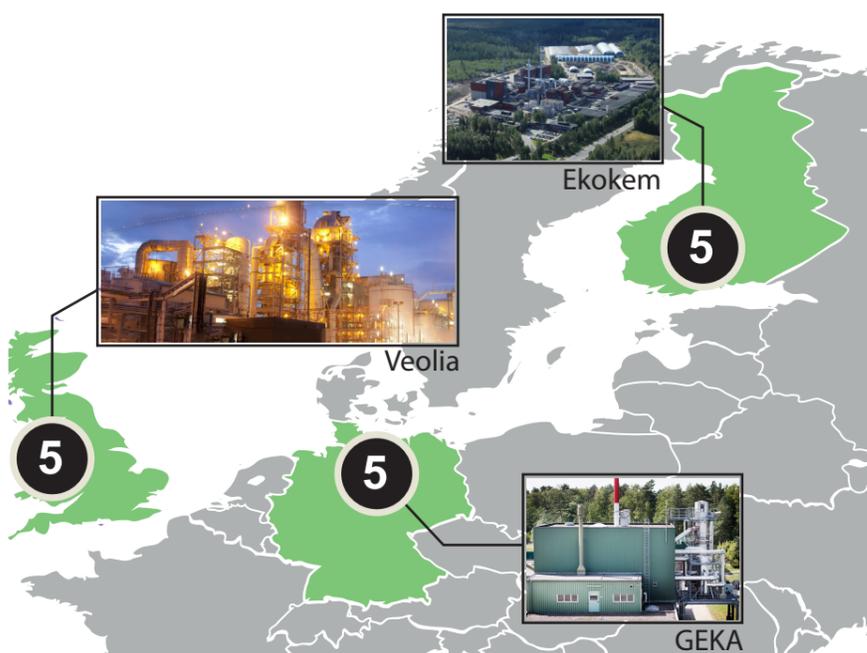
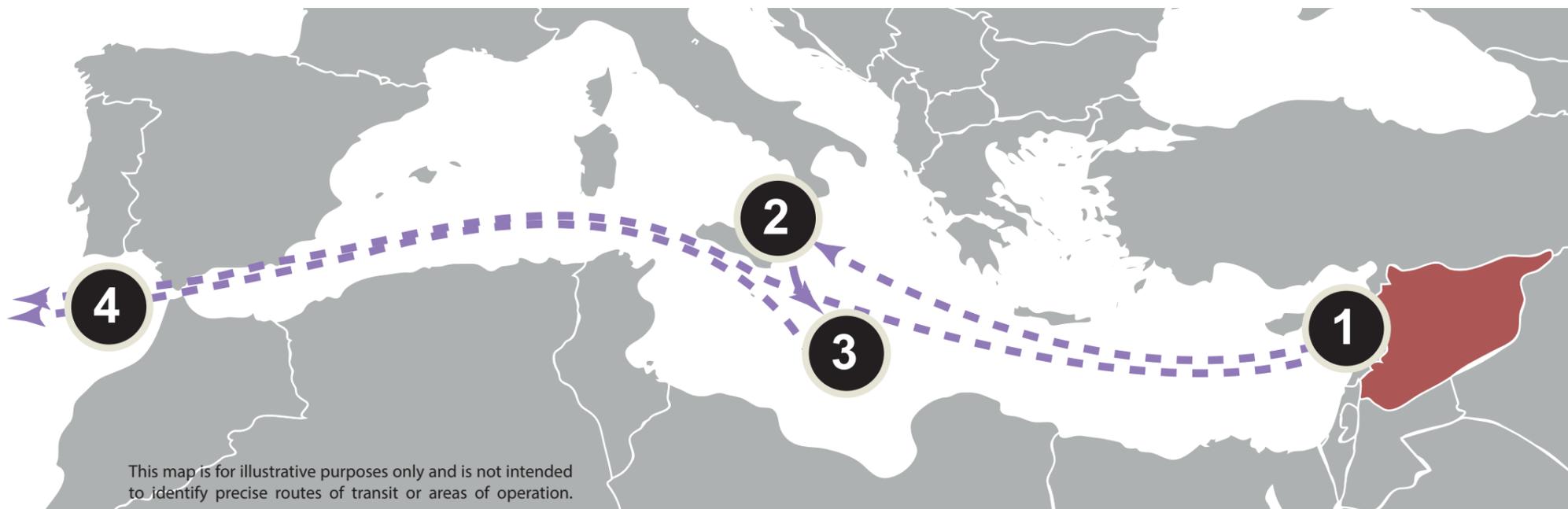


# REMOVAL AND DESTRUCTION OF SYRIAN CHEMICAL WEAPONS



## Multi-National Maritime Task Force

A Multinational Maritime Task Force comprised of naval forces from China, Denmark, Norway, Russia, and the United Kingdom is positioned in the eastern Mediterranean Sea to provide secure transportation of chemicals to their ultimate destruction location. The cargo ships have additional capacity to deal with chemical spills or emergencies and a special chemical response team is available, along with expert chemical response personnel from Finland.



## 1 Latakia

Latakia is the port of embarkation for chemicals to be removed from Syria. These chemicals have been packed and loaded securely in containers that meet international standards for the transport of dangerous goods by sea, and have been inventoried and sealed by OPCW inspectors. At Latakia, the chemicals are being loaded onto Danish and Norwegian cargo vessels. (MV Ark Futura and MV Taiko respectively).

## 2 Italy

The Italian port of Gioia Tauro will be used for transferring some Priority 1 chemicals (i.e. a precursor for chemical weapons and a small amount of mustard agent) from the Danish cargo vessel to the MV Cape Ray. The transloading will take place with minimal handling of the standardized shipping containers holding the chemicals and emergency response equipment and personnel will be available to deal with any unlikely chemical incidents. OPCW inspectors will be present at Gioia Tauro to inventory the materials that will be transloaded from one ship to the other.

## 3 MV Cape Ray

The MV Cape Ray has been fitted with two Field Deployable Hydrolysis Systems (FDHS) that will neutralise about 600 metric tonnes of Priority 1 chemicals in international waters of the Mediterranean. These chemicals will be transferred from the Danish cargo vessel to the MV Cape Ray at Gioia Tauro in Italy. At all stages of the process aboard the MV Cape Ray, the chemicals to be neutralised and the resulting effluent will be safely stored and handled by trained and experienced personnel. OPCW inspectors will be continuously present aboard the MV Cape Ray to ensure that all requirements of the Convention are properly observed, including those related to the safety of the crew and protection of the environment. Once neutralisation has been completed, the resulting effluent will be transported by the MV Cape Ray to be finally disposed of at facilities in Finland and Germany.

[www.defense.gov/home/features/2014/0114\\_caperay/](http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2014/0114_caperay/)

## 4

The Chemical Weapons Convention expressly **bans** the dumping of chemicals in any body of water and requires States Parties to ensure that during operations the highest priority is assigned to ensuring the safety of the people and to protecting the environment.

**All transportation of chemicals and subsequent operations at their final destinations will follow stringent national and international regulations for transportation safety and protection of the environment.**

## 5

### Shipments to Europe

Under an in-kind contribution from the Government of the United Kingdom, Veolia, a commercial waste company, will destroy around 150 tonnes of chemicals at Ellesmere Port. The chemicals are similar in nature to standard industrial materials which are safely processed on a regular basis at the facility. They will be off-loaded at a British port from the Danish cargo vessel Ark Futura and inventoried by OPCW inspectors.

The Finnish hazardous waste management company Ekokem AB was awarded a contract by the OPCW to destroy around 360 metric tonnes of Priority 2 industrial chemicals. The chemicals will be off-loaded from the Norwegian vessel Taiko at a designated port in Finland, inventoried by OPCW inspectors and then treated at Ekokem's Riihimäki treatment centre in southern Finland. Ekokem will also dispose of around 4,500 litres of effluent generated on the MV Cape Ray, which will be brought to Finland by the MV Cape Ray.

Under an in-kind contribution from the government of Germany, the Gesellschaft zur Entsorgung von chemischen Kampfstoffen und Rüstungsalts (GEKA) in Munster will destroy the effluent created by the neutralisation of the mustard agent aboard the MV Cape Ray. The effluent will be off-loaded from the MV Cape Ray at a designated port in Germany and will be inventoried by OPCW inspectors.

[www.veolia.com](http://www.veolia.com)

[www.ekokem.fi](http://www.ekokem.fi)

[www.geka-munster.de](http://www.geka-munster.de)

**OPCW inspectors will also confirm and report the destruction of the effluent and ensure that all requirements of the Convention are properly observed during operations.**

## 6

### Shipment to USA

Veolia Environmental Services Technical Solutions in the USA was one of two companies awarded a contract by the OPCW to destroy chemicals from Syria following a rigorous solicitation process, in this case around 145 metric tonnes of Priority 2 inorganic chemicals. The chemicals will be off-loaded from the Norwegian vessel Taiko at a designated port in the USA and inventoried by OPCW inspectors. The five types of chemicals that will be destroyed here by incineration are standard industrial chemicals, which are transported and widely used across the United States every day.

[www.veoliaes.com](http://www.veoliaes.com)



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