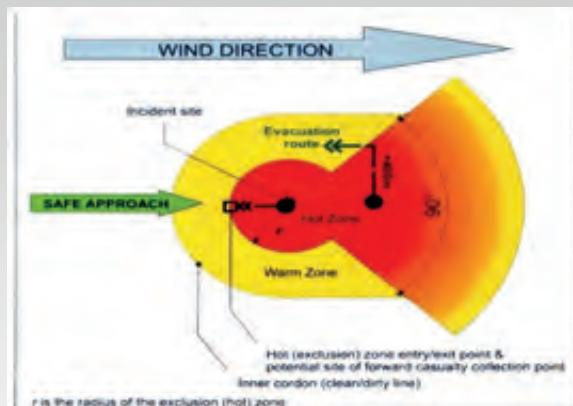
- Pralidoxime chloride (600 mg) and atropine (2 mg)
- Pralidoxime methylsulfate (350 mg), atropine (2 mg) and avizafone chlorhydrate (20 mg)
- Obidoxime chloride (220 mg) and atropine (2 mg)
- TMB-4 (80 mg) and atropine (2 mg)
- HI-6 dimethanesulfonate (750 mg), atropine (2 mg) and diazepam (10 mg)

Strategies using these autoinjectors depend on the country in which they are used.



## Hot Zone

- Responders should have received training and wear protective clothing before entering a Hot Zone.
- If PPE is unavailable, or rescuers have not been trained, a call for assistance should be made according to local Emergency Operational Guides (EOG).



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## First aid recommendations under field conditions

Treatment should be commenced immediately and the casualty given an antidote by self or buddy aid via autoinjectors:

- **MARK I kit:** Atropine (2 mg, 0.7 ml) and 2-PAM (600 mg)
- **AIBC Ineurope®:** Pralidoxime methylsulfate (350 mg), atropine (2 mg) and avizafone chlorhydrate (20 mg)
- **ATOX II:** Atropine (2 mg, 0.7 ml) and obidoxime (220 mg)
- **ATNAA:** Atropine (2 mg/0.7 ml) and 2-PAM (600 mg/2 ml); 1 needle injects both drugs
- **ATROPEN:** Atropine (2 mg, 0.7 ml). Each soldier must have 3 kits and 1 auto-injector with diazepam (10 mg) (if warned of NA attacks).
- Based on the severity of poisoning, I-III autoinjectors are applied.

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## Emergency medical treatment of NA poisoning

Symptoms and signs	Mark-1 Kit	Repeat dosing
Severe difficulties with breathing, apnea, cyanosis, muscle fasciculation or twitching, seizure, loss of consciousness	ABC (Maintain patent airway; assist breathing as needed, give oxygen, provide suction, restore normal cardiac rhythm) Administer Mark I Kit (3 times at 10-15 min intervals)	Diazepam autoinjector may be repeated 3 times every 10-15 min
Severe respiratory distress	Administer Mark I Kit (2 doses)	
Sweating, miosis, rhinorrhea, nausea, vomiting, anxiety	Administer Mark I Kit (1 dose)	
NOTE:	Monitor for symptoms every 10 min. Repeat atropine if needed	



## Civilian population

- Important differences between relatively well protected armed forces and civilians.
- Do not have PPE, and are not pretreated by PB. At least 30 min delay for administration of specific therapy.







## Atropine dosage after transfer to hospital

- Lower atropine doses needed.
- No established atropine dosage protocol.
- Individual titration of atropine dose.
- High concentration (100 mg/ml) or large volume ampules (10 or 20 mL) of 2 mg/mL atropine solutions are recommended for stockpiling.
- After initial hyper-atropinisation, 10-20% of a loading dose of atropine should be used in 5% glucose solution as a continuous infusion.



## Oxime treatment after transfer from the first line to hospitals

- Pralidoxime (30 mg/kg in 5% glucose solution i.v, followed by 8 mg/kg/h continuously, until clinical recovery, or 12 h after the last dose of atropine was given.
- Obidoxime is a more potent reactivator in the case of VX, sarin. Dosage: 8 mg/kg i.v initially, followed by 3 mg/kg/h (500 mg loading dose, followed by 750-1000 mg in a continuous infusion).





## Anticonvulsants

- Anticonvulsants (e.g. diazepam, lorazepam or midazolam) having a neuroprotective effect, should be administered as necessary.
- Diazepam should be injected i.m starting with a 10 mg dose (adjusting the frequency of later injections).
- Midazolam should replace diazepam in cases requiring urgent treatment.

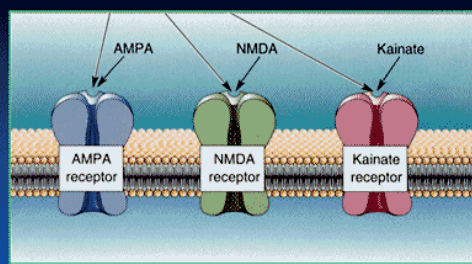


## Adjunct agents and new trends

### Gacyclidine

- A non-competitive antagonist with NMDA receptor neuroprotective properties.
- Prevents glutamate - induced neuronal death, enhances the neuroprotective activity of antidotes in soman poisoning (inhibits neuropathologic changes occurring 3 weeks after a soman challenge), and prevents convulsions.
- Unfortunately not anymore available – could be replaced by ketamine.

### Glutamate Receptors In Brain





## Adjunct agents and new trends

### Tezampanel

- A competitive antagonist of the AMPA and kainate sub-type receptor. It reduces the length of status epilepticus and neuropathy induced by soman (exp). The best results - 1 h after exposure.

### Ketamine

- Anaesthetic, a non-competitive antagonist of NMDA receptors. Experimentally confirmed to stop seizures and reduced related brain damage (1 h after exposure).
- Large clinical use world wide, should be considered for the treatment of NA - induced **refractory status epilepticus**.



## Adjunct agents and new trends

### Huperzine A

- NMDA receptor antagonist (prevents status epilepticus, reduces the severity of seizures), inhibits AChE reversibly, similar to donepezil, rivastigmine or galantamine. It is used to treat Alzheimer's disease and myasthenia gravis.

### Caramiphen

- Antimuscarinic drug with antiglutamergic and gaba-ergic properties. Therapeutic efficacy against OP-poisoning as a prophylactic and post-exposure (confirmed experimentally).



## Adjunct agents and new trends

### Galantamine

- Galantamine (GAL) inhibits AChE and potentiates ACh-induced currents in brain neurons, potentiates the activity of NMDA receptor.
- In contrast to pyridostigmine that inhibits BuChE also, it should help **preserve the scavenger capacity of plasma BuChE for OPs.**
- Experimentally confirmed (VX challenge) to reduce lethality, impairment of muscle tension, EEG changes.



## Adjunct agents and new trends

### Scopolamine

- Anticholinergic. No randomized controlled studies.

### Penehyclidine hydrochloride

- The anticholinergic agent used clinically for treating poisoning by OPs. Crosses the blood-brain barrier and antagonizes muscarinic and nicotinic receptors in the brain.
- Pauses ongoing seizures and has a better neuroprotective effect if administered soon after seizure onset in soman poisoning (experimentally). However compared to other drugs the body of evidence is smaller.





## Adjunct agents and new trends

### Sodium hydrogencarbonate and blood alkalinization

- To increase the hydrolysis of OP molecules *in vivo*, the effects of higher doses of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  (5 mEq/kg in 1 h, followed by 5 mEq/kg/day) were assessed.
- Increasing one unit of pH (accompanied by a 10-fold increase in OP hydrolysis, and alkalinization products of NAs).
- **Better control of cardiotoxicity, increased bio-availability of oximes, increased atropine activity, and/or a direct effect of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  on neuromuscular function. Not a standardized procedure so far.**



## Adjunct agents and new trends

### Magnesium sulfate

- The mechanism - inhibition of ACh release through blocking  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  channels in the CNS and at peripheral sympathetic and parasympathetic synapses.
- In acute OP poisoning - decreased mortality and reduced overstimulation of the CNS due to NMDA receptor activation.
- No side effects with doses of 4-16 g.
- **Insufficient evidence to recommend routine use in NA casualties.**



## Adjunct agents and new trends

### Antioxidants

- Possible additional mechanism for NA: induction of oxidative stress and generation of free oxygen radicals.
- Chronic toxicity studies have revealed an increased level of oxidative stress biomarkers as well as increased DNA damage.
- A beneficial effect of **vitamin E and N-acetyl-cysteine** has been shown (exp. studies).
- **Insufficient evidence to recommend routine use in NA casualties.**



## Adjunct agents and new trends

### Protective bioscavengers

- New medical treatment of NA exposure should provide reduced lethality, reverse toxicity following exposure, and help eliminate the need for further treatment.
- The need to start treatment within 1 min after exposure has prompted the development of pretreatment therapy, such as bioscavengers of different profile.



## Adjunct agents and new trends

**Bioscavengers** - enzymes or antibodies that sequester and neutralize toxic OP compounds before they reach their biological targets.

### Conditions:

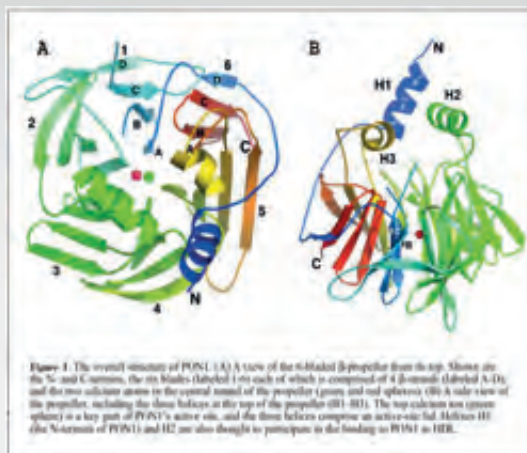
- a) broad spectrum vs different NAs and a rapid activity;
- b) suitable retention time in circulation (ideally **11-15 days**);
- c) be available in sufficient concentration to be effective;
- d) have no adverse immunogenic properties.
- e) be available at a reasonable cost



## Adjunct agents and new trends

### Bioscavengers:

- a) **Stoichiometric bioscavengers** - (ChEs), especially BChE, and carboxylesterases (CaEs) react stoichiometrically with OP compounds (1 mole of enzyme neutralizes 1 mole of OP, inactivating it).
- b) **“Pseudo catalytic bioscavengers”** that combine AChE (that has scavenging properties and binds NA) and oxime (that acts as a pseudocatalytic bioscavenger reactivating ChE) and thus restore AChE function;
- c) **Catalytic bioscavengers** (OP hydrolase, OP anhydrase, and paraoxonase (PON) that trap and degrade neurotoxic OP compounds rendering them non-toxic.





## Adjunct agents and new trends

- pHuBChE has scavenging properties against different NAs (soman, sarin, VX).
- Advantages for human use: rapid reaction with a broad spectrum of OPs, a good retention time in circulation, and no immunogenic activity.
- Methods for mass production of pHuBChE: **purification of the enzyme from human plasma**, recombinant HuBChE (rHuBChE) **produced in the milk of transgenic goats** ('Protexia') developed by Nexia.
- Possible sources of **rHuBChE** are transgenic plants, transgenic animals, adenovirus or algae, and it can be derived in cell-lines.



## Adjunct agents and new trends

- Fresh frozen plasma (FFP) is a blood fraction prepared by removing the cellular components by apheresis.
- It contains clotting factors, proteins, and enzymes.
- It is hypothesised that in OP poisoning BuChE from FFP will sequester the poison present in blood and remove it from circulation.
- **No general agreement about the routine use for the treatment of exposure to OP compounds.**







## Methods for decontamination

Methods of decontamination of CW agents: (i) mechanical, (ii) physical, and (iii) chemical. They were presented last year by SAB members (*OPCW Today*, Vol. 3, No. 1, Aug 2014).

### Oxidiser gels

- To detoxify NA, a formulation with a adsorbent (e.g. silica, alumina or alumino-silicate clays) and oxidising agent (aqueous sodium hypochlorite) can be prepared and applied at the site of decontamination. **Suitable for field implementation.**

### Bacterial phosphotriesterase

- Phosphotriesterase (PTE) is an enzyme isolated from the bacterium *Pseudomonas diminuta*. Modified by biotechnological processes, engineered PTE enzymes are useful for detoxification of NA **in vivo.**



## Methods for decontamination

### Nanosized metal oxides as CWA decontaminants

- Nanosized metal oxide aerogels ( $\text{MgO}$ ,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  and  $\text{CaO}$ ) (with a high surface area, potent adsorbent properties and reactivity towards NAs) are promising sorbent materials for removing NAs from **contaminated surfaces** and degrading them *in situ*, leading to non-toxic products.

### Future trends

- Formulations have to be user and eco-friendly,
- Without corrosive properties,
- Stable active ingredients.
- Nanoporous materials,
- Nanosized metal oxide aerogels



## Methods for decontamination

- TSP (RSDL)
- Intended to remove or neutralize CWAs (GA; GB; GD; GF; VX; HD), T-2 toxin and many pesticides.
- Originally developed by Canadian Department of National Defense, adopted by several military services around the world.
- FDA has approved use thereof in 21 and 42 mL packets.
- **EXTERNAL USE ONLY, CONTACT WITH EYES AND MUCOUS MEMBRANES SHOULD BE AVOIDED!**



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Report from the 22nd SAB

08. July 2015.



## Identify best practices for preventing and treating the health effects that arise from acute, prolonged and repeated NA exposure

- In the case of NA exposure, it is necessary to administer the adequate antidotal treatment:
  - **the reactivator of NA** - inhibited AChE,
  - **the anticholinergic drug** to counteract the overstimulation of peripheral and central cholinergic muscarinic receptors, and
  - **the anticonvulsive drug** to prevent centrally mediated seizures and subsequent tonic - clonic convulsions.
- Treatment must continue as long as NA - induced clinical and laboratory signs and symptoms are visible.

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Report from the 22nd SAB

08. July 2015.



### Identify best practices for preventing and treating the health effects that arise from acute, prolonged and repeated NA exposure

- In the case of repeated NA exposure, each exposure must be treated **in the same way as the first exposure** using adequate antidotes and supportive symptomatic drugs.
- Humans can be more sensitive to acute toxicity of NAs in the case of repeated exposure (lower activity of AChE due to previous NA exposures).
- The prognosis of repeated exposure to NA is more severe and the antidotal and supportive treatment must be as intensive as possible.



### Identify any emerging medical countermeasures, intended for use at the point of exposure that can reduce or eliminate longer term health effects arising from acute, prolonged and repeated NA exposure

- To reduce or eliminate longer term health effects - treat correctly acute cholinergic crisis.
- Delayed and prolonged effects of NA are mostly caused by damage to the CNS through centrally - mediated seizures.
- To prevent seizures, it is necessary to **prevent prolonged stimulation of muscarinic receptors by a centrally - acting anticholinergic drug and an anticonvulsive drug.**
- If longer term health effects (especially neurological, including symptoms such as increased excitability and a deficit of cognitive function) emerge **symptomatic and supportive treatment should be recommended in this situation.**



## The role of prophylactic antidotes against NAs

- Prophylactic antidotes should increase the:
- **Resistance of the organism against acute toxicity of NAs**
- **Efficacy of post-exposure antidotal treatment of NA poisoning**
- Prophylactic antidotes to NAs should be administered in response to the threat of exposure to NAs. Generally, the combination of pre-treatment and post - exposure adequate antidote treatment increases the probability of avoiding the delayed and prolonged effects of NAs.



## The role of prophylactic antidotes against NA

- Pyridostigmine drawbacks: limited dosage (due to adverse effects), it cannot penetrate the blood-brain barrier.
- A combined oral prophylaxis called PANPAL was developed in the Czech Republic. It consists of **pyridostigmine** and two centrally-acting anticholinergic drugs (**benactyzine and trihexyphenidyl**).
- Higher efficacy than pyridostigmine alone to avoid or diminish the acute toxicity and to prevent delayed and long-lasting health effects from acute, prolonged and repeated exposure to NA.
- **Clinical approval from the FDA and EMA would be necessary prior a general recommendation.**





## The role of prophylactic antidotes against NA

- Another approach is to administer reactivators of NA - inhibited AChE in advance.
- A special prophylactic antidote called TRANSANT (involving the **oxime HI-6**) was developed and introduced into the Czech Army.
- The combination of both prophylactic antidotal means (PANPAL and TRANSANT) represents an effective prevention, increases the resistance of humans and prevents centrally - mediated seizures as well as subsequent delayed and prolonged health effects from acute, prolonged and repeated exposure to NA.
- **Clinical approval of the FDA and EMA would be necessary prior a general recommendation.**



## The role of prophylactic antidotes against NA

- Recent alternative approach to the development of prophylaxis - **bioscavengers** able to bind or hydrolyse NA before they reach the biological target.
- Valuable, but until now has not been prepared for clinical use.
- However, it represents a promising approach to preventing the longer term health effects arising from acute, prolonged and repeated NA exposure.



## Acknowledgements

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Christopher Timperley PhD,  
Augustin Baulig PhD,  
Prof. Roberto Martinez PhD,  
Cheng Tang



## Chemical Agents and Their Countermeasures

**Blister Agents and their Countermeasures**

Examples of stockpiled blister agents:

- Sulfur Mustard (HD)
- Nitrogen Mustard

**Effects of sulfur mustard**

DNA Alkylation

Choking of the airways

Countermeasures including supportive measures:

- Sodium Thiosulfate
- Reactive Skin Decontamination Solution (RSDS)
- BAL (British Anti-Lewisite)
- DMPS
- DMPS-Sodium Salt
- Tissue plasminogen activator (tPA)
- Sodium Hypochlorite

**Blood Agents and their Countermeasures**

Examples of stockpiled blood agents:

- Cyanogen Chloride (CN-Cl)
- Cyanogen Bromide (CN-Br)
- Cyanogen Iodide (CN-I)

**Choking Agents and their Countermeasures**

Examples of stockpiled choking agents:

- Chlorine (Cl-Cl)
- Phosgene (COCl<sub>2</sub>)

**Organophosphorus (OP) Nerve Agents and their Countermeasures**

Examples of stockpiled nerve agents:

- VX
- Tabun (GB)
- Sarin (GB)
- Cyclosarin (CP)

**Mechanisms**

OP agents inhibit the action of acetylcholinesterase (AChE), leading to accumulation of acetylcholine (ACh) at the nerve terminal. This causes overstimulation of the nerve, leading to paralysis and death.

**Countermeasures**

OP agents are highly toxic and require immediate medical attention. Countermeasures include decontamination, supportive care, and specific antidotes such as atropine and oximes.

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## Science and Technology Awareness and Communication

**The OPCW Science & Technology Monitor**  
A sampling of Science & Technology Relevant to the Chemical Weapons Convention

1 June 2015

**In This Issue**

- Medical Countermeasures
- Chemical Forensics
- OPCW Research Projects Support Programme
- Featured content

**Welcome**

Welcome to the OPCW Science and Technology Monitor, an occasional bulletin to provide updates on developments in science and technology across a broad spectrum of topics relevant to the CWC. Past issues are available from the [Science and Technology section of the OPCW website](#).

Thanks to all of you who have taken our survey. For those who have not yet responded, the survey is still open ([click here](#)). There are only six questions, all easier than the puzzle (we promise) and all responses are anonymous. Your feedback is highly appreciated!

Today marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the 1990 Chemical Weapons Convention by the United States of America and the Soviet Union. This agreement, which pre-dated the CWC, marks one of many steps taken in the journey toward a world free of chemical weapons. Steps taken in chemical disarmament have been supported by the science of chemistry itself: a scientific field that provides opportunities for international collaborations and brings forth new developments with peaceful economic and technological benefits. As we move into the future, we look forward to a wealth of new discoveries from the evolving scientific field.

**The S&T Puzzle**

We once again congratulate our colleagues at the CTBTO, whose entry correctly recognized four of the top five spoken words of the Director-General in the eight statements delivered from 22 January to 22 April 2015 (in case you were wondering, they missed "States"). The prize for best visualization of the words of the Director-General, however, goes unclaimed as no submissions (except our own, below) were received. Puzzle statistics now stand at: VER 4, OSP 2, OCS 1, INS 1 and CTBTO 3.

**Image from DuPont**  
Medical countermeasures at work in a synthesis

**Fingerprinting chemicals**

**Image from Fiat Ono, 2012, Nov. 8, 2011**  
Drug discovery research in OPCW supported Research Project

**Chemical weapons convention**

For this edition of the puzzle, we look at the multiple uses of a cup of coffee. Can you tell us the identity and LD<sub>50</sub> (the median lethal dose) of the most abundant chemical in the cup: the *molecule* (of) caffeine (molecule above); and the LD<sub>50</sub> of coffee itself? To keep this simple, assume this coffee is made with *Arabica beans* and brewed by a certified procedure (for



S&T Monitor, September 2014 - 2  
S&T Monitor, September 2014 - 1

Date	
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## S & T For Diplomats: A Series of Discussions

- 6 October 2015 (On the margins of EC-80)
  - **S&T for Diplomats (6): Data Analytics and The CWC: An Introduction to OCPF Site Selection Methodology**
    - The “nuts and bolts” of OCPF site selection methodology
- December 2015 (On the margins of CSP-20, To be confirmed)
  - **S&T for Diplomats (7): Topic To Be Determined**
    - *S&T topic considered in the TWG on Verification Report*
- **For more information on S&T from OPCW**

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# SCIENCE FOR DIPLOMATS

## DATA ANALYTICS AND THE CWC: AN INTRODUCTION TO OCPF SITE SELECTION METHODOLOGY

**Tuesday 6 October 2015**

**13:30 - 15:00**

**Ooms Room**

**Light lunch available at 13:00**

$$\text{A15 Value} = N^{1.5} \times M \times G \times P \times A$$



ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION  
OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS



**Murat Gulay**  
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**SCIENCE FOR DIPLOMATS**

**DATA ANALYTICS AND THE CWC: AN  
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A15 Value =  $N^{1/3} \times M \times G \times P \times A$

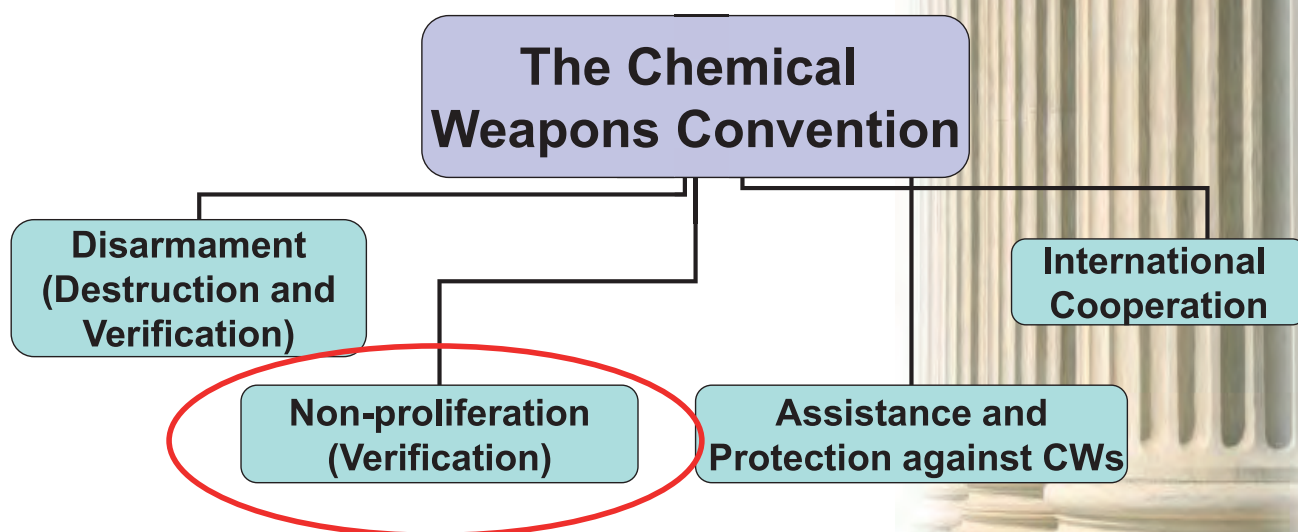
 ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION  
OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

**Jonathan E. Forman, Ph.D.**  
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## Treaty Implementation







ORGANISATION FOR THE  
PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

*Working together for a world free of chemical weapons*

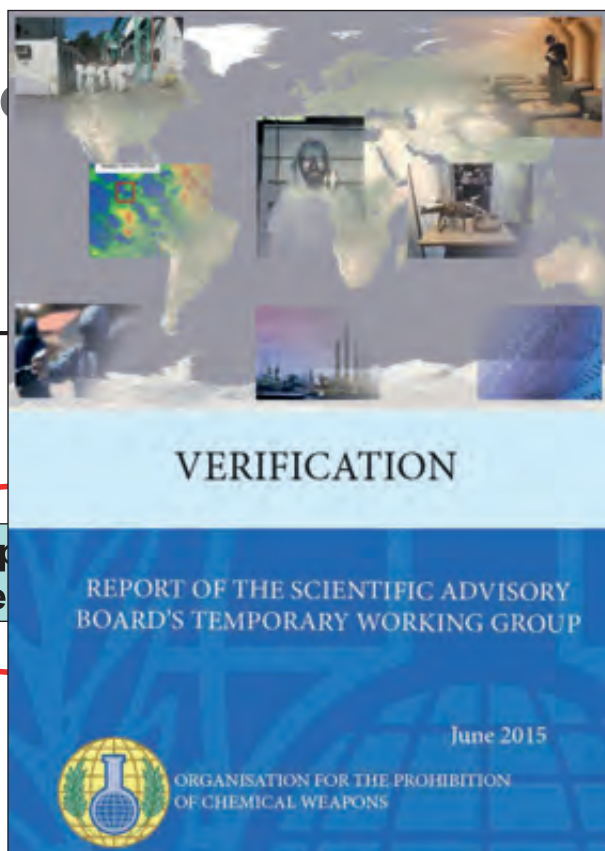
## Treaty Implem

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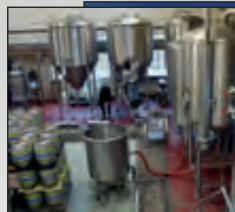
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ORGANISATION FOR THE  
PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

*Working together for a world free of chemical weapons*

## The Many Faces of Chemical Production





## EC-80/DG.7 (28 August 2015)

Action to implement the recommendations made by the SAB in its report on Verification

[https://www.opcw.org/fileadmin/OPCW/SAB/en/ec80dg07\\_e\\_.pdf](https://www.opcw.org/fileadmin/OPCW/SAB/en/ec80dg07_e_.pdf)

Recommendation from the SAB	Implementation	Expected outcomes/results
<b>Recommendation 9:</b> Not all facilities that fall under Part IX of the Verification Annex should be considered of the same relevance to the object and purpose of the Convention. The TWG recommends a practical approach for enhancing the utilisation of verification resources for OCPF declaration and on-site inspection processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• See (a), (b) and (c) below.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• More effective verification.</li><li>• Continued strong support from the global chemical industry for sound and proportionate implementation of the CWC.</li><li>• Adaptation of the verification regime in line with developments in the chemical industry.</li></ul>
<b>Recommendation 9a:</b> The OPCW policy-making organs should exempt certain OCPFs from declaration requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>Industry cluster</u>: Discussion based on Secretariat proposal.</li><li>• <u>Executive Council</u>: Decision.</li></ul>	
<b>Recommendation 9b:</b> The Secretariat should reassess which product group codes are highly relevant to the Convention. Facilities declared with these product group codes should be subject to a higher probability to be selected for inspection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>Secretariat</u>: Review the performance of the site-selection methodology.</li><li>• <u>Industry cluster</u>: Potential discussion depending on Secretariat review.</li></ul>	
<b>Recommendation 9c:</b> For facilities in product group codes that are considered less relevant, the Secretariat should identify appropriate mechanisms to augment the declared information with validated and credible sources to allow for an assessment regarding the need for on-site inspection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>Secretariat</u>: The review and potential discussion on implementation of recommendation 9(b) will inform Secretariat guidance to States Parties and Secretariat action.</li><li>• Action to implement recommendations 1, 2 and 3 will also be relevant.</li></ul>	

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## Presentation by Murat Gulay

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# **Data Analytics and the CWC: An Introduction to OCPF Site Selection Methodology**

**Science for Diplomats  
6 October 2015**

**Murat Gülay  
Verification Division**



## **Background**



## Activities not Prohibited in the CWC

- CWC Article VI, paragraph 2
  - Each State Party ..... shall subject .....to verification measures as provided in the Verification Annex.
- Verification Annex
  - Part VI. (Schedule 1 chemicals and facilities)
  - Part VII. (Schedule 2 chemicals and facilities)
  - Part VIII. (Schedule 3 chemicals and facilities)
  - **Part IX. (Other Chemical Production facilities)**

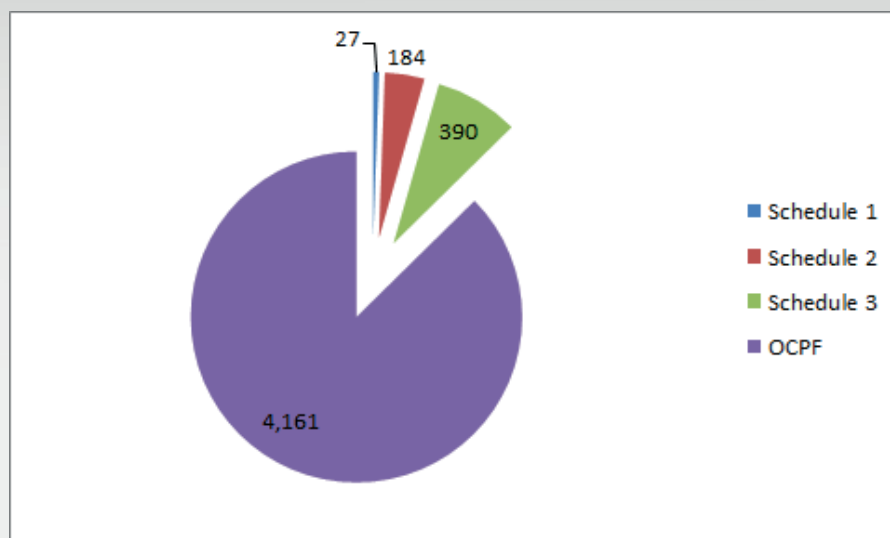


## Summary of Article VI Inspection Process

- Submission of declarations by the States Parties as per relevant part of the Verification Annex
- Selection of facilities for inspection (those above the verification threshold)
- Annual budget approved by the CSP with number of Article VI inspections
- Planning of the actual inspections for the selected sites
- Conduct of the budgeted number of inspections



## Inspectable Facilities/Plant Sites (as at 30 September 2015)



## Annual Budget

- Annual budget approved by CSP specifies:
  - Overall number of Article VI inspections
  - Breakdown (for 2015)

SCHEDULE 1	11
SCHEDULE 2	42
SCHEDULE 3	19
OCPF	169
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>241</b>



## **Policy guidelines on Number of Article VI inspections** **(EC-66/Dec.10, 7 October 2011)**

- Inspectable scheduled and unscheduled Article VI facilities which have not received yet inspections, should be given priority.
- Length of time between two Article VI inspections in any SP should not exceed approximately 8 years.
- At least 50%, and if possible 60%, of SPs that have declared inspectable Article VI facilities should receive at least one Article VI inspection each in any one year.



## **Mixed plant sites selection**

- Objective is to reduce probability of re-inspection at Schedule 3 and OCPF mixed plant sites already inspected under another Article VI regime
- A Schedule 3 or OCPF mixed plant site already inspected under another Article VI regime but not yet inspected under Part VIII or IX of VA will be considered as inspected for the purpose of the random selection
- All OCPF and Schedule 3 plant sites with activities above verification threshold continue to be eligible to receive inspections





## OCPF Site Selection Methodology

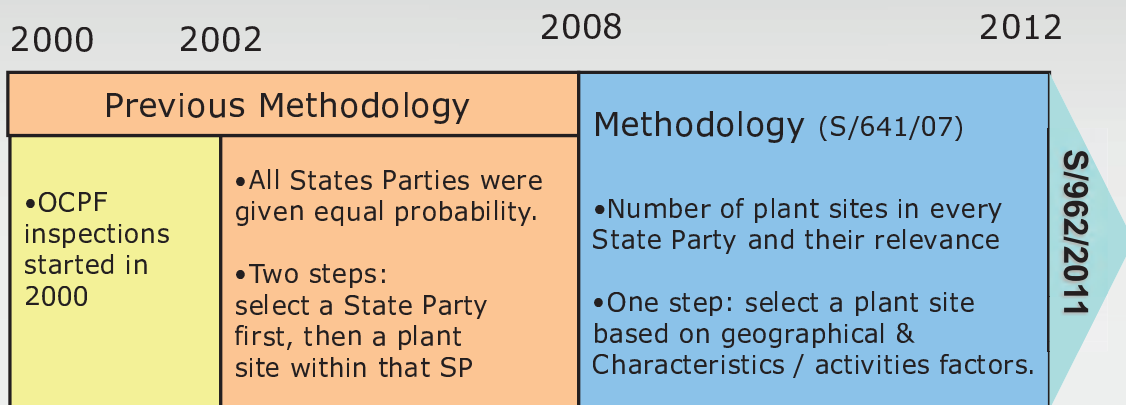


## Current Selection Methodology

- Selection of OCPF plant sites for inspection
  - S/641 methodology between 2008-2011
  - S/962 methodology from 2012 onwards
- Objective of improvements to the interim site-selection methodology (S/962) to achieve better “targeting” of OCPF inspections
- Secretariat to report annually on the performance of the interim site-selection methodology
  - Latest report: S/1240/2015, dated 6 February 2015



## Evolution of the Selection Methodology



## Current Selection Methodology

- Combined contributions from equitable geographical distribution and information available to the TS.
- Use of multiple selection pools:
  - three pools for never inspected plant sites for each State Party (Pool A, B & C)
  - the respective pools for each State Party combined into three overall pools (Pool A, B & C)
  - one additional pool for previously inspected plant sites (Pool D)
- Random selection of 20% of the total number of budgeted OCPF inspections for subsequent inspections in 2015.
- Of the remaining OCPF inspections, random selection of 85% OCPF plant sites from pool A, 10% from pool B and 5% from pool C.



## Current Selection Methodology

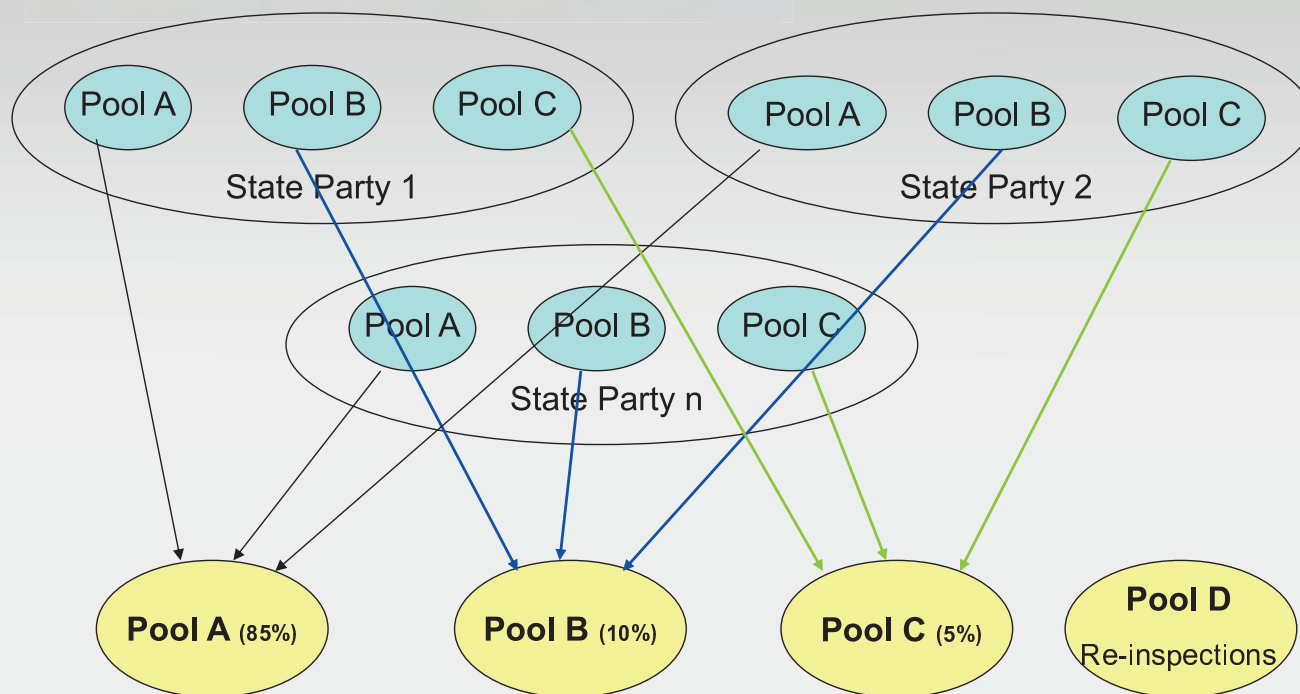
### ■ The A15 Algorithm

$$A15 = N^{1.5} \times M \times G \times P \times A$$

- N: number of DOC plants (including PSF plants)
- M: production range
- G: Main activities (product group codes)
- P: PSF plant or not
- A: Occurrence of the previous inspection



## Current Selection Methodology





## Selection Process



## Data Quality

- Routine data quality checks
- Quality of declaration data
  - Complete, accurate, timely declarations
  - Updates of information (e.g. amendments) regarding OCPFs
  - Follow-ups and clarification regarding declared data
- Quality of inspection data
  - Update of inspection data in the Verification Information System (VIS)
  - Analysis for mixed plant sites





## Simulations and Official Selection

- Several rounds of simulations for the selection
- Analysis of the results
  - Pool distribution
  - Geographical distribution
- Further clarifications with the respective VER units
- Correction of data, if necessary
- Freeze of data and updates to the system
- Execution of the computer program which implements the current selection methodology by the DG
- Hand over of the official selection report to the Industry Verification Branch



## Results

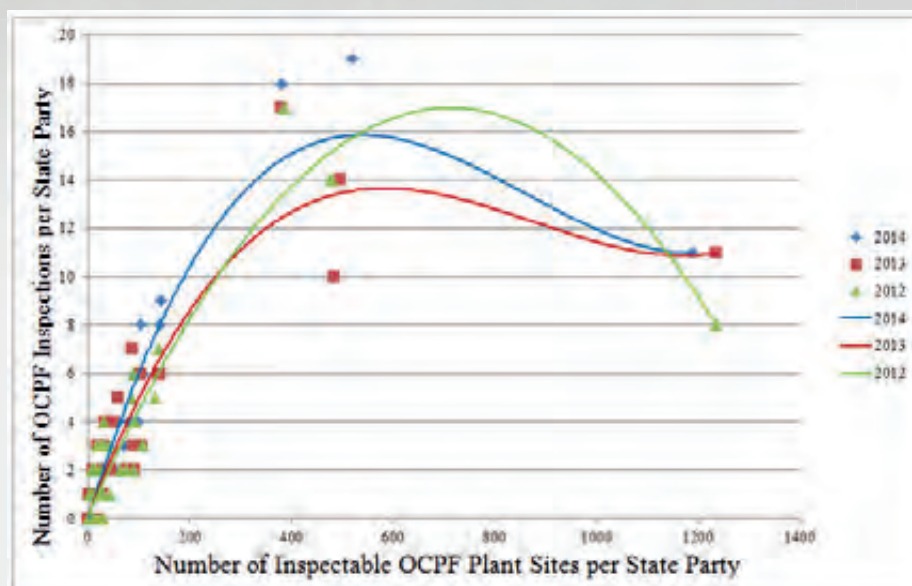


## Selection of OCPF Sites for 2015 inspections

- Number of inspectable sites: **4278**
- Approved number of inspections for 2015: **169**
  - 135 Initial Inspections
  - 34 subsequent inspections @ **20 %**

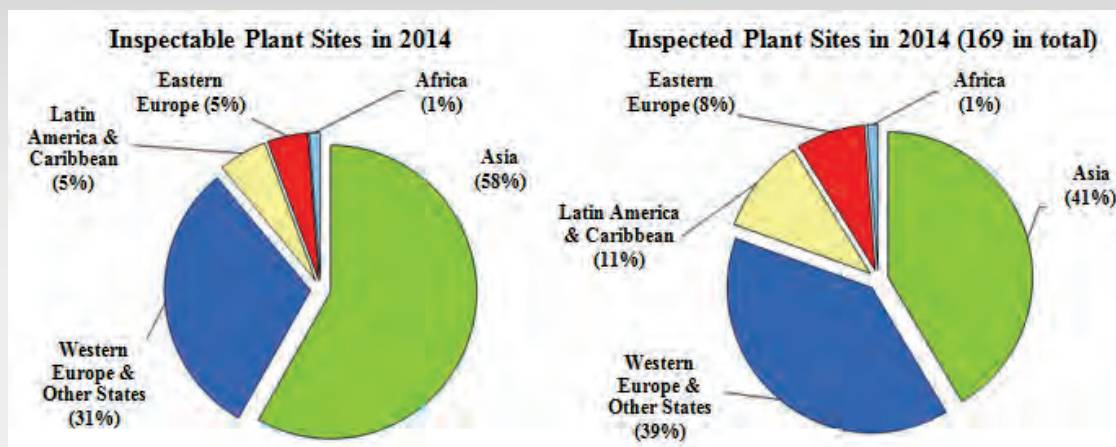


- Number of OCPF inspections per State Party against the total number of inspectable OCPF plant sites (2012 - 2014)

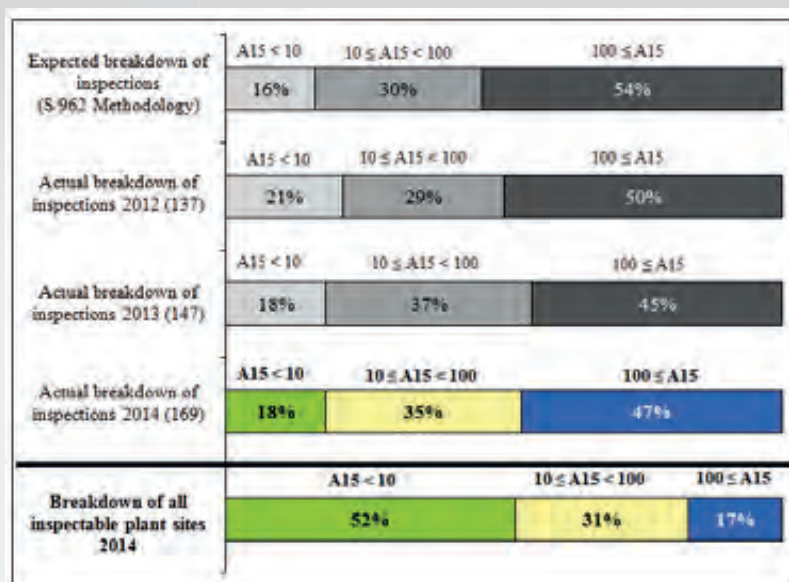




- **Comparison of the regional distribution of plant sites and inspections (as at 6 November 2014)**

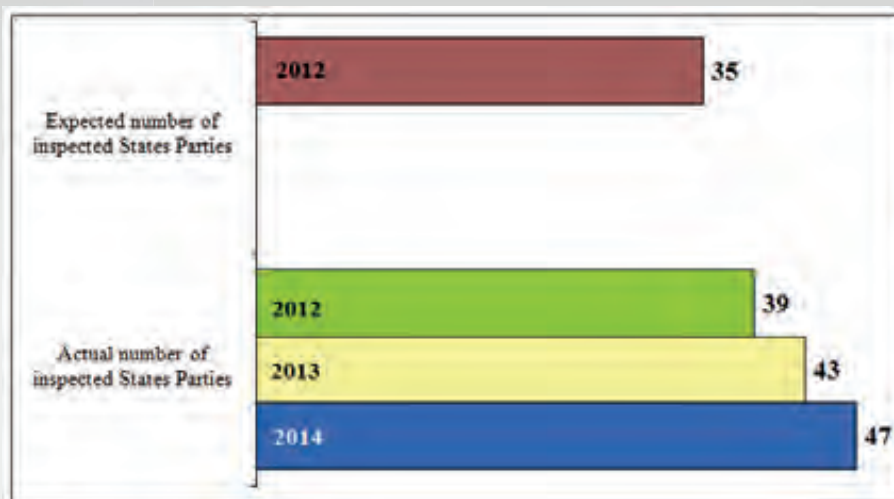


- **Relative share of inspections according to the relevance of OCPF plant sites**





## ■ Coverage of the States Parties selected to receive OCPF inspections



## Key Results

- The methodology takes into account both the number and the relevance of plant sites declared
- The number of inspections conducted in each SP is positively correlated with the number of declared OCPF plant sites in that SP
- The methodology continues to result in more inspections in highly relevant sites
- There is a continued increase in the number of State Parties receiving inspections
- **Conclusion:** The selection process using the S/962 methodology continues to achieve the goals set forth to better target OCPF inspections





## Reference Documents

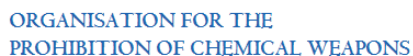


## Reference Documents

- Initiative by the DG on a methodology for the OCPF for inspection (S/962/2011, dated 8 September 2011)
- Initiative by the DG on a Methodology for the OCPF for Inspection (S/641/2007, dated 25 May 2007 and Corr.1, dated 4 June 2007)
- Report on the performance of the revised methodology for the selection of OCPF for inspection (S/1240/2015, dated 6 February 2015)
- Alternative approach to verification at mixed plant sites (S/1202/2014, 23 July 2014)
- Report of the co-facilitators for the consultation on the site-selection methodology for OCPF (EC-65/WP.1 , dated 10 June 2011)
- Report on the results of the implementation of policy guidelines for determining the number of Article VI inspections (EC-79/DG.4, dated 7 April 2015)



**Thank you for your attention.  
Questions ?**

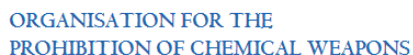


## Science and Technology: Awareness and Communication



[www.opcw.org](http://www.opcw.org)

[www.opcw.org/special-sections/science-technology/](http://www.opcw.org/special-sections/science-technology/)



## Science and Technology For Diplomats

### Upcoming Events

- 2 December 2015 (On the margins of CSP-20, To be confirmed)
  - **S&T for Diplomats (7): Chemical Forensics**
    - An introduction to the field and its applications
- March 2016 (On the margins of EC-81, To be confirmed)
  - **S&T for Diplomats (8): Topic To Be Determined**
- **For more information on S&T from OPCW**

[www.opcw.org/special-sections/science-technology/](http://www.opcw.org/special-sections/science-technology/)





# Science For Diplomats at CSP-20

## Chemical Forensics

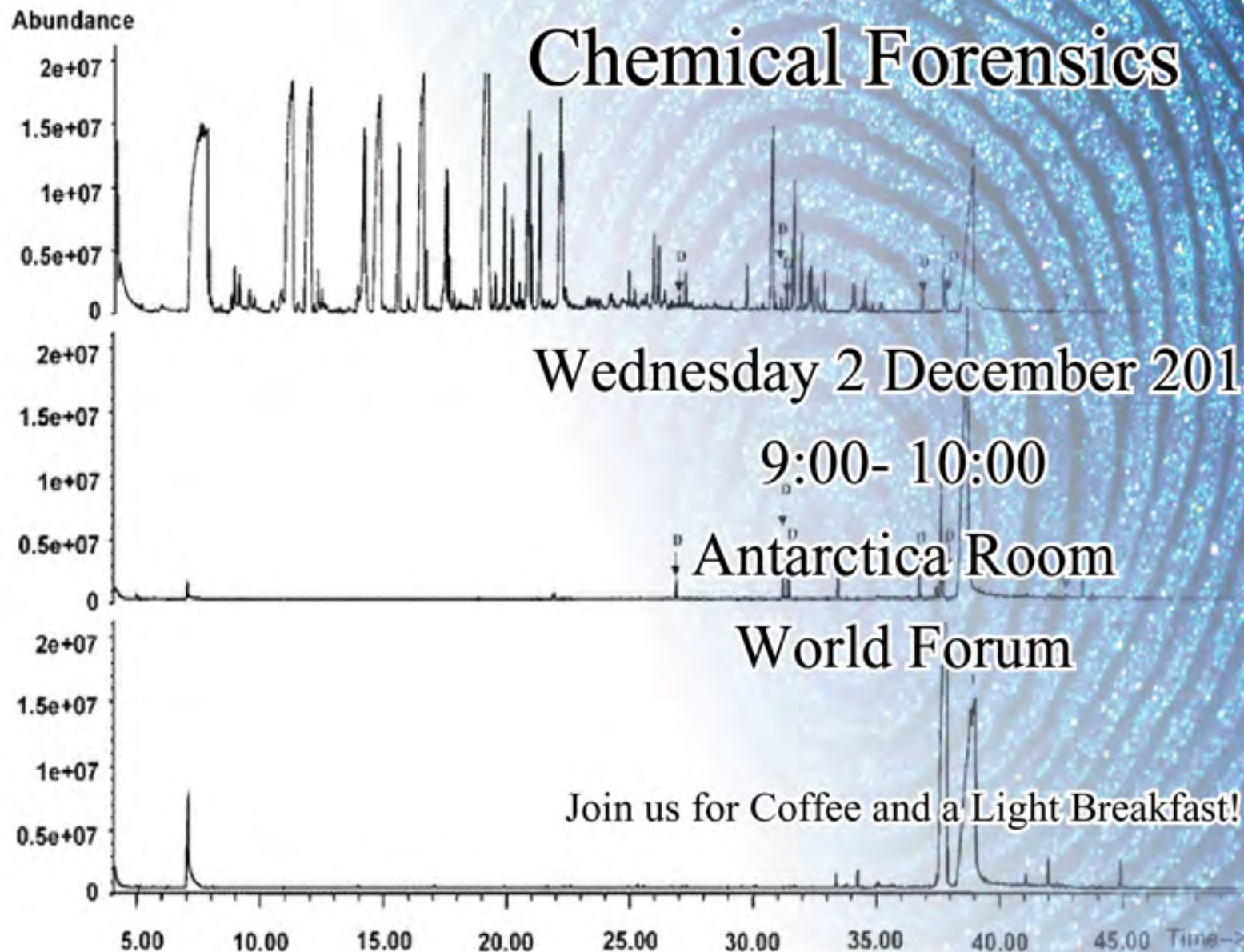
Wednesday 2 December 2015

9:00- 10:00

Antarctica Room

World Forum

Join us for Coffee and a Light Breakfast!



ORGANISATION FOR THE  
PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS





ORGANISATION FOR THE  
PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

*Working together for a world free of chemical weapons*

## Science For Diplomats at CSP-20

### Chemical Forensics

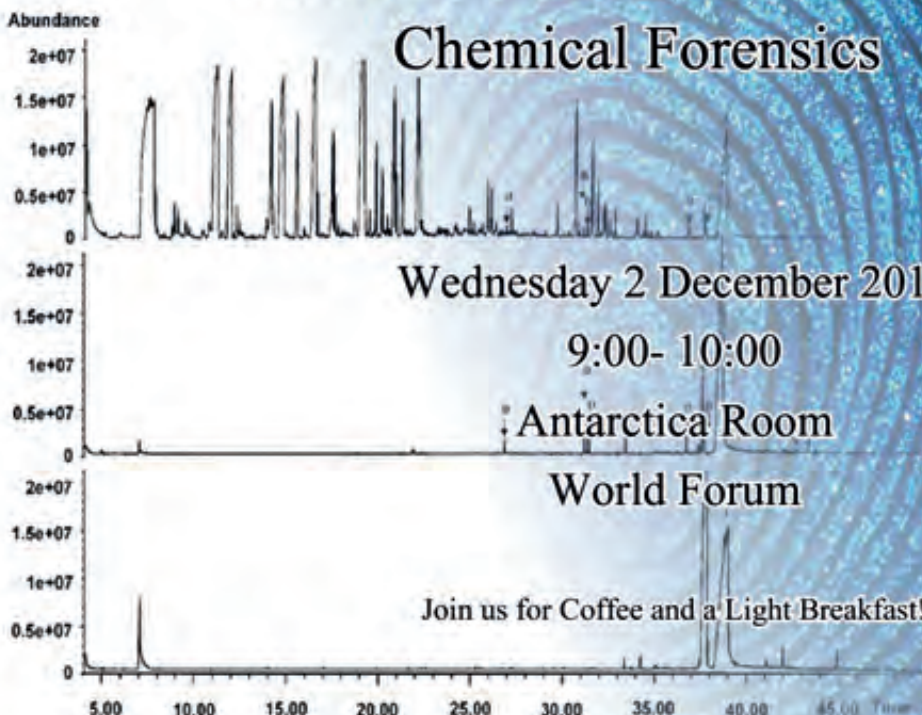
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**Professor Paula Vanninen**  
Director Verifin

**Jonathan E. Forman, Ph.D.**  
OPCW Science Policy Adviser  
[jonathan.forman@opcw.org](mailto:jonathan.forman@opcw.org)



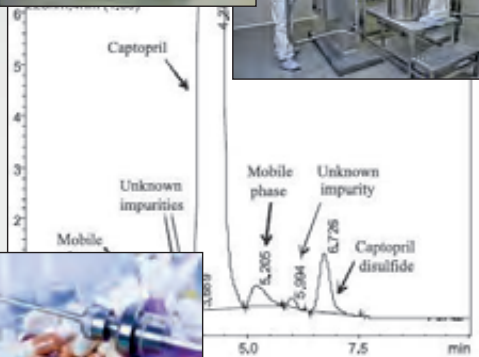
ORGANISATION FOR THE  
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ORGANISATION FOR THE  
PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

*Working together for a world free of chemical weapons*

## Chemical Fingerprinting



Stable isotopes: geographic origins, age

**Impurities:**

manufacturing processes  
process/handling conditions  
precursor batches





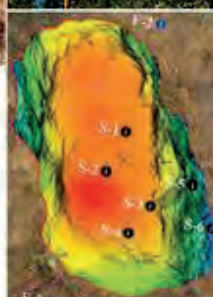
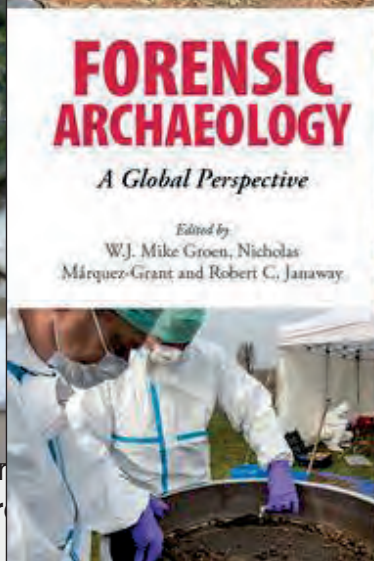
## Chemical Fingerprinting



manufacturing processes  
process/handling conditions  
precursor batches



## Chemical Fingerprinting

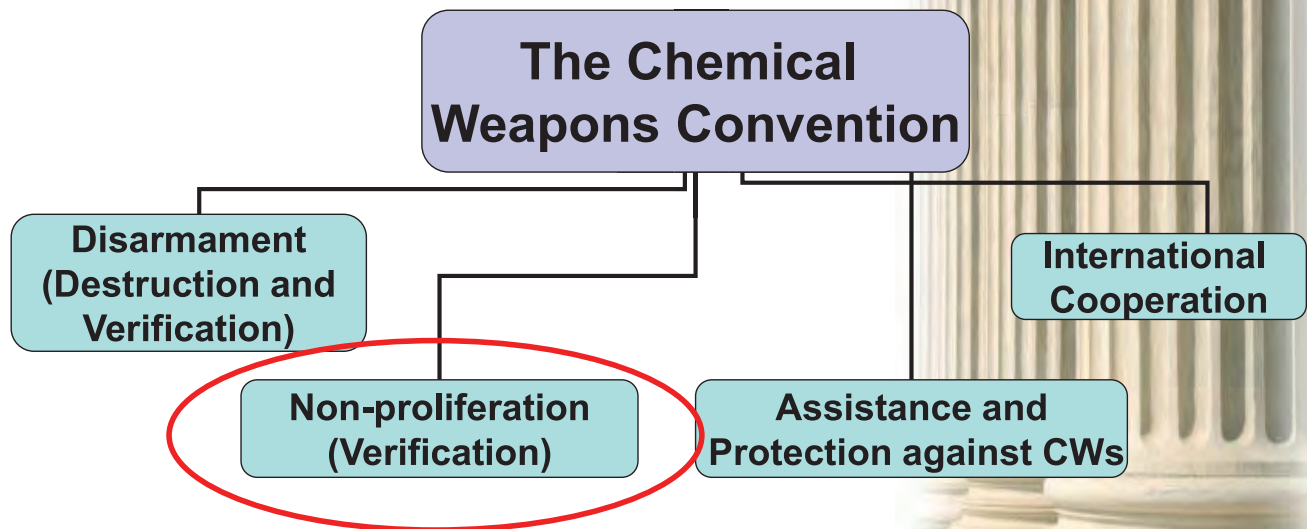


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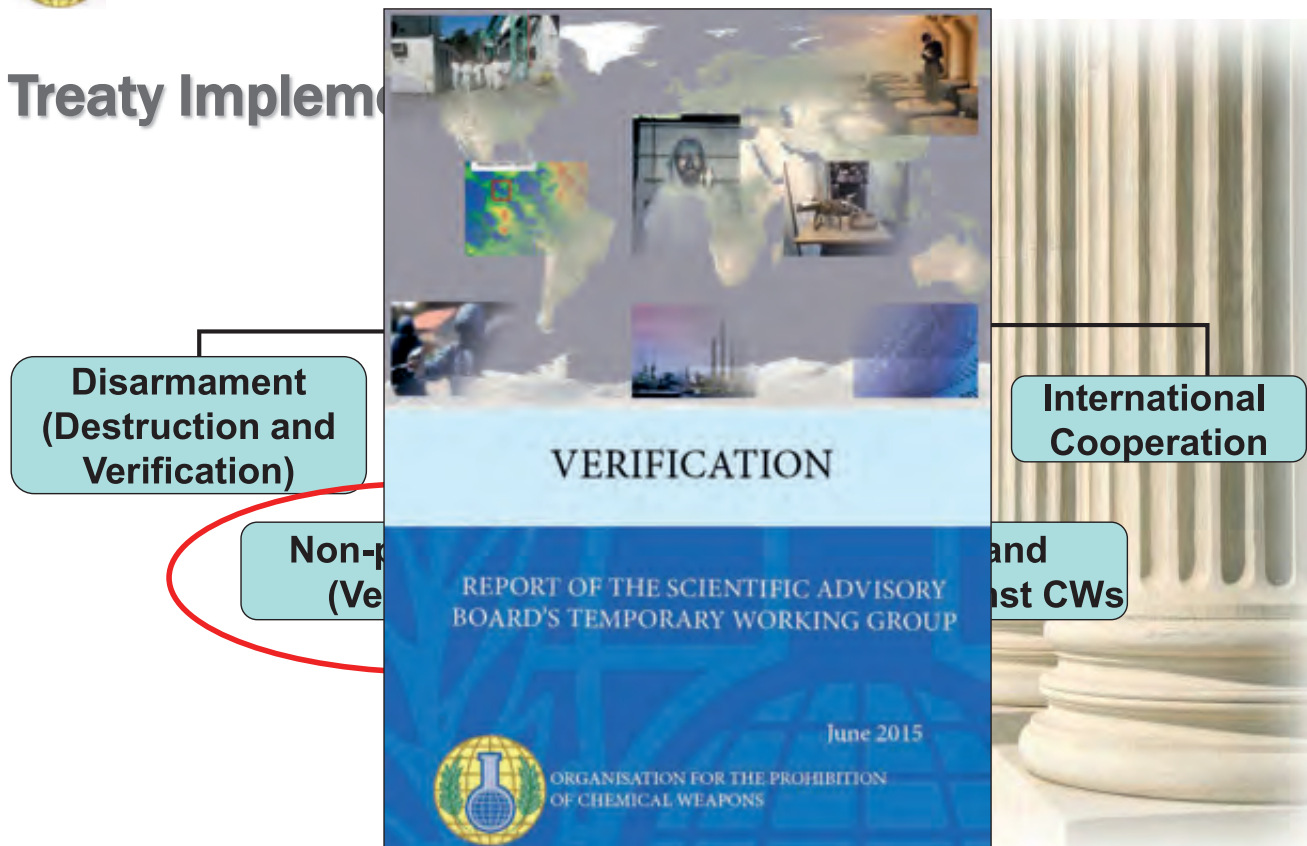
WILEY Blackwell



## Treaty Implementation



## Treaty Implementation







## Recommendations from the OPCW Scientific Advisory Board Temporary Working Group on Verification

- Recommendation 1**  
The Secretariat should consider adopting a comprehensive, open analytical approach to verification, utilising all available and verifiable information.
- Recommendation 2**  
The Secretariat should acquire the capability to use open-source information on a routine basis.
- Recommendation 3**  
The Secretariat should put in place an information management structure that can provide the support required for the verification process.
- Recommendation 4**  
Remote-sensing, monitoring, technology should be added to the list of approved inspection equipment.
- Recommendation 5**  
The Secretariat should look into the option of using satellite imagery for the planning of on-site inspections, in particular for IAI and CI.
- Recommendation 6**  
The Secretariat should visit the National Authorities to obtain insights on the accuracy and completeness of information. The extent of such visits may impact on the inspection frequency.
- Recommendation 7**  
The Secretariat must commission an independent review of all activities pertaining to the mission carried out in the Syrian Arab Republic.
- Recommendation 8**  
The list of declared OPCWs submitted by States Parties should include all facilities which fall under the definition/requirement of paragraph 3 of Part II of the Verification Annex, regardless of the purity level of POC or POC mixtures produced.
- Recommendation 9**  
Not all facilities that fall under Part II of the Verification Annex should be considered of the same relevance to the object and purpose of the Convention. The TWG recommends a practical approach for enhancing the utilization of verification resources for OPCW declaration and on-site inspection processes.
- Recommendation 10**  
The verification thresholds for OPCW production/highly relevant chemicals and the possibility of revision of the product group codes should be addressed by the SAR as well as the industry cluster.
- Recommendation 11**  
The OPCW should increase the staff of the OPCW laboratories to cope with various aspects of IAI: chemical samples, trace environmental analysis, forensic, and on-site analysis. Establishing a network of PAs for forensic sample analysis should be a high priority.
- Recommendation 12**  
Lessons on chemical sampling and analysis from the OPCW's support to the 2019 United Nations Mission to Investigate the Use of Chemical Weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic and all subsequent OPCW activities in relation to the Syrian Arab Republic must be identified and implemented.
- Recommendation 13**  
PAs should incorporate a broader range of chemicals and at a wider range of concentrations in preparatory laboratories for IAI-type exercises.
- Recommendation 14**  
The Secretariat should expedite toxin identification exercises.
- Recommendation 15**  
Continuous additions to the OPCW Central Analytical Database (CADAD) are recommended to allow the OPCW to meet all its mandated inspection tasks including IAI.
- Recommendation 16**  
Developments in analytical instrument portability, miniaturization and disposable formats should be periodically reviewed by the Secretariat and the SAR for potential applicability to on-site analysis.
- Recommendation 17**  
The Secretariat should monitor developments in attribution analysis/chemical forensics.
- Recommendation 18**  
The Secretariat should support its capacity to monitor and forecast developments in weapon and technology of relevance to the Convention and its verification regime.

Report available at [https://www.opcw.org/pressroom/OPCW%20SAB%20Final\\_Report\\_of\\_SAB\\_FWG\\_on\\_Verification\\_-\\_as\\_presented\\_in\\_SAB.pdf](https://www.opcw.org/pressroom/OPCW%20SAB%20Final_Report_of_SAB_FWG_on_Verification_-_as_presented_in_SAB.pdf)



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## Recommendations from the OPCW Scientific Advisory Board Temporary Working Group on Verification

**Recommendation 1**  
The Secretariat should consider adopting a comprehensive, more analytical approach to verification, utilizing all available and verifiable information.

**Recommendation 2**  
The Secretariat should acquire the capability to use open-source information as a further tool.

**Recommendation 4**  
Research and monitoring technologies should be added to the list of approved support equipment.

**Recommendation 5**  
The Secretariat should look into the option of using real-time imaging for the planning of on-site inspections, in particular for IAT and P3.

**Recommendation 16**  
Developments in analytical instrument precision, quantification and disposable hardware should be periodically reviewed by the Secretariat and the SAB for potential applicability to on-site analysis.

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**The OPCW Science & Technology Monitor**  
A sampling of Science & Technology Relevant to the Chemical Weapons Convention

1 JUNE 2015

**Welcome**  
Welcome to the OPCW Science and Technology Monitor, an occasional bulletin to provide updates on developments in science and technology across a broad spectrum of topics relevant to the CWC. Past issues are available from the [Science and Technology](#) section of the OPCW website.

**In This Issue**  
**Medical Countermeasures**  
**Chemical Forensics**  
**OPCW Research Projects Support Programme**  
**Feature-d content**

**The S&T Puzzle**  
We once again congratulate our colleagues at the [CASO](#), whose entry correctly recognized four of the top five spoken words of the Director-General in the eight statements delivered from 22 January to 22 April 2015 (in case you were wondering, they were "Thank", "The", "Pride for best", "recognition of the", "words of the Director-General", however, goes unclaimed as no submissions (except our own, below) were received. Puzzle statistics now stand at: YER 4, CSP 2, CCS 1, IS 1 and CTSO 3.

**For this edition of the puzzle, we look at the multiple uses of a suit of coffee. Can you tell us the identity and LD<sub>50</sub> (that's right, the median lethal dose) of the most abundant chemical in the cup: the molecule [X](#) of caffeine (molecule above) and the LD<sub>50</sub> of caffeine itself to keep this simple, assume this coffee is made with Arabica beans and brewed by a certified procedure for**

Report available at [https://www.opcw.org/fileadmin/OPCW/SAB/Board/Report\\_of\\_SAB\\_FWG\\_on\\_Verification\\_-\\_in\\_progress\\_-\\_in\\_SAB.pdf](https://www.opcw.org/fileadmin/OPCW/SAB/Board/Report_of_SAB_FWG_on_Verification_-_in_progress_-_in_SAB.pdf)



## EC-80/DG.7 (28 August 2015)

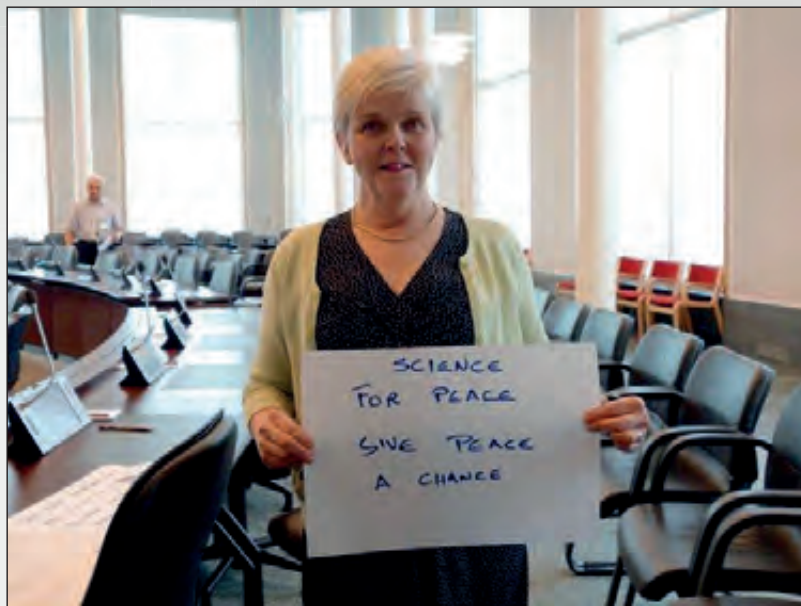
Action to implement the recommendations made by the SAB in its report on Verification  
[https://www.opcw.org/fileadmin/OPCW/SAB/en/ec80dg07\\_e\\_.pdf](https://www.opcw.org/fileadmin/OPCW/SAB/en/ec80dg07_e_.pdf)

Recommendation from the SAB	Implementation	Expected outcomes/results
<b>Recommendation 17:</b> The Secretariat should monitor developments in chemical forensics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Secretariat:</b> Continue to monitor developments in chemical forensics, together with Designated Laboratories. Explore collaboration with the industry and States Parties to develop methodology tailored to the needs of the OPCW. Develop the capability of the OPCW Laboratory for chemical forensics.</li><li><b>Scientific Advisory Board:</b> Assess development in an expert workshop in 2016 and in the Board's report to the Fourth Review Conference.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Effective investigations of alleged use and other non-routine situations.</li><li>Adaptation of the verification regime in line with scientific and technological developments.</li></ul>

- SAB Workshop planned for June 2016 at Verifin



## Presentation by Professor Paula Vanninen





# Science for Diplomats

## Chemical Forensics

Paula Vanninen

VERIFIN, Finnish Institute for Verification of  
the Chemical Weapons Convention  
Department of Chemistry  
University of Helsinki

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UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

VERIFIN/ Paula Vanninen

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1

# INCIDENT INVESTIGATION

## WHAT – WHERE – WHO ?









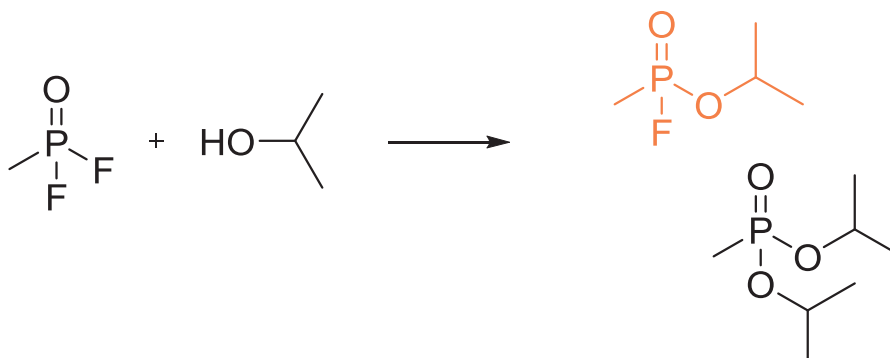


5



## Synthesis route

- Starting materials
- Impurities



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# OPCW Fact Finding Missions

---

- Number of FFM?
- Collection of evidence
  - Sampling
  - Interviews
  - Photos, video
- On-site detectors, on-site analysis
- OPCW designated laboratory network
  - Chain-of custody
  - Environmental samples
  - Biomedical samples

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## Workshop: Chemical Forensics

**Capabilities across the field and potential applications  
in the CWC Implementation**

---

- Chemical weapons
  - An OPCW perspective
- Law enforcement
  - illegal drug attribution analysis
- Biomedical samples
  - post-mortem analysis
- Route of synthesis and other attribution analysis
- Chemical forensics in other fields: Art, Archeology
- Discussions
- Report

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## Workshop: Chemical Forensics

Capabilities across the field and potential applications  
in the CWC Implementation

---

- Questions
  - How can chemical forensics be combined with investigative chemical analysis?
  - Limitations and required reference materials?
  - Methodologies with potential for use in CW applications?
  - Normal vs. highly toxic samples?

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## Workshop: Chemical Forensics: Capabilities across the field and potential applications in the CWC Implementation

---

- SAB and experts
- Helsinki, Finland
- June 2016 (Dates TBC)
- Preparation for the SAB report for the Review Congress in 2017

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Next  
2016?  
2017?

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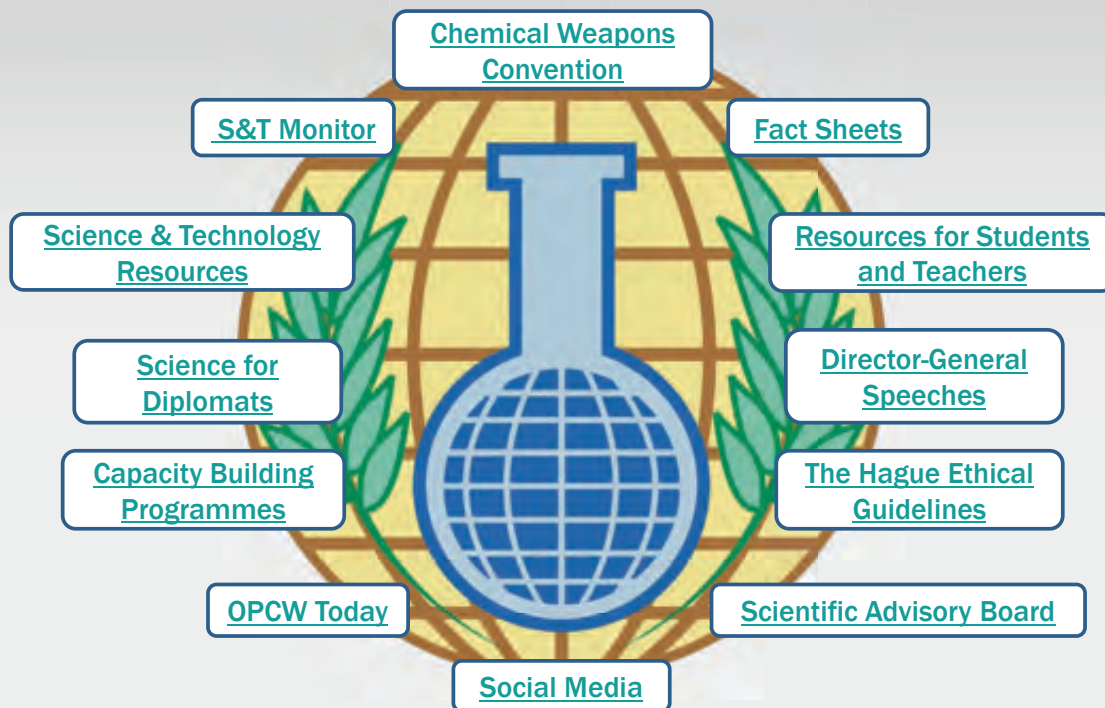
RECOMMENDED OPERATING PROCEDURES  
FOR ANALYSIS IN THE VERIFICATION OF  
CHEMICAL DISARMAMENT  
2011 Edition

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland  
University of Helsinki



## OPCW Science and Technology Related Resources

<https://www.opcw.org/special-sections/science-technology/science-technology-resources/>



## Science and Technology For Diplomats Upcoming Events

- March 2016 (On the margins of EC-81, to be confirmed)
  - **S&T for Diplomats (8): Sensors and Biosensors**
- July 2016 (On the margins of EC-82, to be confirmed)
  - **S&T for Diplomats (9): Briefing on SAB Chemical Forensics Workshop**
- **For more information on S&T from OPCW**

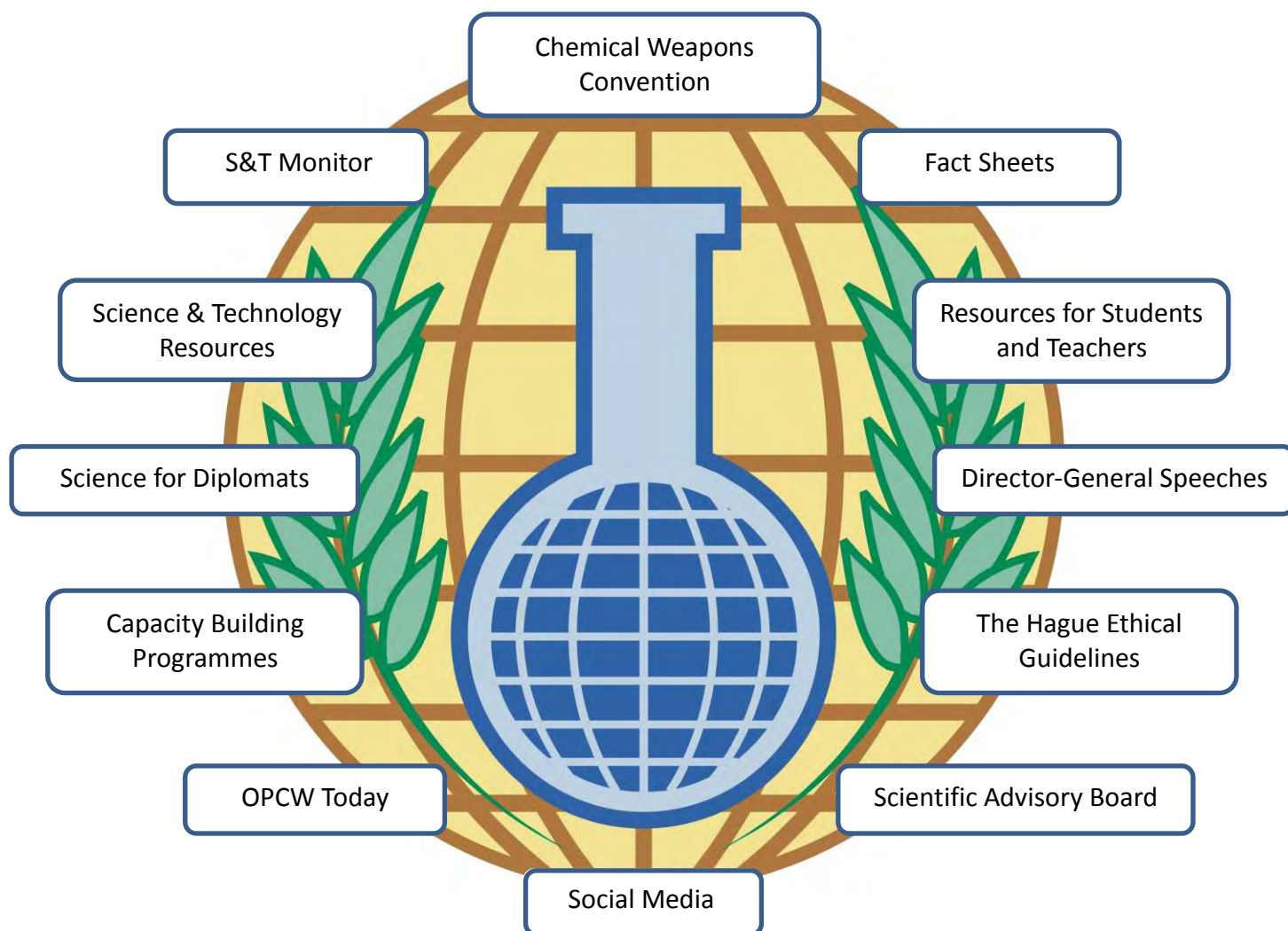
[SciTech@OPCW.org](mailto:SciTech@OPCW.org) (email)

@OPCW\_ST (Twitter)

[www.opcw.org/special-sections/science-technology/](http://www.opcw.org/special-sections/science-technology/)



# An Interactive Guide to OPCW Science & Technology Resources and More



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More information available at:

[www.opcw.org/special-sections/science-technology/](http://www.opcw.org/special-sections/science-technology/)



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