



S/1934/2021
10 March 2021
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC FOR
CONSIDERATION BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT:
OVERVIEW OF PROCESSING**

OVERVIEW

1. Over the last five years, and as at 19 February 2021, a total of 197 notes verbales by the Permanent Representation of the Syrian Arab Republic to the OCPW have been received and processed by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”).
2. The content of these notes verbales concerns one or more alleged activities by armed groups on the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic, and relates in particular to:
 - (a) storage of chemicals or weapons;
 - (b) movement of chemicals or weapons;
 - (c) intent of use of chemical weapons or toxic chemicals as weapons; and
 - (d) intent of staging the use of chemical weapons or toxic chemicals as weapons by armed groups and/or the “White Helmets”.
3. The analysis by the Secretariat of these notes verbales has shown that the information conveyed by the Syrian Arab Republic to the Secretariat does not contain any details or technical supporting documentation that could be independently verified. An example note verbale is provided in the Annex hereto.
4. The Secretariat has consistently examined whether the above-mentioned information could be linked with allegations under its review of the use of toxic chemicals as weapons.
5. However, no such link has ever appeared between the information provided and such allegations (see Table below).
6. The Secretariat maintains a repository of these elements in case they could be related to any allegations of use.



TABLE: OVERVIEW OF THE CONTENT OF NOTES VERBALES RECEIVED FROM THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Note verbale related to	Type of information	Instances where the information was conveyed in notes verbales	Total by category	Relevance of information to allegations
Storage or movement	Chemical I-A	19	149	None
	Chlorine	20		
	Toxic chemicals	33		
	Weapons	19		
	Explosives	12		
	Storage location	46		
Nature of the intended use	Chemical weapons	50	116	
	Chlorine	8		
	Staging	58		

Annex: Example of a Recent Note Verbale Received by the Secretariat from the Permanent Representation of the Syrian Arab Republic to the OPCW (Distributed to all States Parties)

Annex

**EXAMPLE OF A RECENT NOTE VERBALE RECEIVED BY
THE SECRETARIAT FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATION
OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC TO THE OPCW
(DISTRIBUTED TO ALL STATES PARTIES)**



OPCW

Executive Council

Ninety-Sixth Session
9 – 12 March 2021

EC-96/NAT.1
19 February 2021
ARABIC and ENGLISH only

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

**REQUEST FOR CIRCULATION OF A DOCUMENT
AT THE NINETY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

The Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic has requested that a note verbale addressed to the Technical Secretariat, dated 19 February 2021, be circulated as an official document of the Ninety-Sixth Session of the Executive Council.

Annex: Note Verbale No. 16 from the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Technical Secretariat, Dated 19 February 2021

EC-96/NAT.1
Annex
page 2

Annex

**NOTE VERBALE NO. 16 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC TO THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT,
DATED 19 FEBRUARY 2021**

Permanent Mission
Of The Syrian Arab Republic
To The Organization For The
Prohibition Of Chemical Weapons
The Hague



No: 16
Date: February 19th 2021

Note Verbal

The Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons OPCW presents its compliments to the Technical Secretariat, and would like to share the information received from the Syrian National Authority:

The terrorist armed groups located in " Bab Alhawa" crossing border between the Syrian Arab Republic and Turkey, prepared long convoys of military machineries and ambulances, in addition to a large number of the terrorists of so called " the national army" terrorist group, wearing the vests of the so called " White Helmet" terrorist group, and carrying weapons and missiles with heads containing chemicals.

Furthermore, the terrorist groups are also preparing to fabricate chemical attacks in three locations in Idlib Governorate to accuse the Syrian Arab Army of committing them.

The Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic would kindly ask the Technical Secretariat to consider this information as unclassified and to publish and circulate this Note Verbal to all State Parties as an official document of the 96th session of the Executive Council.

The Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Technical Secretariat of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons the assurances of its highest consideration.

Attachment: (one) page in Arabic

**The Organization for the Prohibition
Of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)
The Hague.**



Official translation

According to the information received by the relevant Syrian authorities, armed terrorist groups present at the "Bab al-Hawa" crossing on the Syrian-Turkish borders have prepared large convoys of military vehicles and ambulances, in addition to large numbers of terrorists of the so-called "National Army" terrorist group, wearing the "uniform" of the so-called "White Helmets" terrorist organisation and equipped with weapons and missiles carrying chemical warheads. The nature of these preparations indicates that the said terrorist groups are preparing false-flag attacks with chemical weapons to blame them on the Syrian Arab Army.

In addition, the terrorist groups are preparing to stage false-flag chemical attacks in three locations in the Idlib Governorate to blame them on the Syrian Arab Army.

--- 0 ---

--- 0 ---