

ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS



Director-General

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OPCW

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I wish to express my deep appreciation and gratitude for the kind messages of congratulations and support we have been receiving following the decision by the Nobel Committee to award this year's Peace Prize to the OPCW.

It is a source of immense pride to all OPCW staff, past and present, as well as to our States Parties that our sixteen-year record of achievement in removing chemical weapons has been recognised by such an august institution.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge also the close and fruitful collaboration of all stakeholders, including the chemical industry, academia and civil society in bringing the vision of a world free of chemical weapons ever closer to reality.

We at the OPCW are conscious of the enormous trust that the international community has placed in us for the formidable task underway in Syria. I hope that this award, and our joint mission with the United Nations, will contribute to broader efforts to achieve lasting peace in Syria and end the suffering of its people.

At the same time, I hope all of us in the disarmament community can draw inspiration from this award in our ongoing efforts to advance the cause of international peace and security.

Ahmet Üzümcü