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ENGLISH and RUSSIAN only

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

**REQUEST FOR CIRCULATION OF A DOCUMENT
AT THE 107TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

The Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the OPCW has requested that a note verbale addressed to the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (dated 3 October 2024) be circulated as an official document of the 107th Session of the Executive Council.

Annex: Note Verbale from the Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW Dated 3 October 2024



Annex

**NOTE VERBALE FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT OF THE OPCW
DATED 3 OCTOBER 2024**



**PERMANENT REPRESENTATION
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
TO THE ORGANISATION FOR THE
PROHIBITION
OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS**

№ 53

The Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) presents its compliments to the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (the Secretariat) and has the honour to inform the Executive Council of the OPCW and the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention) of the following.

With regard to Note Verbale No. 41/2023 (dated 6 October 2023) from the Permanent Representation of Germany, which contained a request to provide explanations regarding the incidents mentioned in Notes Verbales from the Permanent Representation of Ukraine No. 61219/35-196/50-61363 (dated 28 May) and No. 61219/35-196/50-107892 (dated 11 September 23), the Russian Federation, through the Technical Secretariat, has submitted responses that are as detailed as possible in Notes Verbale by its Permanent Representation No. 38 (dated 12 October 2023) and No. 44 (dated 3 November 2023).

The Permanent Representation also requested in these notes, in line with paragraph 4 of Article IX of the Convention, that Germany, as well as the co-authors of said communication dated 6 October 2023, thorough information that would serve as grounds for the accusation that the Russian Federation violated its obligations under the Convention.

**TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT
ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION
OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS
The Hague**

Unfortunately, the Russian side did not receive any substantive response. The Russian Federation proceeds from the basis that the assertion of the Permanent Representation of Germany that Germany “is not a belligerent party” and “does not possess its own information about said incidents” cannot serve as grounds for freeing the requested State Party from its obligations under Article IX of the Convention. Those among the co-authors of the German Note dated 6 October 2023—Great Britain, Italy, Canada, the United States, France, and Japan—did not submit any response.

Based on the above, the Russian Federation once again underscores that it views this situation as the intentional abuse of the provisions of Article IX on the part of Germany, as well as Great Britain, Italy, Canada, the United States, France, Japan, and those that later joined them: Albania, the Netherlands, Poland, North Macedonia, and the Czech Republic (Notes from the Permanent Representation of Germany No. 10/2024 (dated 29 February 2024) and No. 26/2024 (dated 1 July 2024)).

The Russian side firmly believes that the requested States Parties cannot and must not evade providing explanations regarding the facts that serve as the grounds for the requests made under Article IX of the Convention and the accusations made in violation of Article I of the Convention.

In this regard, the Russian Federation requests that the OPCW Executive Council facilitate the receipt, in line with paragraph 4, Article IX of the Convention, from Germany—as well as those States that have joined it—of the information, based upon which unsubstantiated accusations were made that the Russian Federation violated its obligations under the Convention.

Furthermore, the Russian Federation, with reference to the Notes Verbales from Great Britain (No. 101/2021, dated 18 October 2021), Germany (No. 41/2021, dated 18 October 2021), France (No. 2021-0496245, dated 18 October 2021), and Sweden (dated 18 October 2021, as well as from the Technical Secretariat (NV/ODG-152/21, dated 14 October 2021) recalls that it has not received any reasonable responses to the questions presented in line with paragraph 2, Article IX of the Convention in Notes Verbales from the Permanent Representation No. 44 (dated 7 October 2021) and No. 778 (dated 13 April 2018) regarding the incidents involving Russian citizens Sergei Skripal and Alexei Navalny. In this regard, the Russian Federation confirms that these requests remain in effect. We continue to await exhaustive information on this matter from Great Britain, Germany, France, and Sweden.

The Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the OPCW requests that the OPCW Technical Secretariat circulate this Note among States Parties as an official document of the 107th Session of the Executive Council, and publish it on both the Catalyst platform and the OPCW's official website.

The Permanent Representation avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the OPCW Technical Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.



[official seal of the Embassy of the Russian Federation in the Netherlands]

The Hague, __03__ October 2024