



Ref. SQH.3.25.1

The Permanent Representation of the State of Qatar to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) presents its compliments to the Technical Secretariat, and all Member States of the OPCW.

The Permanent Representation wishes to inform the Technical Secretariat and all Member States of the OPCW, pursuant to a formal request from H.E. Assad Hassan al-Shaibani, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic, dated 28 December 2024, that the State of Qatar, after close consultation and coordination with the Director-General, H.E. Fernando Arias, has agreed to represent the interests of the Syrian Arab Republic before the OPCW until further notice.

This decision is in line with the close bilateral relations between the State of Qatar and the Syrian Arab Republic and reflects Qatar's commitment to facilitating constructive engagement between Syria and the OPCW.

As a result of this arrangement, the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the OPCW will act as the channel of communication and valid interlocutor in The Hague between the Syrian Government and the OPCW, pending the designation of a new Permanent Representative by the Syrian Arab Republic.

The Permanent Representation is confident that this step will contribute positively to the normalization of relations between the Syrian Arab Republic and the OPCW and will pave the way for enhanced cooperation within the framework of the OPCW's mandate.

The Permanent Representation of the State of Qatar kindly requests the Secretariat of the OPCW to circulate this Note Verbale, along with the correspondence exchanged between H.E. Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar, and H.E. Assad Hassan al-Shaibani, attached to this Note Verbale for circulation to all OPCW Member States, for their information and awareness.

The Permanent Representation of the State of Qatar to the OPCW avails itself of this opportunity to thank the Technical Secretariat for its cooperation and to renew to all Member States of the OPCW the assurances of its highest consideration.

The Hague,  
January 7, 2025

To: Technical Secretariat OPCW  
Johan de Wittlaan 32  
2517 JR The Hague







رئيس مجلس الوزراء وزير الخارجية  
Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs  
دولة قطر • State of Qatar

**H.E. Assad Hassan Al-Shaibani**  
**Minister of Foreign Affairs**  
**Syrian Arab Republic**

**Doha, January 5, 2025**

**Re: Representation of the interests of the Syrian Arab Republic before the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons**

Dear Minister,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated 28 December 2024, regarding the representation of the interests of the Syrian Arab Republic before the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

The Government of the State of Qatar is honored by your request, and greatly values the close bilateral relations between our two countries. In light of your communication, and as a gesture of our enduring friendship, I am pleased to confirm Qatar's agreement to your proposal.

Accordingly, the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the OPCW will act as the channel of communication, and valid interlocutor in The Hague between the Syrian Government and the OPCW, until further notice and pending the designation of a new Permanent Representative by the Syrian Government.

We share your hope that this step will pave the way for a constructive and productive relationship between the Syrian Arab Republic and the OPCW. Rest assured, the State of Qatar remains committed to supporting Syria during this important period of transition.

I have instructed the relevant departments to coordinate with your office, to ensure smooth and efficient communication in this regard. Additionally, a copy of this letter will be transmitted to H.E. Fernando Arias, Director-General of the OPCW, as requested, for his awareness and any necessary follow-up, including circulation to OPCW Member States, if deemed appropriate.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration and warm regards.

Sincerely,

**H.E. Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al-Thani**  
**Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs**  
**The State of Qatar**

CC: H.E. Fernando Arias  
Director-General of the OPCW  
Johan de Wittlaan 32  
2517 JR The Hague  
The Netherlands

Damascus, 28 December 2024

***Re: Representation of the interests of the Syrian Arab Republic before the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons***

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing to you to request the kind support of the Government of the State of Qatar in relation to a matter of great significance to the new Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, that is, the normalization of the relationship between Syria and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons ("OPCW").

As a first step in that direction and based on the close bilateral relations between our respective countries, I hereby request that, with immediate effect, Qatar represent the interests of Syria before the OPCW.

The above would include that, until further notice and pending the designation by the Syrian Government of a new Permanent Representative to the OPCW, the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the OPCW acts as the channel of communication and only valid interlocutor in The Hague between the Syrian Government and the OPCW.

It is [my hope] [the hope of the new Syrian Government] that this will mark the beginning of a new chapter of constructive engagement between my country and the OPCW.

I am copying this communication to H.E. Fernando Arias, Director-General of the OPCW, for his information and awareness.

Should you agree to my request, I would appreciate receipt of your acceptance in writing, and would be most grateful if you could also transmit a copy of your reply to the Director-General of the OPCW, for his awareness and follow-up, as required, including circulation of our exchange of letters to the other OPCW Member States, if he so deems appropriate.

In closing, I would like to express my most sincere gratitude to the State of Qatar for its unwavering support and friendship in the face of recent momentous events in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Sincerely,

H.E. Assad Hassan al-Shaibani  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Syrian Arab Republic



CC: H.E. Fernando Arias  
Director-General of the OPCW  
Johan de Wittlaan 32  
2517JR The Hague  
The Netherlands