





Report of the Scientific Advisory Board at its Twenty-Fifth Session (SAB-25/1\*, dated 31 March 2017)

URL: http://q-r.to/bap1L1



The Impact of the Developments in Science and Technology in the Context of the Chemical Weapons Convention, Response from the Director-General to SAB-25

(EC-85/DG.8, dated 19 May 2017) URL: https://q-r.to/bap1L0



Report of the Scientific Advisory Board at its Twenty-Sixth Session

(SAB-26/1, dated 20 October 2017) URL: http://g-r.to/bap1La



Response to the Report of the Twenty-Sixth Session of the Scientific Advisory Board (EC-87/DG.11, dated 25 January 2018)

URL: http://l.ead.me/bar02E



Response to the Director-General's Request to the Scientific Advisory Board to Provide Consideration on which Riot Control Agents are Subject to Declaration under the Chemical Weapons Convention

(SAB-25/WP.1, dated 27 March 2017) URL: https://q-r.to/bap1Li



Report of the Scientific Advisory Board's Workshop on Emerging Technologies

(SAB-26/WP.1, dated 21 July 2017)

URL: http://q-r.to/bap1Ln



Report of the Scientific Advisory Board's Workshop on Trends in Chemical Production

(SAB-26/WP.2, dated 19 October 2017)

URL: http://q-r.to/bap1Lr















# Science and Technology in the Convention

# The Conference of States Parties Shall:

"Review scientific and technological developments that could affect the operation of this Convention and, in this context, direct the Director General to establish a Scientific Advisory Board to enable him, in the performance of his

ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

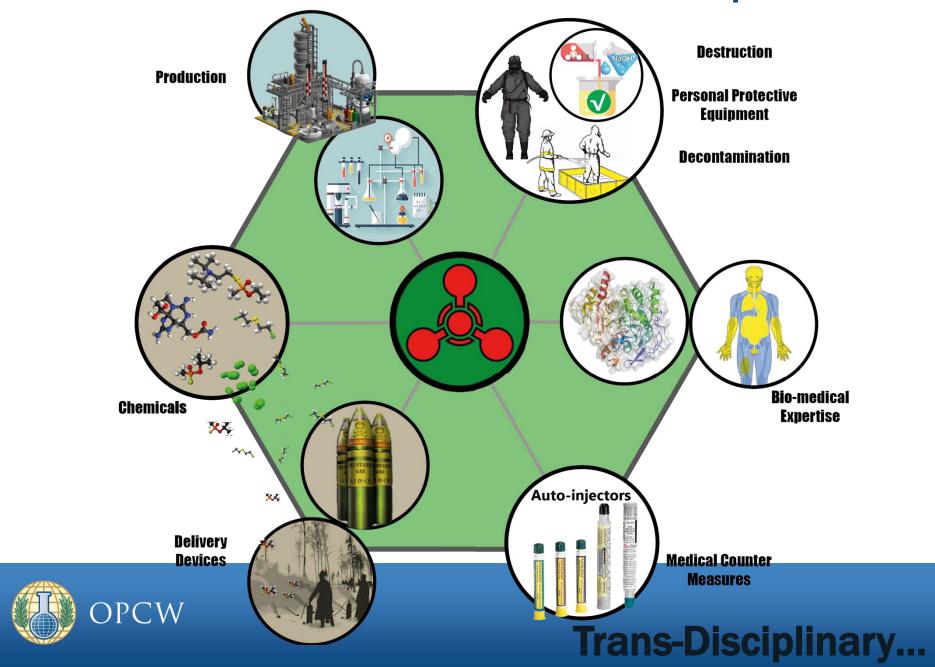
functions, to render specialized advice in areas of science and technology relevant to this Convention, to the Conference, the Executive Council or States

Parties."

CWC Article VIII, Section B, paragraph 21(h)



# What is the Science of Chemical Weapons?



## The Convention itself is "Convergent"

#### **Chemical Weapon**

Toxic chemicals and their precursors, except where intended for purposes not prohibited under this Convention as long as the types and quantities are consistent with such

#### **Toxic Chemical**

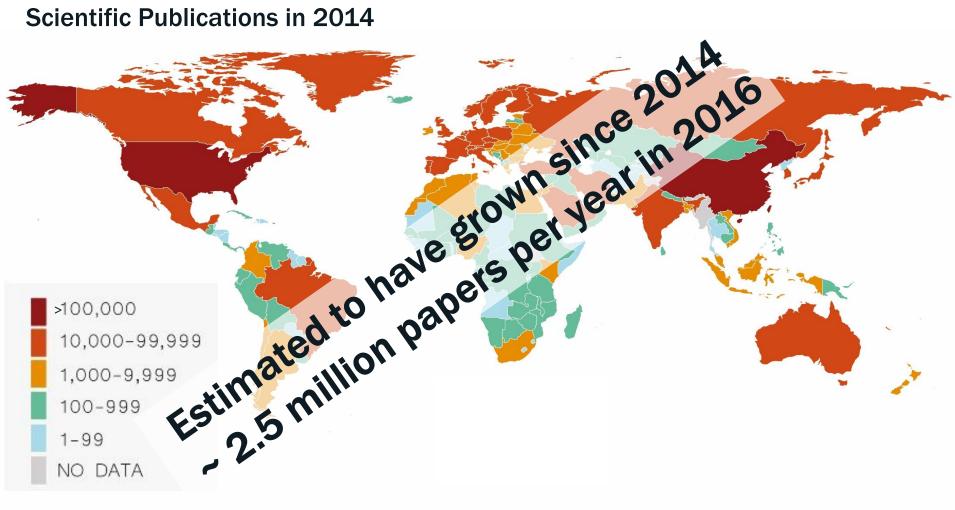
Any chemical which through its chemical action on life processes can cause death, temporary incapacitation or permanent harm to humans or animals. This includes all such chemicals, regardless of their origin or of their method of production, and regardless of whether they are produced in facilities, in munitions or elsewhere.

**Chemical Weapons Convention Article II** 



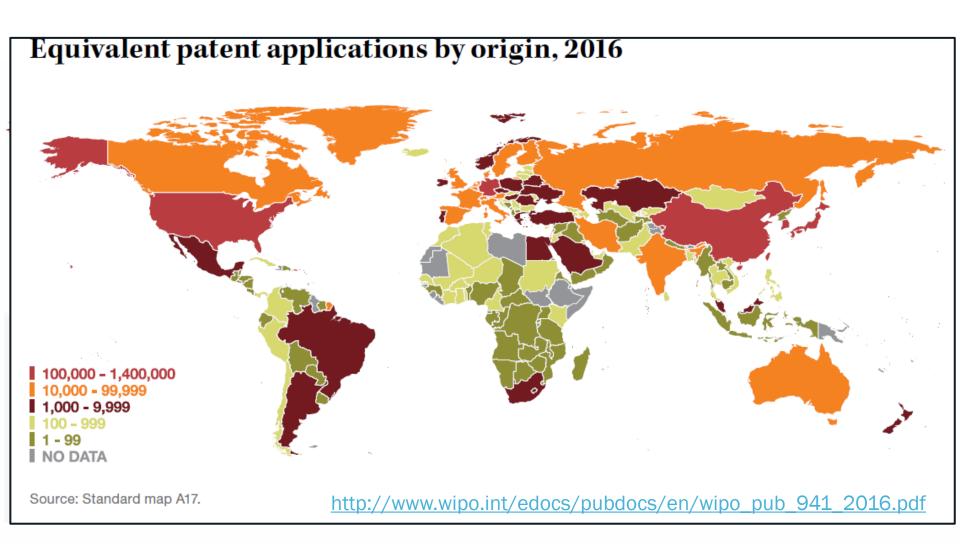
#### **How Much Science is Out There?**

Scientific Publications in 2014





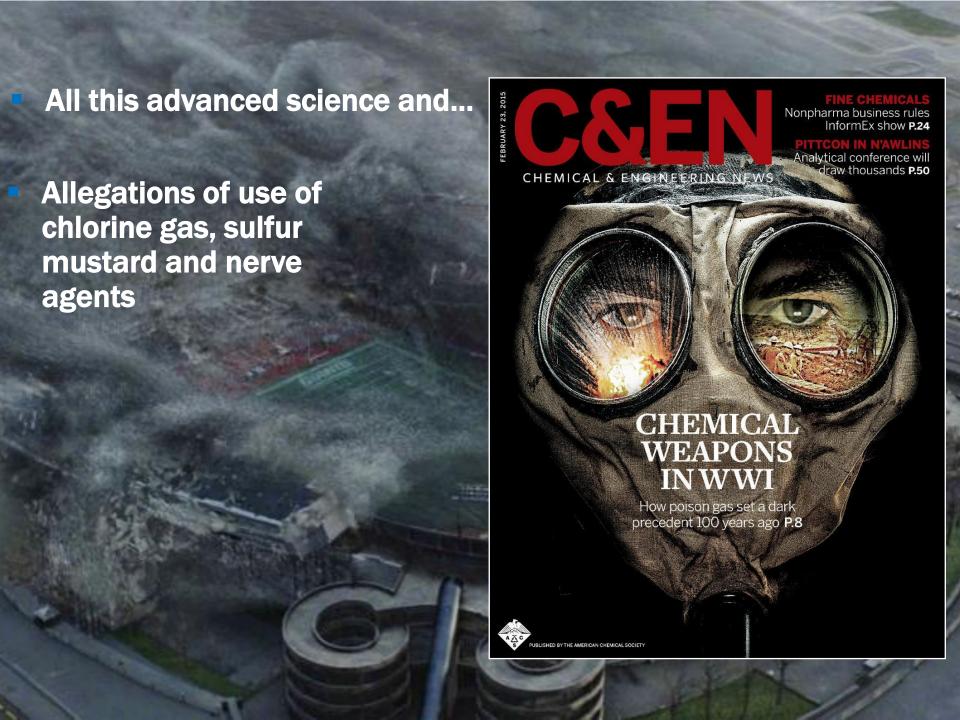
#### **How Much Science is Out There?**









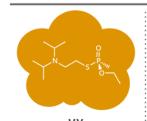


All this advanced science and...

Allegations of use of chlorine gas, sulfur mustard and nerve agents

### CHEMICAL WARFARE P NERVE AGENTS

PART TWO: THE V SERIES THE V SE











Pure VX is a colourless liquid, but more commonly it is an amber-coloured, oily, odourless liquid.



The other V series nerve agents are thought to be odourless, colourless liquids at room temperature (when pure). As they have not been studied in detail outside of military investigations as to their usefulness in warfare, little nore is known about them



Generally, their volatilities are low with the lowest volatility.

#### 1952-1955

work to synthesise pesticides and insecticides VG was originally sold as a insecticide, under the name 'Amiton'. It was marketed from 1954, but later withdrawn after the issues with human toxicity became apparent.

UK research on the compounds stopped in 1956, but was traded with the US in exchange for information on building thermonuclear devices.



As the V series agents exist primarily as low volatility liquids, they are designed for use as area-denial agents.

The only recorded human fatality as a result of VX is in Japan in 1994, when a sect used it also been used in Iraq by Saddam Hussein, though there is no conclusive evidence. Sheep fared less well: Over 6000 were killed or injured in 1968 after a test in Utah, USA



#### FIGURES FOR VX



10

Due to the scarcity of research on the V series nerve agents, data on lethality is only reliably available for VX. The other V series agents are thought to have roughly similar toxicities.

They have low volatilities - VX is around 2000 times less volatile than sarin - so the primary method of exposure is often through skin contact, rather than inhalation

#### **EFFECTS OF NERVE AGENTS**















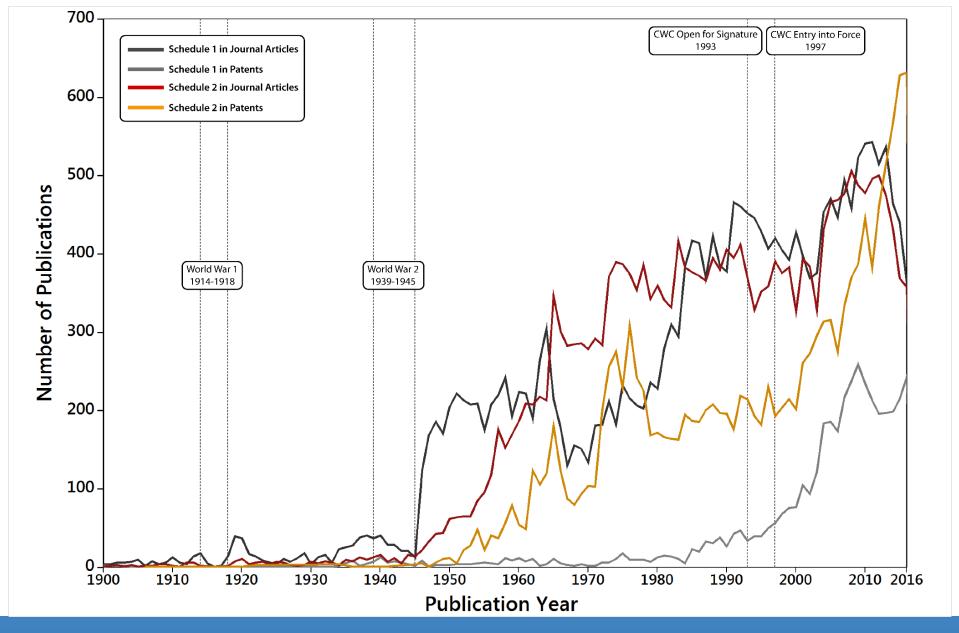






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266

Guthrie, über einige Derivate

an diesem Tage 9,4 CC. = 0,1 Grm. Eisen war. Diese 13.3 CC. geben aber 0.1425 Grm. Fe.

enthält.

0,1428 , , , welcho das Salz

Die Gründe zur Auswahl unter den drei vorgeschlagenen Methoden worden roin practische und öconomische sein, und werden sich bei häufiger Anwendung derselben Jedem nach seinen Bedürfnissen und Ansichten leicht ergeben.

Ueber einige Derivate der Kohlenwasserstoffe C<sub>n</sub>H<sub>n</sub>;

von F. Guthrie.

Brste Abhandlung\*).

Die aus gleichviel Aequivalenten Wasserstoff und Kohlen-

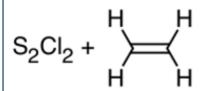
geschichtliches Pro Zeit die Aufmerksi sich gezogen. W hunderts wurde di durch solche Subs Wasser haben, vo dafs dieser Kohlen Und diese Ansic man, wie schon f Zweifel gesetzt Alkohol wieder d Die Isolirung

verbindungen der <sup>3</sup>) Chem. Sec. Q: Niemann, über die Einwirkung

dafs mir kein Zweifel iiber die Bildung des Productes CallaSeCl bleibt. Dann kenn auch kein Zweifel darüber sein, dass dieser Körper eine Reihe von Substanzen entstehen läfst, welche den oben beschriebenen, aus der entsprechenden Amylenverbindung entstehenden analog sind.

Ueber die Einwirkung des braunen Chlorschwefels auf Elayigas;

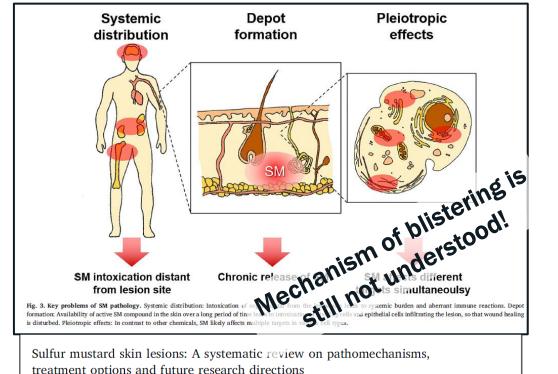
yon A. Niemann.



ehrbüchern der Chemie ım Chlarschwofel findet, auch widersprechend. chwefel verwandele sich Flüssigkeit, die weniger rbrennbar sei, während der Halbehlorschwefel e Veränderung erleidet. gliche Versuche angeen kurz mittheile, obwohl

ersuchungen, vor der seuwierigkeit, größere Mengen des gleich zu beschreibenden merkwürdigen Productes zu erhalten, noch schr unvollkommen geblieben sind. Ich hoffe indels bald Zeit zu finden, diesen Gegenstand wieder aufnehmen und zum Abschlufs bringen zu können.

Der zu diesen Versuchen benutzte braune Chlorschwefel war das direct erhaltene Product der Einwirkung des Chlors



Sulfur mustard skin lesions: A systematic review on pathomechanisms, treatment options and future research directions

Dorothee Rose<sup>a</sup>, Annette Schmidt<sup>b,\*</sup>, Matthias Brandenburger<sup>a</sup>, Tabea Sturmheit<sup>a</sup>, Marietta Zille<sup>a,c,1</sup>, Johannes Boltze<sup>a,1</sup>

a Department of Translational Medicine and Cell Technology, Fraunhofer Research Institution for Marine Biotechnology and Cell Technology, Mönkhofer Weg 239a,

23562, Lübeck, Germany; Institute of Medical and Marine Biotechnology, University of Lübeck, Ratzeburger Allee 160, 23652, Lübeck, Germany

b Bundeswehr Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Neuherbergstraße 11, 80937, Munich, Germany; Universität der Bundeswehr, Fakultät für Humanwissenschaften,

Department für Sportwissenschaft, Werner-Heisenberg-Weg 39, 85577, Neubiberg, Germany <sup>c</sup> Institute for Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology, University of Lübeck, Ratzeburger Allee 160, 23562, Lübeck, Germany

#### ARTICLEINFO

Keywords: Mustard gas CEES Warfare toxicant Vesicant Oxidative stress Cell death

#### ABSTRACT

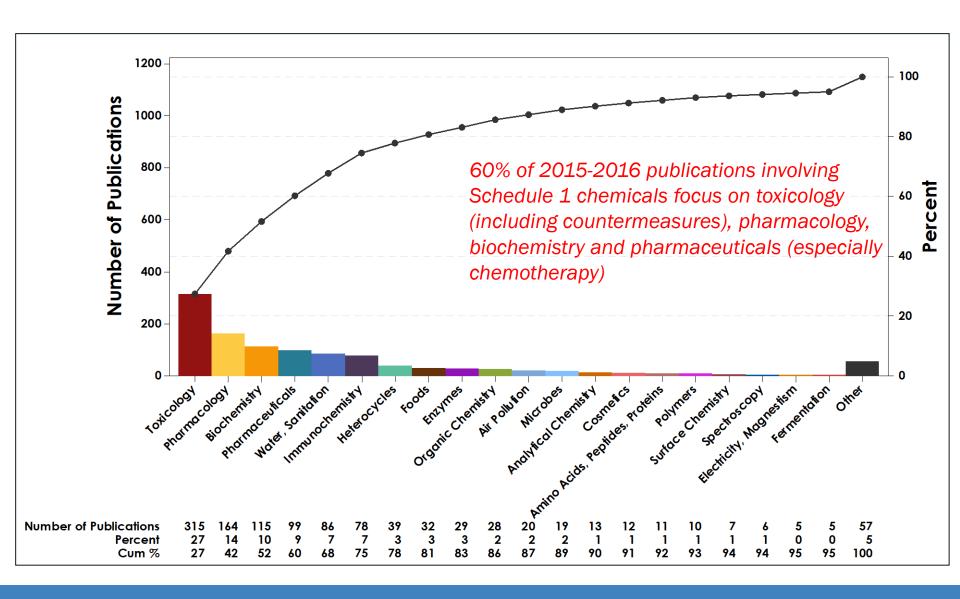
Sulfur mustard (SM) is a chemical warfare, which has been used for one hundred years. However, its exact pathomechanisms are still incompletely understood and there is no specific therapy available so far. In this systematic review, studies published between January 2000 and July 2017 involving pathomechanisms and experimental treatments of SM-induced skin lesions were analyzed to summarize current knowledge on SM pathology, to provide an overview on novel treatment options, and to identify promising targets for future research to more effectively counter SM effects. We suggest that future studies should focus on (I) systemic effects of SM intoxication due to its distribution throughout the body, (II) removal of SM depots that continuously release active compound contributing to chronic skin damage, and (III) therapeutic options that counteract the pleiotropic effects of SM.

D. Rose, Toxicology Letters, 2017 DOI: 10.1016/j.toxlet.2017.11.039



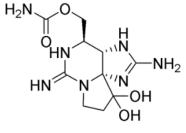
<sup>\*)</sup> Ann. chita. phys. XXI, 438.

<sup>\*\*</sup> PoggendoriPe Annaten XIII, 298.





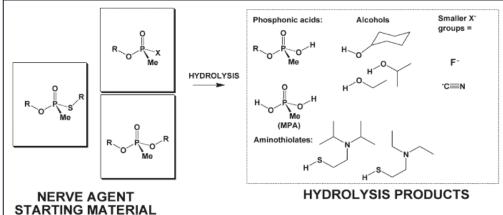
## Implementation Requires Science and Technology!



**Article II** 



**Article III** 



**Articles IV and V** 



**Article VI** 



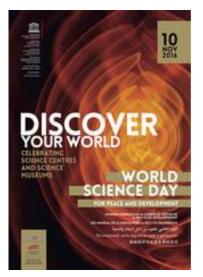
**Article VII** 



**Article VIII** 



**Articles IX and X** 



**Article XI** 



## **How Many Chemicals Do You Know About?**

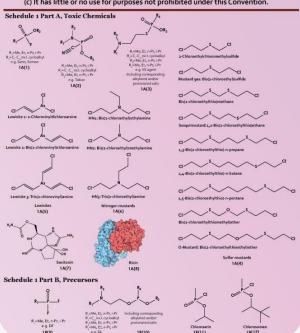
#### Schedule 1

#### Guidelines for Schedule 1

The following criteria shall be taken into account in considering whether a toxic chemical or precursor should be included in Schedule 1:

- (a) It has been developed, produced, stockpiled or used as a chemical weapon as defined in Article II:
- (b) It poses otherwise a high risk to the object and purpose of this Convention by virtue of its high potential for use in activities prohibited under this Convention because one or more of the following conditions are met:
  - It possesses a chemical structure closely related to that of other toxic chemicals listed in Schedule 1, and has, or can be expected to have, comparableproperties;
  - It possesses such lethal or incapacitating toxicity as well as other
  - properties that would enable it to be used as a chemical weapon; It may be used as a precursor in the final single technological stage of production of a toxic chemical listed in Schedule 1, regardless of whether this stage takes place in facilities, in munitions or elsewhere;

(c) It has little or no use for purposes not prohibited under this Convention.



#### ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

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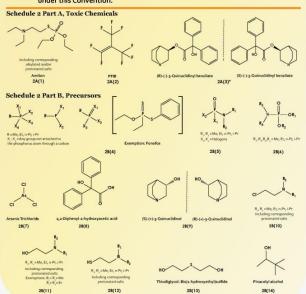


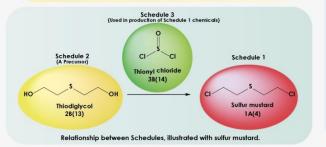
#### Schedule 2

#### Guidelines for Schedule 2

The following criteria shall be taken into account in considering whether a toxic chemical not listed in Schedule 1 or a precursor to a Schedule 1 chemical or to a chemical listed in Schedule 2, part A, should be included in Schedule 2:

- (a) It poses a significant risk to the object and purpose of this Convention because it possesses such lethal or incapacitating toxicity as well as other properties that could enable it to be used as a chemical weapon;
- (b) It may be used as a precursor in one of the chemical reactions at the final stage of formation of a chemical listed in Schedule 1 or Schedule 2, part A;
- (c) It poses a significant risk to the object and purpose of this Convention by virtue of its importance in the production of a chemical listed in Schedule 1 or Schedule 2, part A;
- (d) It is not produced in large commercial quantities for purposes not prohibited under this Convention.



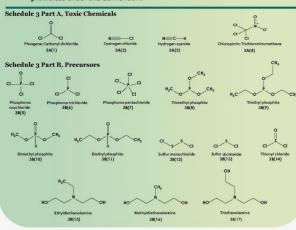


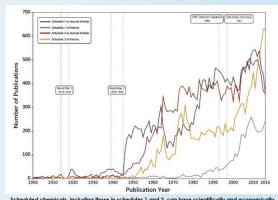
#### Schedule 3

#### Guidelines for Schedule 3

The following criteria shall be taken into account in considering whether a toxic chemical or precursor, not listed in other Schedules, should be included in Schedule 3:

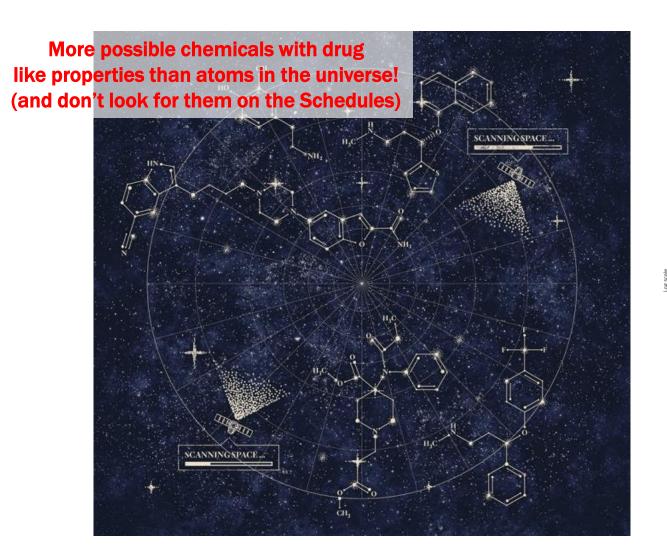
- (a) It has been produced, stockpiled or used as a chemical weapon;
- (b) It poses otherwise a risk to the object and purpose of this Convention because it possesses such lethal or incapacitating toxicity as well as other properties that might enable it to be used as a chemical weapon;
- (c) It poses a risk to the object and purpose of this Convention by virtue of its importance in the production of one or more chemicals listed in Schedule 1 or Schedule 2, part B;
- (d) It may be produced in large commercial quantities for purposes not prohibited under this Convention.

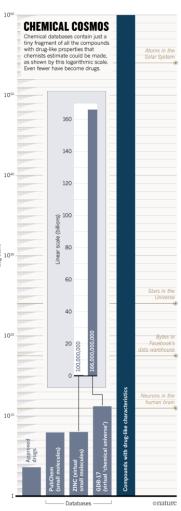




Scheduled chemicals, including those in schedules 1 and 2, can have scientifically and economically

## **How Many Chemicals Do You Know About?**

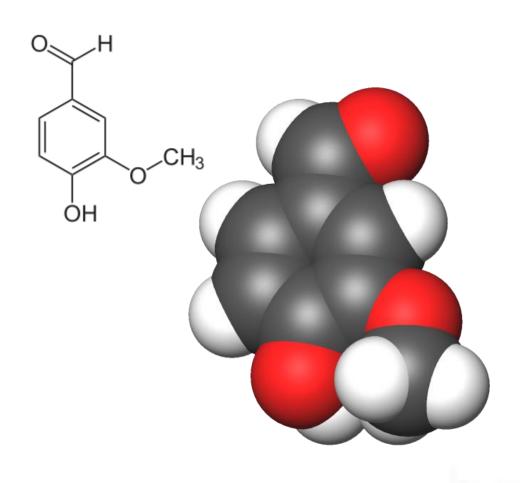






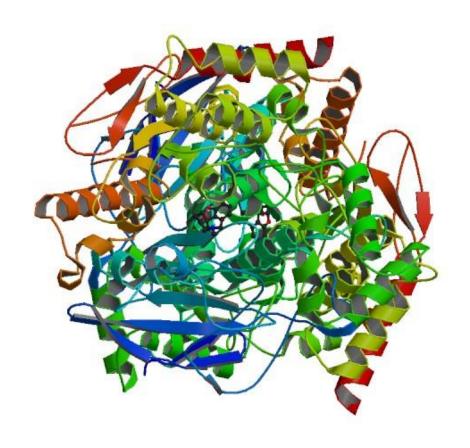
### "Good" Chemical or "Bad" Chemical?

### "Good" Chemical or "Bad" Chemical?





# "Good" Biological or "Bad" Biological?



## "Good" Biological or "Bad" Biological?

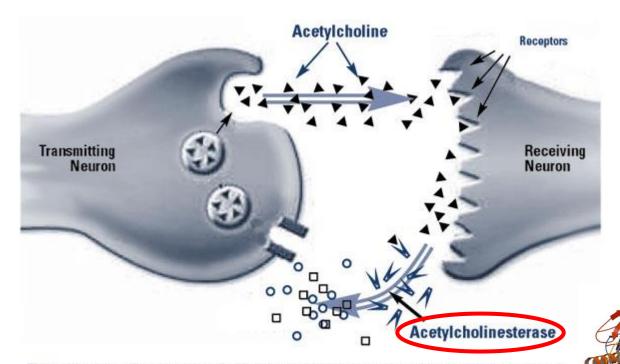


Fig. 1. After signalling, acetylcholine is released from receptors and broken down by acetylcholinesterase to be recycled in a continuous process.



Too much science!
Need science that can help recognise unusual and unexpected change

ORGANISATION FOR THE
PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, STOCKPILING AND USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

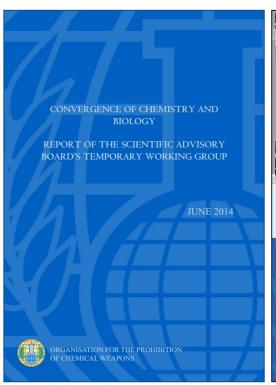
"In undertaking its verification activities the Organization shall consider measures to make use of advances in science and technology"

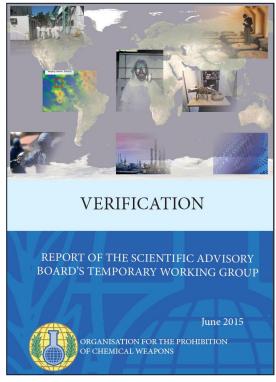
CWC Article VIII, paragraph 6

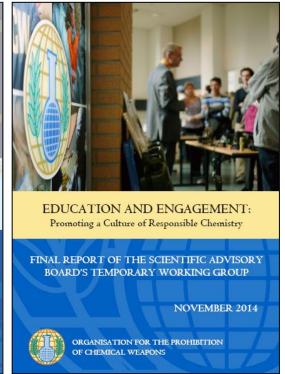
### In the Lead Up To Previous Review Conferences



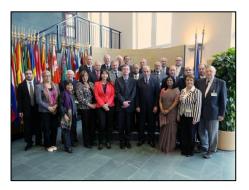














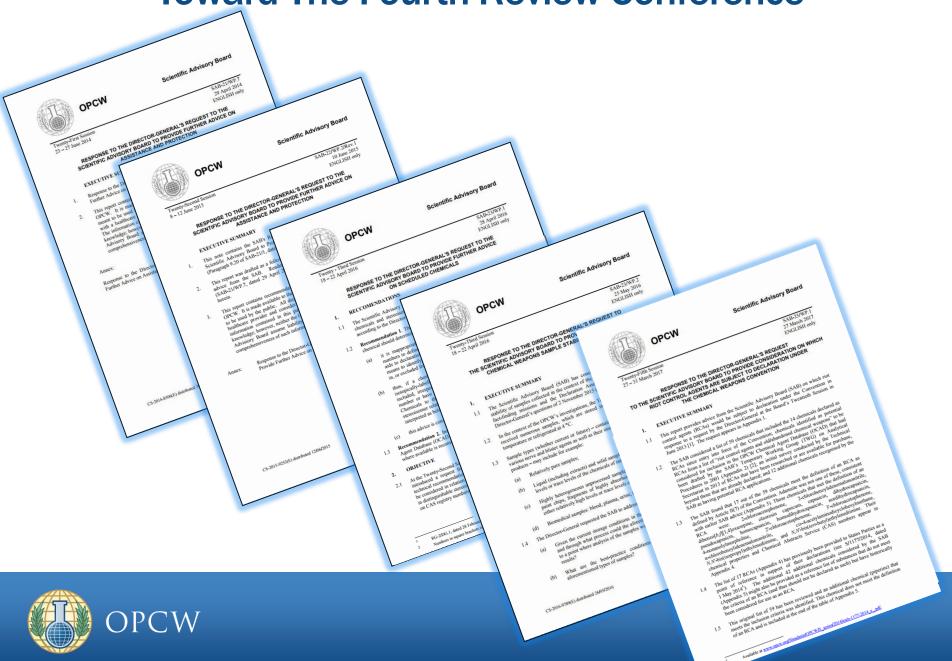
















# 25 Events 676 Attendees

- 256 individuals
- 56 Nationalities

# 405 Speakers

- 191 individuals
- 56 Nationalities

# 30 Reports



#### Successes of the Chemical Weapons Convention

192

NATIONS COMMITTED TO THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS
CONVENTION

98

PERCENT OF WORLD

POPULATION LIVING UNDER

THE PROTECTION OF THE

CHEMICAL WEAPONS

CONVENTION

95

PERCENT OF WORLD'S

DECLARED CHEMICAL WEAPON

STOCKPILES VERIFIABLY

DESTROYED

(APPROXIMATE)



### Challenges

Starting with the 2013 UN-led mission to the Syrian Arab Republic, the TS has undertaken non-routine inspection, verification and technical assistance activities in Syria, Libya and Iraq



#### Contingency operations have required:

- Investigations
- Analysis, and fact-finding
- Evaluation of oral, material, and digital evidence











#### Contingency operations

Non-routine situations have been insightful for considering new technologies with potential to enhance capabilities available to inspectors

#### Operational challenges:

- Access to sites is time-limited
- Harsh environmental conditions
- Chain-of-custody (taking & shipping samples)
- Evidence needs to be authenticated
- Required expertise beyond chemical analysis













REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD'S TEMPORARY WORKING GROUP

June 2015

ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION
OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

# OPCW Scientific Advisory Board



### Chemical forensics



## Medical countermeasures and emergency response



### Innovative technologies for chemical security







SCIENCES ENGINEERING Academies of



03-05 JULY - 2017

#### **INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES** FOR CHEMICAL SECURITY

# Science for Peace

#ScienceforPeace







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THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES, ENGINEERING.

WWW.NATIONALACADEMIES.ORG



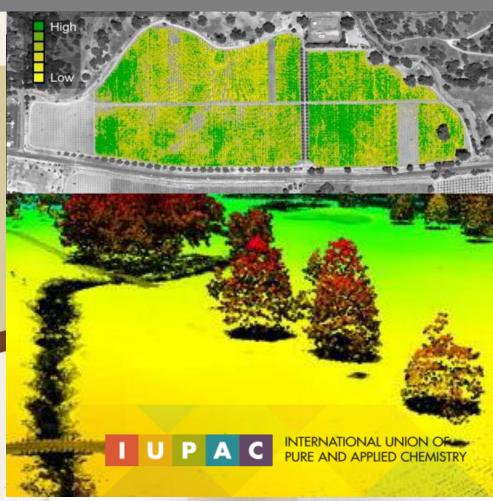


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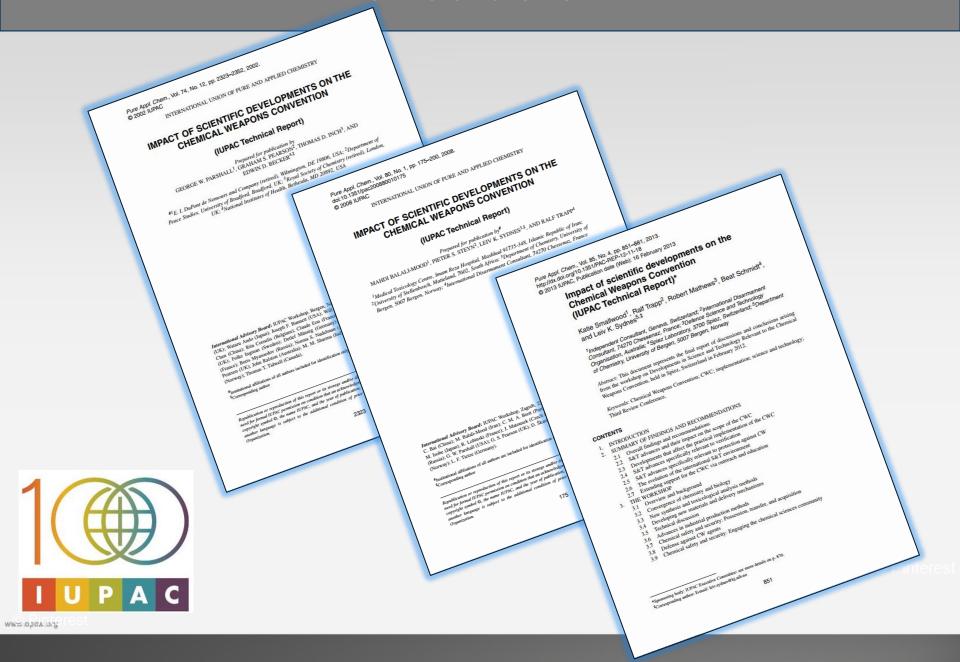








#### **IUPAC** and **OPCW**







# Trends in chemical production





Institut za medicinska istraživanja i medicinu Institute for Medical Research and Occupational Health







#### Scheduled Chemicals under the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)

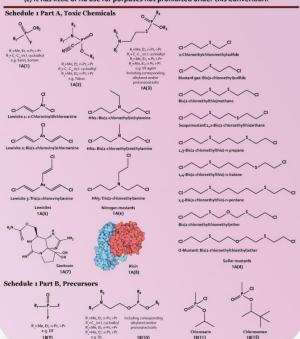
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  - It possesses a chemical structure closely related to that of other toxic chemicals listed in Schedule 1, and has, or can be expected to have, comparable properties;
  - It possesses such lethal or incapacitating toxicity as well as other properties that would enable it to be used as a chemical weapon;
  - It may be used as a precursor in the final single technological stage of production of a toxic chemical listed in Schedule 1, regardless of whether this stage takes place in facilities, in munitions or elsewhere;

(c) It has little or no use for purposes not prohibited under this Convention.





#### ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

Working Together for a World Free of Chemical Weapons









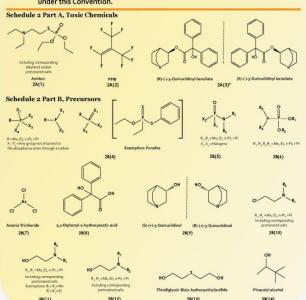


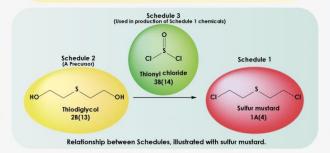
#### Schedule 2

#### Guidelines for Schedule 2

The following criteria shall be taken into account in considering whether a toxic chemical not listed in Schedule 1 or a precursor to a Schedule 1 chemical or to a chemical listed in Schedule 2, part A, should be included in Schedule 2:

- (a) It poses a significant risk to the object and purpose of this Convention because it possesses such lethal or incapacitating toxicity as well as other properties that could enable it to be used as a chemical weapon;
- (b) It may be used as a precursor in one of the chemical reactions at the final stage of formation of a chemical listed in Schedule 1 or Schedule 2, part A;
- (c) It poses a significant risk to the object and purpose of this Convention by virtue of its importance in the production of a chemical listed in Schedule 1 or Schedule 2, part A;
- (d) It is not produced in large commercial quantities for purposes not prohibited under this Convention.



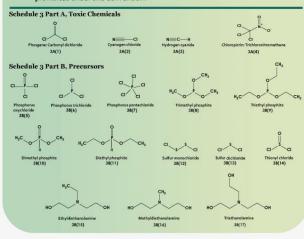


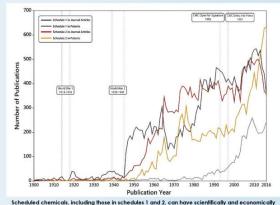
#### Schedule 3

#### Guidelines for Schedule 3

The following criteria shall be taken into account in considering whether a toxic chemical or precursor, not listed in other Schedules, should be included in Schedule 3:

- (a) It has been produced, stockpiled or used as a chemical weapon;
- (b) It poses otherwise a risk to the object and purpose of this Convention because it possesses such lethal or incapacitating toxicity as well as other properties that might enable it to be used as a chemical weapon:
- (c) It poses a risk to the object and purpose of this Convention by virtue of its importance in the production of one or more chemicals listed in Schedule 1 or
- (d) It may be produced in large commercial quantities for purposes not prohibited under this Convention.





important uses. This chart captures the number of yearly scientific publications that refer to them.

## Threat spectrum

Classical CW	Other chemicals	Bioregulators Peptides	Toxins	Genetically modified BW	Traditional BW
blister agents nerve agents toxic gases	Toxic industrial, pharmaceutical and agricultural chemicals  CNS-active chemicals	substance P neurokinins	botulinum saxitoxin ricin	modified/tailored bacteria and viruses	bacteria viruses rikettsia anthrax plague tularemia
Chemical agents			Agents of	biological origin	
	Poisons			Infectiou	ıs Agents
Chemica	al Weapons Con	vention (Article	e II)		
		Biological	and Toxin We	apons Convent	ion (Article I)

Adopted from Graham S Pearson, ASA Newsletter, 90-1, February 1990 and Robert Mathews at TWG on Convergence, 1st Meeting 2011.

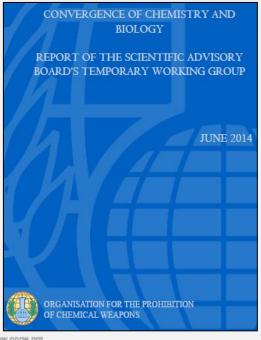
# Threat spectrum

					THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF TH
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blister agents nerve agents toxic gases	Toxic industrial, pharmaceutical and agricultural chemicals  CNS-active chemicals	substance P neurokinins	botulinum saxitoxin ricin	modified/tailored bacteria and viruses	bacteria viruses rikettsia anthrax plague tularemia
Chemical agents			Agents of	biological origin	
	Poisons			Infectiou <mark>s Agents</mark>	

## Convergence

Practical applications of new technologies for anticipated novel applications are advancing by trans-disciplinary problem solving

Technological change should be viewed from a practical perspective focusing on developments relevant to the Convention rather than focusing on single disciplines







## Production of chemicals using biological processes

SAB recommended "production by synthesis" covers <u>any</u> process for the formation of a chemical

Technological advances: metabolic engineering, synthetic biology, gene editing

No advantage to producing classical CW agents by biological means

Toxins might be produced genetically rather than isolated from organisms





TS should continue to assess the possibility of conversion of biological facilities to the production of scheduled chemicals; the outcome of such a review would inform the degree of relevance these facilities have to the object and purpose of the Convention

# 3D printing

Beilstein J. Org. Chem. 2013, 9, 951-959

# 3D-printed devices for continuous-flow organic chemistry

Vincenza Dragone, Victor Sans, Mali H. Rosnes, Philip J. Kitson and Leroy Cronin\*

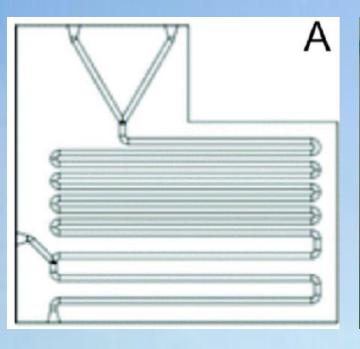
We present a study in which the versatility of 3D-printing is combined with the processing advantages of flow chemistry for the synthesis of organic compounds. Robust and inexpensive 3D-printed reactionware devices are easily connected using standard fittings resulting in complex, custom-made flow systems, including multiple reactors in a series with in-line, real-time analysis using an ATR-IR flow cell. As a proof of concept, we utilized two types of organic reactions, imine syntheses and imine reductions, to show how different reactor configurations and substrates give different products.

## 3D printing

# Evaluation of 3D Printing and Its Potential Impact on Biotechnology and the Chemical Sciences

Nearing 30 years since its introduction, 3D printing technology is set to revolutionize research and teaching laboratories. This feature encompasses the history of 3D printing, reviews various printing methods, and presents current applications. The authors offer an appraisal of the future direction and impact this technology will have on laboratory settings as 3D printers become more accessible.

Bethany C. Gross, Jayda L. Erkal, Sarah Y. Lockwood, Chengpeng Chen, and Dana M. Spence\*

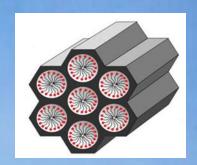




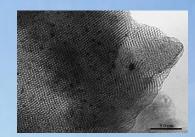


## Nanotechnology

Nanotechnology has enabled advances in detection technology by incorporation of antibody or enzyme sensing elements that might be used for on-site inspections

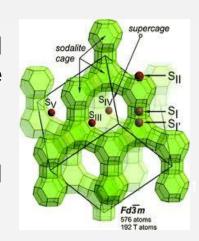


Publications on nanotechnology for chemical analysis, detection, protection, decontamination, and medical countermeasures reveal that few commercial products have come onto the market



Nanotechnologies that impact life processes through chemical action, used for purposes prohibited by the Convention, are covered by the general purpose criterion of Article II

Nanotechnologies to deliver chemical or biological agents would constitute a delivery system and contravene the CWC and BWC



#### Schedules

Up-to-date knowledge of chemistry related to the Schedules and industrial processes are key for inspectors

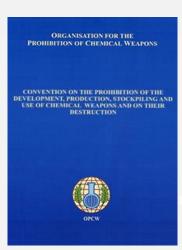
Adequate levels of scientific understanding will remain critical in making any assessments of an industrial capability or facility – unusual practices cannot be recognised without good knowledge

A review of the schedules may be of value regarding chemicals previously not considered that are determined to pose a risk to non-proliferation, and could include:

- toxic industrial chemicals
- CNS-acting chemicals
- bioregulators and/or toxins







## Isotopically-labelled compounds and stereoisomers

SAR-23/M/D 1



**OPCW** 

Scientific Advisory Board

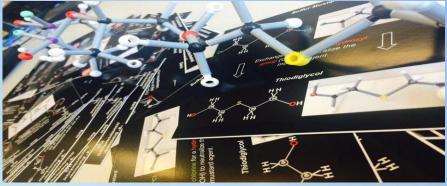
Twenty - Third Session 18 – 22 April 2016 SAB-23/WP.1 28 April 2016 ENGLISH only

- 1.1 The Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) has considered isotopically labelled scheduled chemicals and stereoisomers of scheduled compounds relating to the Convention according to the Director-General's requests (see Appendixes 1 and 2).
- 1.2 Recommendation 1. The SAB recommends that the molecular parent structure of a chemical should determine whether it is covered by a schedule entry. This is because:
  - (a) it is inappropriate to rely solely upon Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) numbers to define chemicals covered by the schedules. Although relevant as aids to declaration and verification, CAS numbers should not be used as the means to identify a chemical, or to determine whether a chemical is included in, or excluded from, a schedule;
  - (b) thus, if a chemical is included within a schedule, then all possible isotopically-labelled forms and stereoisomers of that chemical should be included, irrespective of whether or not they have been assigned a CAS number or have CAS numbers different to those shown in the Annex on Chemicals to the Convention. The isotopically labelled compound or stereoisomer related to the parent chemical specified in the schedule should be interpreted as belonging to the same schedule; and
  - (c) this advice is consistent with previous SAB views on this topic.<sup>1</sup>
- 1.3 Recommendation 2. Inclusion of appropriate analytical data in the OPCW Central Agent Database (OCAD) for isotopically labelled relatives of scheduled compounds where available is recommended.
- 2. OBJECTIVE
- 2.1 At the Twenty-Second Session of the SAB in June 2015 [1]<sup>2</sup>, the Technical Secretariat introduced a request from the Director-General (Appendixes 1 and 2) to make technical recommendations on how chemicals relevant to Schedules 1, 2 and 3 should be considered in relation to the Convention if they contain isotopic labels or can exist in distinguishable stereoisomeric forms; taking into account the SAB's previous views on CAS registry numbers [2].









## Emerging technologies

# SAB encourages Technical Secretariat to consider scenarios where new technologies may enhance capabilities of inspectors

Satellite imaging (including hyperspectral and non-visible light methods) should be considered for contingency operations and routine inspections where access to a site is difficult due to security concerns

The utility of UAVs to support investigations should be further explored - emphasis on area reconnaissance, visual confirmation, live entry support, and scene documentation

Unmanned systems for monitoring chemical change and/or collecting samples should be assessed







#### Detection

Remote and automated monitoring technologies should be added to the list of approved inspection equipment (including those that could be incorporated into unmanned vehicles)

Handheld devices that provide chemical information, including through spectroscopic capabilities, mass spectrometry, and non-destructive techniques should be assessed

Use of multiple and complementary detectors will provide higher confidence in results









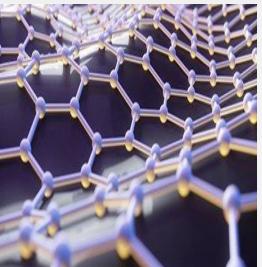
#### Protection

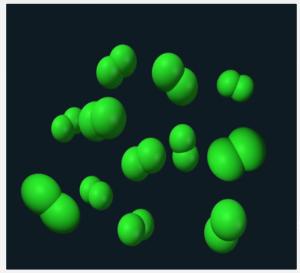
Research directed at enhancing protection while reducing the physiological burden of respirators and clothing

Incorporation of enzymes/catalysts to give self-decontaminating clothing, and evaluation of new materials in filters and clothing

#### E.g. metal organic frameworks (MOFs)







# The OPCW inspector today



Pinteres

## The OPCW inspector tomorrow



#### **Decontamination**

Enzymes might offer non-corrosive, safe and catalytic means of decontaminating CW agents

Directed evolution of enzymes may provide 'green catalysts' for degrading CW agents

New decontamination formulations will continue to be sought

Microorganisms that digest chemicals may allow CW remediation



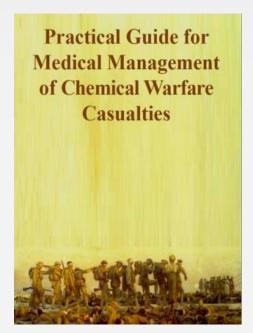




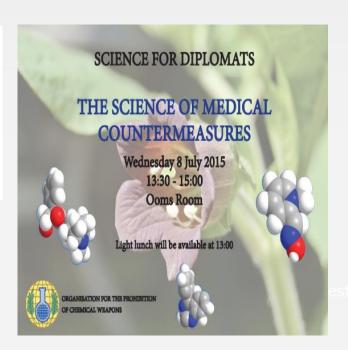
#### Medical countermeasures

There is a continuing need to identify early biochemical events to understand better mechanisms leading to vesicant injury

Requirement for fast and efficient means to diagnose and treat people exposed to toxic chemicals and for improved MedCMs



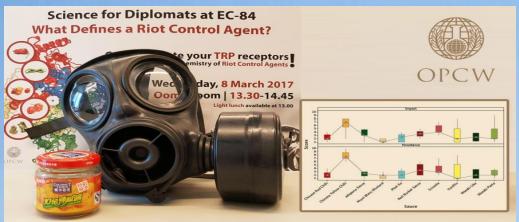


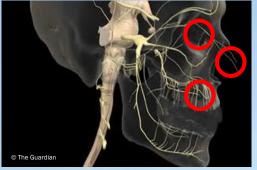


## Riot control agents (RCAs)

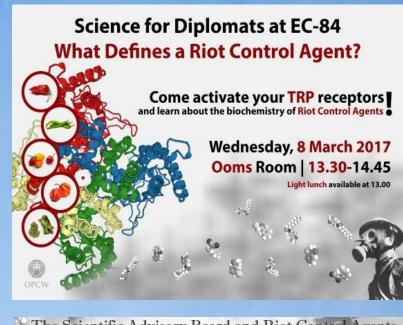
# Reviewed list of 60 chemicals that had been discussed in a RCA context

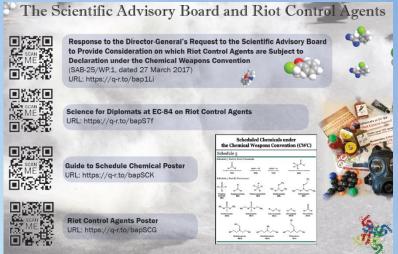
### Only 17 met CWC-definition of RCA











## Central nervous system (CNS) acting chemicals



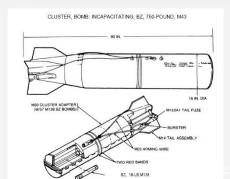
SAB reviewed 25 years of its advice on CNSacting chemicals and concluded aerosolisation of these materials for law enforcement poses a significant health risk to humans

Technical discussions remain exhausted: issue now in the policy domain

OPCW should start preparations for verification activities to prepare for any future IAU







#### Toxins

Standardised methods for identification and analysis of saxitoxin and ricin should continue to be developed, and an international capability built to analyse samples for these two Sch. 1 chemicals

- Methods for detecting and analysing other toxins/chemicals that have been weaponised, or pose a high risk of use as chemical weapons, should be addressed
- Development of analysis of specific biomarkers related to toxins in biomedical samples would be advantageous

OPCW Laboratory and designated laboratory network should engage with other networks of laboratories to share best practice in toxin identification and analysis







## Monitoring chemical change

Plants offer a means to detect and monitor chemical exposure (physical, chemical, and microbiological changes occur)

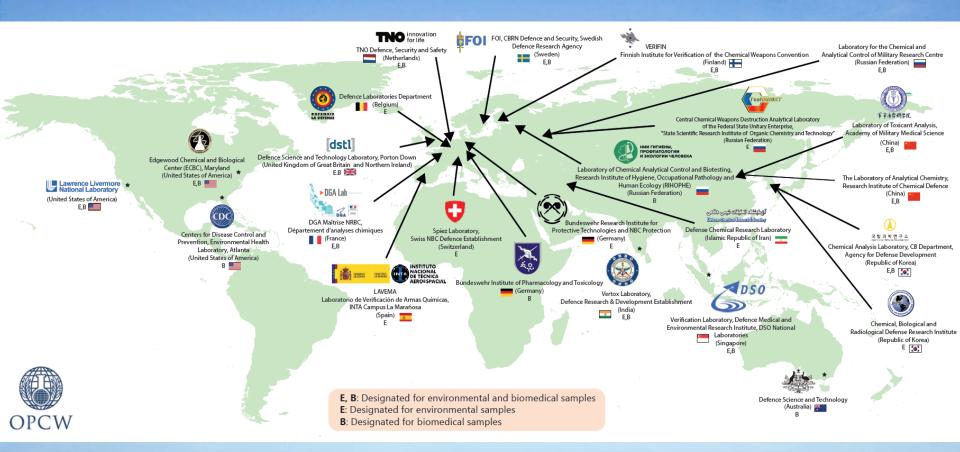
Might be able to read such changes using handheld devices etc.





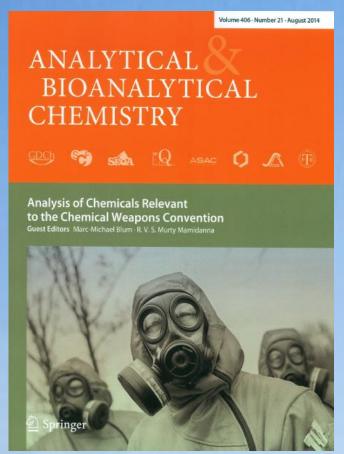


## Designated laboratories (DLs)



- SAB supports expansion of the network which is a model of international cooperation
- IAU technical data should be shared among DLs and published in peer-reviewed scientific papers to build capacity worldwide that OPCW may draw upon in future

## Important to share analytical methods









Proficiency Tests do not address identification of poisoning by non-sch. chemicals

The SAB recommends that a possible approach for such a scenario is evaluated

## OPCW Central Analytical Database (OCAD)

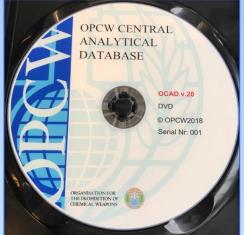
# Analytical data for chemicals that pose a risk of use for purposes prohibited by the CWC should be included in the OCAD, including:

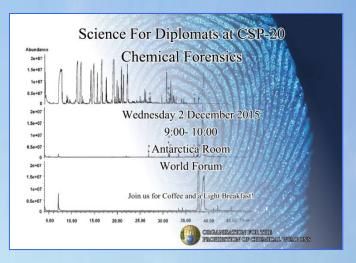
- Isotopically labeled relatives
- Stereoisomers of scheduled compounds
- Riot control agents
- CNS-acting chemicals
- Bioregulators and/or toxins
- Relevant biomarkers











## Sample handling and storage

Further documentation on the stability of samples just after sampling and during transport to the OPCW Laboratory; sample handling during splitting, handling, storage and disposal of samples at the OPCW Laboratory; should be pursued and shared with relevant stakeholder laboratories

Solid phase micro-extraction fibres, blood spot papers and related technologies may be promising for long-term storage of blood and other biological matrices – opportunities to test these should be sought

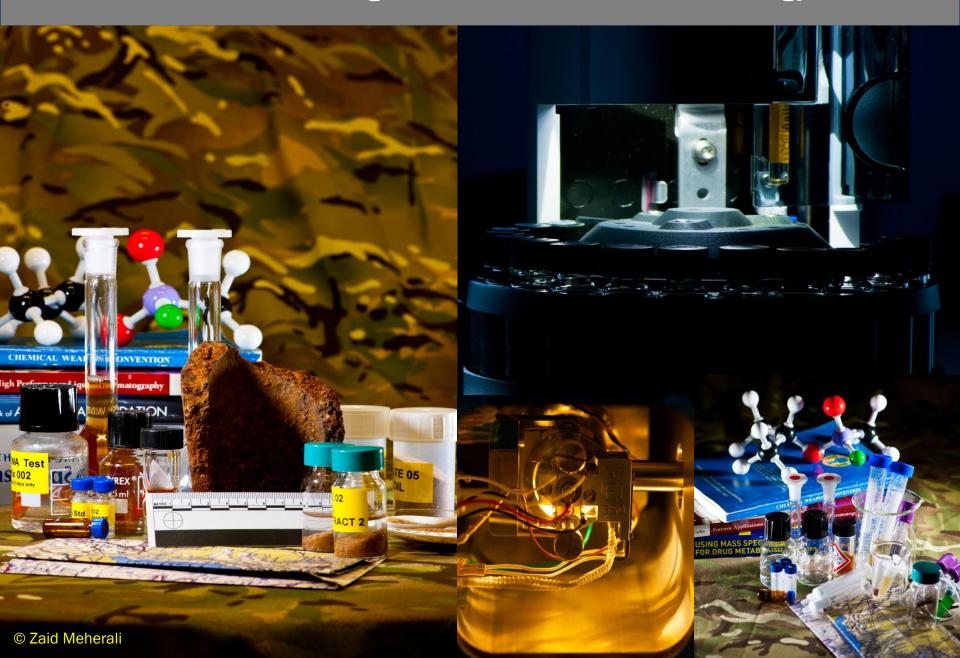
Collaborative opportunities to develop sample preparation methodologies for relevant non-scheduled chemicals (e.g. TICS, CNS acting chemicals, RCAs) should be sought







# TWG on Investigative Science and Technology



## TWG on Investigative Science and Technology

Contingency operations have increasingly involved investigations, analysis, and fact-finding, with collection and evaluation of oral, material, and digital evidence of the use of chemical agents

- Review science and technology relevant to investigations mandated under the CWC
- Include science and technology for the validation and provenancing (determining the chronology of ownership, custody and/or location) of evidence, and integration of multiple and diverse inputs to reconstruct a past event
- Identify capabilities, skill sets, and equipment that will augment and strengthen the investigative capabilities of OPCW











# **Temporary Working Group on Investigative Science and Technology**

Reporting to the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), the Temporary Working Group (TWG) will in particular consider the following questions:

#### **Ouestion 1:**

Which methods and capabilities used in the forensic sciences could usefully be developed and/or adopted for Chemical Weapons Convention-based investigations?



#### Question 2:

What are the best practices and analysis tools used in the forensic sciences for effectively cross-referencing, validating, and linking together information related to investigation sites, materials collected/analysed, and individuals interviewed?



#### **Question 3:**

What are the best practices for management of data collected in investigations, including compilation, curation, and analytics?



#### **Ouestion 4:**

What are the best practices for the collection, handling, curation and storage, and annotation of evidence?



#### **Ouestion 5:**

Which technologies and methodologies (whether established or new) allow point-of-care and non-destructive measurements at an investigation site to help guide evidence collection?



#### estion

Which technologies and methodologies (whether established or new) can be used in the provenancing of chemical and/or material samples collected in an investigation?



#### O stion 7:

Which methods are available (or are being developed) for the sampling and analysis of environmental and biomedical materials and can be used in the detection of toxic industrial chemicals relevant to the Chemical Weapons Convention?



#### **Ouestion 8:**

Which technologies and methodologies (whether established or new) can be used in ensuring chain of custody and verifying authenticity (especially in regard to digital images and video recordings)?



#### Ouestion 9:

Which technologies and methodologies (whether established or new) can be used to ensure the integrity of an investigation site?



#### **Question 10:**

Do collections of physical objects, samples, and other information for chemical weapons-related analysis exist and can they be made available to investigators for retrospective review? How might these collections be used to support investigations?



#### **Question 11:**

Are there stakeholders that the Technical Secretariat could usefully engage with to leverage their capabilities on investigative matters?



In addition, the TWG will provide advice on Technical Secretariat proposals for methodologies, procedures, technologies, and equipment for investigative purposes.

## Initial findings

Any site of alleged use of toxic chemicals should be viewed as a crime scene with interagency cooperation important for OPCW

Impurity profiling is an important developing area of science

Biomedical samples should be exploited as much as possible

Forensic techniques including analysis of open source videos and documents to establish authenticity should aid investigations

Important to consider best practice adopted by first responders

**OPCW** should keep reference samples of investigation samples

## Closing statement

The SAB's report to the Fourth Review Conference will be delivered to the Director-General in April 2018

The SAB condemns any use of chemicals as weapons and stands ready to provide relevant scientific advice in support of verification and the prevention of re-emergence of chemical weapons in response to any allegations

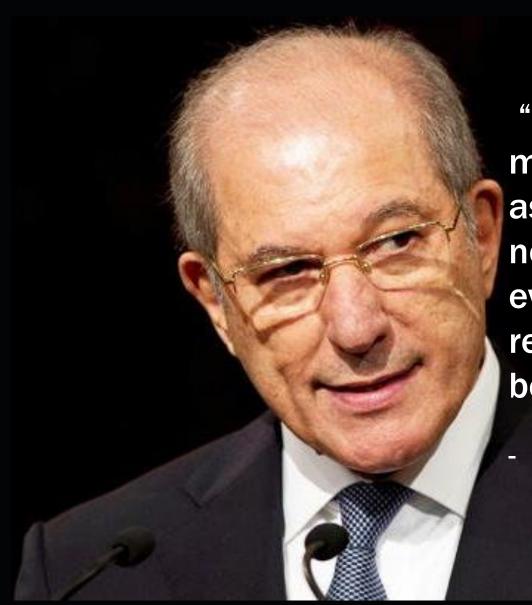


"...l encourage you to be forward thinking, innovative and bold as you draft this report

The value of the report and its advice is the independent expert voice the SAB provides"

- DG Remarks to SAB-26 16 October 2017





"...your findings and advice may serve to challenge assumptions and spark new ideas that benefit all; even when associated recommendations may not be accepted."

DG Remarks to SAB-2616 October 2017





# OPCW

منظمة حظر الأسلحة الكيميائية

禁止化学武器组织

Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

Organisation pour l'Interdiction des Armes Chimiques

Организация по запрещению химического оружия

Organización para la Prohibición de las Armas Químicas