



OPCW

Executive Council

107th Session
8 – 11 October 2024

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10 October 2024
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**CIRCULATION OF NOTE VERBALE NO. NV/ODG-603/24
ADDRESSED TO THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATION
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE OPCW DATED 10 OCTOBER 2024**

The Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) hereby circulates the attached note verbale as an official document of the 107th Session of the Executive Council.

This note verbale has been prepared in response to Note Verbale No. 54 from the Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the OPCW, dated 9 October 2024.

Annex: Note Verbale No. NV/ODG-603/24 Addressed to the Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the OPCW Dated 10 October 2024



Annex

**NOTE VERBALE NO. NV/ODG-603/24 ADDRESSED TO THE
PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
TO THE OPCW DATED 10 OCTOBER 2024**



OPCW

Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

NV/ODG-603/24

The Technical Secretariat (“Secretariat”) of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (“OPCW”) presents its compliments to the Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the OPCW and has the honour to refer to its Note Verbale No. 54, dated 9 October 2024, to the Secretariat’s Note Verbale No. NV/ODG-601/24, dated 7 October 2024, and to Note Verbale No. 51, dated 3 October 2024, of the Russian Federation.

The analysis of the samples mentioned in the Russian Federation’s Note Verbale No. 51, was carried out by the specific laboratory in its capacity as a national laboratory at the request of the national authorities of the Russian Federation. The use of the term “OPCW designated laboratory” in this context risks the misconception that the samples mentioned were authentic OPCW samples, that the analysis of the samples was carried out in accordance with the procedures of the Convention and under the authority of the Director-General, and consequently that the analytical results carry the endorsement of the Secretariat.

As none of this is the case, the clarification by the Secretariat was imperative, given the responsibilities entrusted to the Director-General under the Convention in this regard.

The Secretariat does not level accusations against States Parties. It solely aims to clarify the matter for all of them, within the remit of the responsibilities of the Director-General under the Convention. Moreover, the Secretariat stands ready to support any State Party, upon request, as it often does, to advise on the technical wording of a relevant draft official communication, such as a Note Verbale, prior to its circulation.

In this instance, Note Verbale No. 51 was submitted to the Secretariat with the request by the Russian Federation to circulate it to all States Parties. That is why the clarification was sent by the Secretariat to the Russian Federation and to all States Parties.

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

The Hague, 10 October 2024

Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the OPCW
Andries Bickerweg 2
2517 JP The Hague

Cc: All States Parties

