

**REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL****STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE X OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS
CONVENTION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024****1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This report covers the period 1 January to 31 December 2024. All dates provided herein fall within that period, unless otherwise stated. As part of its drive to continuously improve official reporting, and to improve clarity of submissions made under paragraphs 4 and 7 of Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention), the Technical Secretariat (the Secretariat) last year changed the annual reporting period for Article X from 1 July to 30 June, covering two consecutive years, to 1 January to 31 December of the same calendar year. This report aligns the annual status update on the implementation of Article X with the 2024 international cooperation and assistance work programme.
- 1.2 As set out in this report, the Secretariat has continued to assist States Parties in implementing the provisions of Article X of the Convention. The aim of the Assistance and Protection Branch is to support States Parties in reducing risks associated with incidents involving toxic chemicals, as part of the focus on preventing the re-emergence of chemical weapons. The Branch's mission is:
- (a) to reduce the harm and impact caused by incidents involving toxic chemicals by supporting States Parties in their development of robust and effective first-response capabilities and capacities and national protection plans; the hardening of targets through enhanced first-response capabilities will also have an important deterrent effect; and
 - (b) to deter the malicious use of toxic chemicals by building the capacities of States Parties to investigate incidents involving the use of toxic chemicals.
- 1.3 As long as the threat of the malicious use of toxic chemicals persists, there will be a need to maintain and improve the protective capabilities of all States Parties in terms of their domestic response, and their ability to assist other States Parties through partnership frameworks. During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued to work closely with several regional and subregional organisations to enhance collective capacities to respond effectively to chemical emergencies. It will continue to reach out to such organisations in other regions, thereby strengthening its facilitation of regionally coordinated response measures.



- 1.4 In partnership with donor States Parties and partner training centres, the Assistance and Protection Branch conducted a total of 42 capacity-building activities for 1,006 participants, across all events. Participants benefitted from a broad range of training opportunities aimed at supporting Article X implementation. During the reporting period, in-person capacity-building activities were conducted in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, and Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as at the international level for participants across all regional groups.
- 1.5 During the reporting period, the Assistance and Protection Branch fully implemented, for the second year, the assistance and protection training cycle, consisting of two in-person and three online courses, at both regional and international level. The online components provide specialists from States Parties with information relevant to the implementation of Article X of the Convention, including the basic principles of protection against chemical weapons and response to incidents involving chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals. They support preparation for more intensive, two-phase practical, hands-on training and scenario-based exercises, which consist of the basic training and the advanced training and exercise courses.
- 1.6 Based on the re-evaluation of the current Assistance and Protection Branch training cycle mentioned above, the Branch introduced a new approach to the cycle by launching the Integrated Advanced Course and Exercise Pilot Project, which consists of a two-month online course as well as a face-to-face course combining the current basic and advanced courses, together with a final exercise, over seven training days. In this new mode, the expanded capacity development portfolio maintains the training cycle's objective of enhancing the preparedness and response capabilities of States Parties, while avoiding duplication of topics and allowing for optimisation of resources and budgets. This project was first implemented in Ecuador and, based on its success, will be transferred to other regions in 2025 and run in parallel with the current Assistance and Protection Branch training cycle.
- 1.7 During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued to deliver support to Ukraine, upon its request, in the field of assistance and protection. Contributions from States Parties to the Trust Fund for the Implementation of Article X have allowed the Secretariat to assist Ukrainian experts by launching specialised training courses, both online and in-person at the OPCW Centre for Chemistry and Technology (ChemTech Centre), and by conducting technical assistance visits.
- 1.8 Upon a request by Seychelles for an assessment visit, and in line with paragraph 5 of Article X of the Convention, the Secretariat conducted an assistance and protection mission. The mission allowed for meetings with various national and international stakeholders and highlighted the need for improved capacity building on first response, medical response, and chemical sampling and analysis.
- 1.9 Progress in the implementation of the Medical Action Plan, which provides assistance to States Parties on medical antidotes and treatments and advice on protective measures against chemical weapons, continued towards the standardisation and harmonisation of medical training. During the reporting period, the Assistance and Protection Branch organised three medical training courses: the regional hospital preparedness course for African States Parties, held in Morocco; the international course on medical aspects of assistance and protection against chemical weapons, held in China; and the regional

course on medical aspects of assistance and protection for States Parties in the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC), held in Brazil. The events also fostered the participation in these courses of experts who will coordinate future training, which will focus on sharing experiences and harmonising medical response-related content. By increasing the number of trained professionals in the medical field, engaging with national experts in this area, and approaching health centres dedicated to the treatment of victims, it will be possible to establish a dedicated medical network that can provide support to States Parties in the event of use of chemical weapons or other incidents involving toxic industrial chemicals.

- 1.10 During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued to encourage applications from women for capacity-building training and to promote the involvement of women instructors in capacity-building activities, which resulted in increased participation of women in training. The international training cycle for women first responders, a first-of-its-kind initiative exclusively for women first responders, was one of the key activities in the area of assistance and protection in 2024. This training cycle highlights the OPCW's efforts to address gender-based challenges and needs in chemical emergency preparedness and to provide capacity-building opportunities for qualified women in a traditionally male-dominated field.

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE X

- 2.1 In accordance with the Programme and Budget of the OPCW and the relevant decisions of the policy-making organs, the activities of the OPCW in relation to Article X of the Convention during the period under review were focused on the following main areas:
- (a) information submitted by States Parties on their national programmes for protection against chemical weapons;
 - (b) support for the renewed OPCW Protection and Assistance Databank (PAD);
 - (c) mobilisation of international contributions to capacity-building activities for the enhancement of States Parties' capabilities to respond to chemical weapons-related incidents through the use of offers by States Parties, including those related to in-person and remote training courses on assistance and protection;
 - (d) support for States Parties in developing and improving their national capabilities in relation to protection against chemical weapons, including the provision of technical advice;
 - (e) assistance in the implementation of the decision entitled "The Establishment of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons and the Establishment of a Voluntary Trust Fund for This Purpose" taken by the Conference of the States Parties (the Conference) at its Sixteenth Session (C-16/DEC.13, dated 2 December 2011);
 - (f) engagement with relevant international organisations with mandates relating to assistance and protection to strengthen cooperation and coordination in the provision of assistance to the States Parties concerned in cases of use or serious threat of use of chemical weapons, as provided for in paragraph 9 of Article X; and

- (g) facilitation of informal consultations on Article X issues and the fostering of other exchange platforms to further strengthen the framework for the full implementation of Article X.

Information submitted by States Parties on their national programmes for protection against chemical weapons (paragraph 4 of Article X)

- 2.2 Between 1 January and 31 December 2024, the following States Parties provided information on their national programmes and/or measures that they have in place for protection against chemical weapons: Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, the Czech Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, the Holy See, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Of these, Barbados, Bhutan, Chile, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Mexico, Myanmar, Peru, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Suriname, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) declared that they had neither national programmes nor measures in place for protection against chemical weapons.
- 2.3 Between entry into force of the Convention and 31 December 2024, 174 out of 193 States Parties submitted information on their national programmes for protection against chemical weapons. In order to increase the number of submissions from States Parties and to achieve universal compliance with the obligation under paragraph 4 of Article X of the Convention, the Secretariat has repeatedly reminded States Parties, both collectively and individually, of the importance of meeting the deadline for submission of information on national programmes.
- 2.4 In April 2024, the Secretariat circulated Note Verbale NV/ICA/APB-627/24 (dated 29 April 2024) to all States Parties requesting that, pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article X, they make their annual submissions on their national programmes related to protective purposes. The Secretariat also reached out to 43 States Parties that had not provided any information on their national programmes for protective purposes since 2012, through Note Verbale NV/ICA/APB-699/24 (dated 19 November 2024), requesting them to provide the relevant submissions for 2023.
- 2.5 To facilitate the exchange of information and the compilation of national policies and effective practices concerning gender-related factors in protection against chemical weapons, the Secretariat encourages States Parties to consider adding the relevant information to their annual information on national programmes.

Support of the OPCW's Protection and Assistance Databank (paragraph 5 of Article X)

- 2.6 At its First Session, the Conference adopted a decision requesting the Secretariat to establish and maintain a databank containing freely available information on various means of protection against chemical weapons (C-I/DEC.53, dated 16 May 1997).

Pursuant to that decision, the Secretariat established the PAD, as required under paragraph 5 of Article X of the Convention. Since December 2006, a version of the databank has been available for use by National Authorities and Permanent Representations to the OPCW. It is now available through the OPCW Catalyst portal, with password-protected access.

- 2.7 In a Note circulated in 2024 (EC-106/S/1, dated 13 June 2024), the Secretariat updated the Executive Council (the Council) on the status of the databank, its improved functionality, and its content and use, covering paragraphs 3, 4, and 7 of Article X of the Convention.

Mobilisation of international contributions for the enhancement of States Parties' capabilities to respond to chemical weapons-related incidents through the use of offers by States Parties, including those related to international training courses on assistance and protection

- 2.8 In June 2024, the Secretariat circulated Note Verbale NV/ICA/APB-639/24 (dated 5 June 2024) to all States Parties, requesting that they review and update their paragraph 7 submissions, and for those States Parties yet to provide any offers of assistance, that they submit an offer. The Secretariat, through Note Verbale NV/ICA/APB-700/24 (dated 19 November 2024), also reached out to 37 States Parties that had not updated their offers of assistance under subparagraph 7(c) for more than a decade, requesting them to provide an update.
- 2.9 In accordance with Article X, each State Party has the right to request and receive assistance and protection in the event of use or threat of use of chemical weapons. The OPCW must, therefore, be ready to mobilise an international response that would be required in such a situation. Since entry into force of the Convention, 82 States Parties have made offers of assistance or provided assistance through the Organisation under paragraph 7 of Article X in one or several of the following modalities, namely by:
- (a) contributing to the Voluntary Fund for Assistance;
 - (b) concluding an agreement with the Organisation concerning the procurement of assistance; or
 - (c) declaring the kind of assistance they might provide in response to a request of the Organisation (Annex 2).
- 2.10 As at 31 December 2024, 48 States Parties had made contributions to the Voluntary Fund for Assistance, the balance of which had reached a total of EUR 1,655,294.45 (see Annex 3).
- 2.11 During the reporting period, the Organisation did not conclude any new bilateral agreements concerning the procurement of assistance. To date, only the Islamic Republic of Iran and Peru have signed such an agreement with the Secretariat.

Support for States Parties in developing and improving their national capabilities in relation to protection against chemical weapons, including the provision of technical advice (paragraph 5 of Article X)

- 2.12 During the reporting period the Secretariat, in cooperation with States Parties, continued to organise online and in-person capacity-building activities aimed at the development and improvement of national protection capabilities against chemical weapons. Cooperation received from the States Parties included the development of the training course concept, video lectures, e-learning materials, peer reviews, the hosting of events, the sharing of specialised facilities and expertise, and the provision of instructors, as well as other national resources that were placed at the disposal of the Organisation.

Activities conducted during the reporting period (1 January to 31 December 2024)

- 2.13 Article X implementation activities conducted in 2024 are reflected in three Notes by the Secretariat containing updates on events organised by the Secretariat in the area of international cooperation and assistance: S/2292/2024 (dated 27 May 2024), covering the period January to April 2024 (see paragraphs 13 to 21); S/2326/2024 (dated 14 October 2024), covering the period May to August 2024 (see paragraphs 14 to 31); and S/2365/2025 (dated 6 February 2025), covering the period September to December 2024 (see paragraphs 14 to 30).

Assistance in the implementation of Conference decision C-16/DEC.13 on “The Establishment of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons and the Establishment of a Voluntary Trust Fund for This Purpose”

- 2.14 As at the closing date of this report, the balance of the Voluntary Trust Fund for the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons stood at EUR 107,733.¹
- 2.15 Following the publication in 2020 of an updated version of the Practical Guide for Medical Management of Chemical Warfare Casualties, the Secretariat is working on a companion book on the long-term effects of exposure to chemical weapons on victims. The companion book is in its final revision and is expected to be completed in 2025.
- 2.16 During the reporting period, the Secretariat organised three medical training sessions to highlight assistance and protection in relation to medical aspects and protective measures for victims and potential victims of chemical weapons.
- 2.17 From 24 to 27 June 2024, the hospital preparedness course for African States Parties was held in Kenitra, Morocco. It was jointly organised with the Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates, and the Royal Moroccan Armed Forces. The training achieved its objectives, focusing on strengthening the capacity in African States Parties of hospitals and medical facilities that may be called upon to respond in the aftermath of an attack involving chemical warfare agents or toxic industrial chemicals.
- 2.18 From 14 to 18 October 2024, the international training course on the medical aspects of assistance and protection against chemical weapons was jointly organised by the Secretariat, the National Authority of China, and the Air Force Medical University

¹ The figure presented is provisional as at 31 December 2024.

in Xi'an, China. This course aimed to enhance medical preparedness for chemical emergencies, providing theoretical knowledge and some practical activities to health professionals.

- 2.19 From 4 to 8 November 2024, the regional training course on medical preparedness against chemical weapons was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The course was organised jointly by the Secretariat, the National Authority of Brazil, and the Brazilian Air Force. This training aimed to enhance medical preparedness for chemical emergencies, providing practical and theoretical knowledge to health professionals.

Engagement with relevant international organisations with mandates relating to assistance and protection in order to strengthen cooperation and coordination in the provision of assistance to the States Parties concerned in cases of use or serious threat of use of chemical weapons (paragraph 9 of Article X)

- 2.20 The Secretariat has continued its interaction with relevant international and regional organisations and continues to seek partnerships and synergies, where interests are shared and mandates are complementary.
- 2.21 Cooperation also continued at the subregional level, particularly in Central America, Southeast Asia, and South-Eastern Europe, and among the Member States of the East African Community.

The holding of informal consultations on Article X issues and the fostering of other exchange platforms to further strengthen the conceptual framework for the full implementation of Article X

- 2.22 The facilitator for Article X issues, Ms Martina Filippiová, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the OPCW, convened informal consultations in a hybrid format (online and in person) on 6 February 2024 under the direction of H.E. Ambassador Minami Hiroshi, Vice-Chairperson of the Council and coordinator for chemical weapons issues. The participating delegations received a presentation on the overview of the implementation of Article X as of 31 December 2023 and on the work plan and strategy for capacity-building activities for 2024–2025.
- 2.23 Further informal consultations on the implementation of Article X were conducted in a hybrid format on 27 June 2024 under the direction of H.E. Ambassador Mutlaq bin Majed Al Qahtani, the then newly appointed Vice-Chairperson of the Council and coordinator for chemical weapons issues. The delegations present received an update from the Secretariat on the distribution of the budget and the implementation of Article X for the first half of 2024. The delegations were also informed about a new training of trainers methodology which aims to strengthen the capacity of States Parties to respond to chemical emergencies by providing specialised training to first responders.
- 2.24 The final informal consultations during the reporting period were held in a hybrid mode on 18 September 2024. The participating delegates heard a presentation on gender representation in the activities of the Assistance and Protection Branch, and States Parties were encouraged to identify, support, and endorse the applications of suitable women candidates for capacity-building programmes. The Secretariat also presented the new Integrated Advanced Course and Exercise Pilot Project, which aims to enhance the preparedness and response capabilities of States Parties in the event of incidents involving toxic chemicals, while optimising the resources of the Branch's capacity-building activities.

Current status and considerations

- 2.25 Progress continued to be made in order to advance the objectives of Article X, namely, to maintain and increase the level of readiness of the Organisation to respond to a request for assistance, which includes the improvement of States Parties' capabilities to counter chemical attacks and other incidents involving toxic chemicals.
- 2.26 The following significant facts should be highlighted:
- (a) Fulfilment of obligations under paragraph 4 of Article X continues to pose difficulties, given the ongoing low rate of submissions by States Parties. The Assistance and Protection Branch continues to tailor efforts aimed at achieving a better understanding and an in-depth sensitisation of States Parties with regard to this important transparency provision of the Convention, with a view to improving the rate of submissions. These efforts by the Secretariat focused on requesting all States Parties to make their annual submissions on their national programmes related to protective purposes, in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article X of the Convention. In addition, the Secretariat also requested relevant submissions for 2023 to be made from the States Parties that had not provided any information on their national programmes for protective purposes since 2012.
 - (b) The Secretariat continues to encourage States Parties to consider the options contained in paragraph 7 of Article X as an important means to support and strengthen Article X implementation and to review and update offers currently archived in the PAD. The Secretariat, under subparagraph 39(b) of Article VIII, is ready to work alongside States Parties to ensure that offers of assistance under subparagraphs 7(b) and 7(c) remain current. With a view to encouraging States Parties' engagement under paragraph 7 of Article X, in 2024, the Secretariat requested all States Parties to review and update their paragraph 7 submissions, and requested those States Parties that have yet to provide any offers of assistance to submit an offer. In addition to this, the Secretariat requested 37 States Parties that had not updated their offers of assistance under subparagraph 7(c) for more than a decade to provide an update.
 - (c) From 1 January to 31 December 2024, States Parties benefitted from 42 assistance and protection-related activities, with 1,006 participants taking part in a broad range of training opportunities aimed at supporting Article X implementation. A total of 28 training events and workshops were conducted in person and 14 training courses were delivered online.
 - (d) In order to identify suitable institutions to help implement the regional capacity-building approach followed by the Secretariat, continuous interaction with States Parties remains pivotal, and has allowed the OPCW to count on the support of a number of institutions of States Parties from all geographical regions. These institutions currently interact with the Secretariat in providing international, regional, and subregional training and constitute important pillars of assistance and protection capacity-building programmes.

- (e) During the reporting period, the Assistance and Protection Branch fully implemented the assistance and protection training cycle, which is available in English, French, and Spanish.
- (f) Lessons learned and feedback received on the assistance and protection training cycle have led to further revisions of the training cycle and the development of the integrated advanced course and exercise, which was launched as a pilot project in Ecuador in 2024. This course and exercise aim to reduce duplication in the assistance and protection training cycle, to enhance training on preparedness and response capabilities of States Parties, and to optimise financial and human resource allocations available to the Secretariat. Further iterations of this revised cycle will be carried out in 2025.
- (g) The Secretariat held an international training cycle for women first responders in collaboration with the Swiss Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical (NBC) Defense School in 2024. The course provided fundamental training in protection against chemical weapons and included practical training with chemical detection and decontamination equipment. Participants included women first responders from military, police, firefighting, and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosives (CBRNe) units. This training cycle marks an important effort by the Secretariat to encourage and provide opportunities to qualified women first responders, while addressing gender-based challenges and needs in the area of chemical emergency preparedness.
- (h) The ChemTech Centre, which provides a uniquely equipped training environment where States Parties' trainers can exchange and share experiences and best practices with Secretariat experts, has contributed to the creation of new capacity-building opportunities. During the reporting period, the Centre was leveraged in the delivery of: specialised courses for Ukrainian experts; a component of the University of Rome Tor Vergata's international master's course on protection against CBRNe events; a medical consultancy meeting; and live sessions of the assistance and protection training cycle for various regions. All of these events provided participants with the opportunity to deepen their knowledge and skills in the field of assistance and protection.
- (i) The Instructor Development and Exchange Programme continued to enjoy wide support, as it contributes to the enhancement of individual and collective preparation and to increased sustainability of the Organisation's capacity-building efforts. It will continue to be implemented, including at the regional and subregional level. Interaction among partner training centres will also continue to be promoted and facilitated as circumstances allow. Their engagement with the online assistance and protection capacity-building activities, from basic to specialised courses, has been beneficial to expanding and strengthening the network of experts within and across the regions.
- (j) Progress continued to be made in the Africa region with regard to improving national and regional capacity to respond to incidents involving chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals. In 2024, relevant online and in-person activities took place to implement the sixth phase of the OPCW Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention.

- (k) To support States Parties in building capacity to investigate incidents involving chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals, the Assistance and Protection Branch conducted the basic course for French-speaking OPCW Member States in Africa, in Côte d'Ivoire. The course provided practical training in the fundamentals of chemical warfare agents and their effects, protective equipment and its limitations, detection and decontamination equipment and procedures, and basic sampling procedures. This hands-on approach aimed to provide first responders with the confidence and capability to deal with potential chemical emergencies.
- (l) The Online Self-Assessment Tool (OSAT) has assisted National Authorities in assessing the risks posed by hazardous chemicals, auditing existing response capacities, and identifying necessary improvement measures, including those that may be supported by the Secretariat. During the reporting period, the Assistance and Protection Branch engaged with Member States of the OPCW that are also members of RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation in South-Eastern Europe and of the East African Community by conducting capacity-building workshops on the use of the OSAT. Based on the lessons learned, and in order to move to the next phase of using the OSAT in a more sustainable approach, the Secretariat has offered the tool to help States Parties develop robust national protection plans through a risk-based needs assessment, with the support of the Secretariat upon request.
- (m) The implementation of the Medical Action Plan successfully continued in 2024, through the execution of training activities delivered at the regional and international level, the planning of new events, the launching of training materials, as well as the coordination of activities aimed at strengthening the medical capabilities of States Parties in areas related to preparedness and response to emergencies involving the use of chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals. A medical consultancy meeting organised by the Secretariat was aimed at developing a comprehensive syllabus on the medical aspects related to chemical weapons and the drafting of an academic paper for publication. The meeting brought together experts in chemical emergency response and medical education to ensure that healthcare professionals are adequately prepared to respond to incidents involving chemical weapons.
- (n) The systematic approach to enhancing medical capabilities at the global and regional level continues to integrate health professionals from various levels of response, as well as members of the health teams responsible for attending to victims. States Parties have benefitted from newly trained health personnel, which will contribute to increased capacity to attend to victims of chemical weapons. During the implementation of the Medical Action Plan, special consideration has been given to gender-related aspects.
- (o) In addition, the exchange of instructors in different regions has been fostered within the framework of the Medical Action Plan, and the process has begun to identify potential centres to support activities related to medical preparedness (and eventually response), with the future objective of establishing networks of health professionals and hospitals dedicated to attending to victims. Additionally, activities related to the identification of partners and relevant stakeholders in the medical field have continued as planned.

- (p) The Secretariat continued to provide assistance to Ukraine, upon its request, in the field of assistance and protection. The Secretariat delivered three sampling courses on the investigation of chemical weapons use to 60 experts at the ChemTech Centre. The specific objective of these courses was to provide participants with the theoretical knowledge and practical skills needed to competently conduct an investigation of chemical weapons use. The training, which included practical exercises, addressed the handling of digital data and the chain of custody, and provided an introduction to environmental and biomedical sampling, and familiarisation with personal protective equipment (PPE) and detection equipment. Online courses on emergency response to incidents involving toxic chemicals were also offered to 47 first responders of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine. The course content covered basic theoretical knowledge for all participants about the Convention, the OPCW, Article X, chemical warfare agents, toxic industrial chemicals, PPE, devices for detection, identification, and monitoring, and decontamination and sampling. In addition, the Secretariat conducted technical assistance visits to deliver detection equipment and to provide training on its use as well as technical advice. The equipment delivered consisted of 70 LCD 3.3 and 13 FirstDefender RM Raman spectrometers. These detectors were funded from contributions totalling EUR 1.4 million from States Parties to the Trust Fund for the Implementation of Article X.
- (q) Upon the request by Seychelles for an assessment visit, the Secretariat conducted an assistance and protection mission in line with paragraph 5 of Article X of the Convention. The findings of the mission highlighted various areas for development in preparedness and response services, and the need for improved capacity building, specifically in the area of training for and coordination of first responders, medical response to chemical incidents, and chemical sampling and analysis. The need to implement legislation was also highlighted as a crucial step to be undertaken by Seychelles to strengthen its national legal framework, as it otherwise undermines the capacity of enforcement mechanisms to effectively prosecute individuals engaged in chemical weapons-related activities. The Secretariat, through its International Cooperation and Assistance Division, has been in contact with Seychelles to support that Member State in drafting national implementing legislation. Seychelles has also been encouraged to apply for participation in the regional and international capacity-development courses for first responders on assistance and protection offered by the Secretariat, and is currently participating in the ongoing international training cycle on assistance and protection for women first responders.
- (r) Cooperation continues to be offered by the States Parties, through the sharing of specialised facilities such as partner training centres, the provision and exchange of instructors, the hosting of events, and the provision of voluntary contributions for different programmes.
- (s) In addition, the widest possible participation of States Parties in their roles as recipients and donors continues to be indispensable for the full implementation of the provisions of Article X. During the reporting period, Canada, the Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway,

the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America provided additional support to Article X implementation projects through extrabudgetary contributions.

- (t) Throughout the reporting period, the Assistance and Protection Branch continued to develop and strengthen its role in assisting States Parties in their endeavours to implement the provisions of Article X, also thanks to continuous interaction with the States Parties as described throughout this report.

Annexes (English only):

- Annex 1: Submissions of Information on National Protection Programmes, by Year, in Accordance with Paragraph 4 of Article X of the Convention, between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2024
- Annex 2: Assistance Measures Adopted by States Parties Pursuant to Paragraph 7 of Article X of the Convention as at 31 December 2024
- Annex 3: Contributions to the Voluntary Fund for Assistance as at 31 December 2024

Annex 1

SUBMISSIONS OF INFORMATION ON NATIONAL PROTECTION PROGRAMMES, BY YEAR, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 4 OF ARTICLE X OF THE CONVENTION, BETWEEN 1 JANUARY 2014 AND 31 DECEMBER 2024

	State Party	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
1.	Afghanistan	No										
2.	Albania				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes		
3.	Algeria	Yes	Classified		Classified		Yes	Classified	Classified	Yes	Yes	Yes
4.	Andorra	No	No		No	No	No	No	No	No		
5.	Angola											
6.	Antigua and Barbuda											
7.	Argentina	No	Yes	Classified	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes
8.	Armenia	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
9.	Australia	Yes	Yes		Classified	Yes	Yes	Classified	Classified	Yes	Yes	Yes
10.	Austria	Yes	Yes						Yes	Yes	Yes	
11.	Azerbaijan							Yes				
12.	Bahamas											
13.	Bahrain	No							Yes			
14.	Bangladesh	No	No		No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes			
15.	Barbados		No					No			No	No
16.	Belarus	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes		Yes	Yes
17.	Belgium	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes
18.	Belize		No	No					No			
19.	Benin											
20.	Bhutan							No	No	No	No	No
21.	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)		No				No	No		No	No	
22.	Bosnia and Herzegovina					No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
23.	Botswana											
24.	Brazil	Yes	Yes	Yes	Classified	Yes	Classified	Classified	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
25.	Brunei Darussalam	Yes										
26.	Bulgaria	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
27.	Burkina Faso	Yes			No							
28.	Burundi	No	No									
29.	Cabo Verde											

[illegible]

[illegible]

	State Party	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
98.	Liechtenstein	No	Classified	No				No	No		No	Classified
99.	Lithuania	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes							
100.	Luxembourg	No		No	No		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
101.	Madagascar		No		No		No					
102.	Malawi											
103.	Malaysia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Classified	Yes	Classified	Yes	Yes	Yes
104.	Maldives								No	No		
105.	Mali											
106.	Malta	No										
107.	Marshall Islands											
108.	Mauritania											
109.	Mauritius					No	No	No	No			Yes
110.	Mexico	No	No	No	Classified	Classified	No	Classified		No		No
111.	Micronesia (Federated States of)											
112.	Monaco	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				Yes			
113.	Mongolia		Yes				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes
114.	Montenegro							Yes	Classified	Classified		Yes
115.	Morocco											
116.	Mozambique											
117.	Myanmar			Classified					No	No	No	No
118.	Namibia	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes				Yes
119.	Nauru											
120.	Nepal											
121.	Netherlands	Yes	Classified	Yes	Yes	Yes	Classified		Classified	Yes	No	
122.	New Zealand		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		
123.	Nicaragua				No		No	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes
124.	Niger	No	No							Yes	Yes	
125.	Nigeria								No			
126.	Niue											
127.	North Macedonia	Yes			Yes		Yes					
128.	Norway	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		
129.	Oman				Yes		Yes					
130.	Pakistan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Classified	Yes		Yes	Classified		Classified	Classified
131.	Palau						Classified					
132.	Panama				Yes		Yes	Yes				

	State Party	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
133.	Papua New Guinea											
134.	Paraguay	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes					
135.	Peru		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
136.	Philippines						Yes					
137.	Poland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
138.	Portugal	Yes	Classified		Classified		Classified					
139.	Qatar	Yes	Yes	Classified	Classified	Yes	Yes	Classified		Classified		Yes
140.	Republic of Korea							Yes				Yes
141.	Republic of Moldova	Yes										
142.	Romania	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
143.	Russian Federation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
144.	Rwanda						Yes					
145.	Saint Kitts and Nevis	No					Yes		No	No		
146.	Saint Lucia											
147.	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines											No
148.	Samoa											
149.	San Marino	No								No	No	No
150.	Sao Tome and Principe											
151.	Saudi Arabia	Yes		Classified				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
152.	Senegal											
153.	Serbia	Yes	Classified	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes		Yes	Yes
154.	Seychelles											
155.	Sierra Leone							Yes				
156.	Singapore	Yes	Classified	Classified	Classified	Yes		Classified	Classified	Classified		
157.	Slovakia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Classified	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
158.	Slovenia			Yes	Yes		Classified					Yes
159.	Solomon Islands						Yes					
160.	Somalia											
161.	South Africa	Yes	Classified	Classified	Classified	Classified		Yes	Classified	Classified	Yes	Yes
162.	Spain	Yes	Classified	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
163.	Sri Lanka	Yes				Yes	Classified	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
164.	State of Palestine											
165.	Sudan		Yes	Yes		No						
166.	Suriname	No			No					No	No	No
167.	Sweden	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

	State Party	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
168.	Switzerland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Classified	Yes	Yes	Yes
169.	Syrian Arab Republic						Yes	Classified	Classified			
170.	Tajikistan	No		No				No				
171.	Thailand	Yes	Yes	Classified	Yes	Yes	Classified		Classified	Classified	Yes	Classified
172.	Timor-Leste						Classified					
173.	Togo											
174.	Tonga											
175.	Trinidad and Tobago											
176.	Tunisia				Yes							Yes
177.	Türkiye	Yes	Yes		Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
178.	Turkmenistan				Yes		Yes					
179.	Tuvalu											
180.	Uganda		Yes									
181.	Ukraine	No	No	No	No	No		No				
182.	United Arab Emirates	Yes	No		No		No	Yes				
183.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
184.	United Republic of Tanzania			Yes			Yes					
185.	United States of America	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes
186.	Uruguay			Yes				Yes				
187.	Uzbekistan							Yes	No			
188.	Vanuatu											
189.	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)					No	No			No	No	No
190.	Viet Nam	Yes	Classified	Yes	Yes			Classified				
191.	Yemen	No										
192.	Zambia				No							
193.	Zimbabwe											
Subtotal for protection programmes		57	57	53	60	49	60	65	60	56	39	51
Total number of submissions		83	75	65	75	57	71	78	78	71	53	64

Annex 2

**ASSISTANCE MEASURES ADOPTED BY STATES PARTIES PURSUANT TO
PARAGRAPH 7 OF ARTICLE X OF THE CONVENTION
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

(Status: Subparagraphs 7(a), 7(b), and 7(c) of Article X)

	State Party	Submission Date	Voluntary Fund	Bilateral Agreement	Unilateral Offer
1.	Albania	May 2002	✓		
2.	Argentina	Nov 2013			✓
3.	Armenia	Mar 2003			✓
4.	Australia	Oct 1997 (updated, 2006)			✓
5.	Austria	Oct 1997			✓
6.	Bangladesh	Apr 2006			✓
7.	Belarus	May 1997 Jul 2006 Apr 2008			✓ ✓ ✓
8.	Belgium	Dec 1997	✓		
9.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Jan 2004	✓		
10.	Brazil	Mar 2017 Jun 2023			✓ ✓
11.	Bulgaria	Jan 1998 Oct 2007 Jan 2008			✓ ✓ ✓
12.	Burundi	Jul 2008	✓		
13.	Canada	Sept 1997	✓		
14.	Chile	May 1997	✓		
15.	China	Sept 1999			✓
16.	Colombia	Nov 2006			✓
17.	Costa Rica	Sept 2024			✓
18.	Croatia	Jul 1999			✓
19.	Cuba	Nov 1997 Jul 2005 Apr 2020			✓ ✓ ✓
20.	Cyprus	Oct 2010	✓		
21.	Czech Republic	Oct 1997 Dec 2012 Dec 2024	✓		✓ ✓
22.	Denmark	Jan 1998	✓		
23.	Estonia	Oct 2001	✓		
24.	Ethiopia	Jun 2002	✓		
25.	Fiji	Dec 2005	✓		
26.	Finland	Dec 1997	✓		
27.	France	Oct 1997			✓

	State Party	Submission Date	Voluntary Fund	Bilateral Agreement	Unilateral Offer
28.	Georgia	Oct 2000			✓
29.	Germany	Oct 1997			✓
30.	Greece	Jun 2000 Jun 2003	✓ ✓		
31.	Guatemala	Aug 2006			✓
32.	Hungary	Dec 1998	✓		
33.	India	Nov 1997 Sept 2007 Dec 2024	✓		✓ ✓
34.	Indonesia	Sept 2008	✓		
35.	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Jun 1998		✓	✓
36.	Ireland	Jan 1998	✓		
37.	Italy	Oct 1997 Jul 2006 Oct 2014 May 2016 Jul 2020 Jun 2021 Mar 2022	✓		✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
38.	Japan	Mar 1999 Feb 2006 Jun 2008	✓		✓ ✓
39.	Jordan	May 2006			✓
40.	Kenya	Dec 2003	✓		
41.	Kuwait	Jun 1999	✓		
42.	Latvia	Jun 1999			✓
43.	Lesotho	Nov 2012	✓		
44.	Liechtenstein	Jan 2001	✓		
45.	Lithuania	Jun 1999	✓		✓
46.	Luxembourg	Nov 1997	✓		
47.	Malta	Dec 2000	✓		
48.	Mexico	Nov 2011 Oct 2016 Jul 2017 Jul 2018 Jan 2020 Dec 2021 Jun 2024	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓		✓
49.	Mongolia	Jan 1998 Dec 2007			✓ ✓
50.	Morocco	May 1997			✓
51.	Netherlands	Jul 1997 Nov 2001 Oct 2006	✓ ✓		✓
52.	New Zealand	Jun 1997	✓		
53.	Nigeria	May 2006			✓

	State Party	Submission Date	Voluntary Fund	Bilateral Agreement	Unilateral Offer
54.	North Macedonia	Oct 2003	✓		
55.	Norway	Nov 1997	✓		
56.	Oman	Mar 1998	✓		
57.	Pakistan	Aug 1998 Feb 2004 Oct 2007	✓		✓ ✓
58.	Peru	Apr 1998 Sept 2009 Oct 2011	✓	✓	✓
59.	Poland	Oct 1997 Nov 2018	✓		✓
60.	Portugal	Mar 1999 Oct 2006 Apr 2010 Apr 2021 Apr 2024			✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
61.	Qatar	Aug 2012	✓		
62.	Republic of Korea	Dec 1997 Oct 1998	✓ ✓		
63.	Republic of Moldova	Apr 2002			✓
64.	Romania	Oct 1997 Jan 2006 Feb 2006 Jan 2024	✓		✓ ✓ ✓
65.	Russian Federation	Sept 1999 Dec 2007 Apr 2009			✓ ✓ ✓
66.	Saudi Arabia	Nov 2004	✓		
67.	Serbia	May 2005 Mar 2006 Jan 2007			✓ ✓ ✓
68.	Singapore	Dec 1997 Apr 2008			✓ ✓
69.	Slovakia	Nov 1997 Dec 2013			✓ ✓
70.	Slovenia	Jul 1998 Jan 2002 Jul 2007 Jun 2008 Apr 2010	✓		✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
71.	South Africa	Nov 1997 (expired, 2005) Jul 2022			✓ Expired ✓

	State Party	Submission Date	Voluntary Fund	Bilateral Agreement	Unilateral Offer
72.	Spain	Nov 1997 Sept 2003 Oct 2008 Jul 2024			✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
73.	Sweden	Oct 1997	✓		✓
74.	Switzerland	Oct 1997 Sept 2007	✓		✓ ✓
75.	Thailand	Mar 2004	✓		
76.	Türkiye	Apr 1998	✓		
77.	Turkmenistan	Mar 2008	✓		
78.	Ukraine	Jan 2000 Jun 2006 May 2008			✓ ✓ ✓
79.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Oct 1997 Dec 2001	✓		✓
80.	United States of America	Oct 1997			✓
81.	Uruguay	Apr 2006			✓
82.	Zimbabwe	Jan 2001	✓		
	Total	82	48	2	49

Annex 3

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE VOLUNTARY FUND FOR ASSISTANCE
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

State Party		Amount Contributed (in Euros)²
1.	Albania	3,000.00
2.	Belgium	24,767.86
3.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1,500.00
4.	Burundi	3,049.80
5.	Canada	22,689.01
6.	Chile	9,153.88
7.	Cyprus	3,500.00
8.	Czech Republic	9,873.23
9.	Denmark	7,454.25
10.	Estonia	2,000.00
11.	Ethiopia	5,275.93
12.	Fiji	4,920.00
13.	Finland	25,333.86
14.	Greece	36,344.51
15.	Hungary	4,410.34
16.	India ³	10,000.27
17.	Indonesia	6,868.13
18.	Ireland	11,344.51
19.	Italy	172,442.18
20.	Japan	45,378.02
21.	Kenya	2,942.00
22.	Kuwait	45,378.02
23.	Lesotho	60,240.88
24.	Liechtenstein	6,527.42
25.	Lithuania	2,328.42
26.	Luxembourg	12,389.33
27.	Malta	2,490.30
28.	Mexico	75,185.16
29.	Netherlands	234,033.52
30.	New Zealand	7,237.43
31.	North Macedonia	1,676.57
32.	Norway	22,689.01
33.	Oman	9,257.12
34.	Pakistan	3,000.00
35.	Peru	4,628.56
36.	Poland	22,689.01
37.	Qatar	14,953.00

² Figures presented in this Annex are provisional as at 31 December 2024.

³ Includes a transfer of EUR 5,026.27 from another trust fund.

State Party		Amount Contributed (in Euros)²
38.	Republic of Korea	36,233.90
39.	Romania	5,000.00
40.	Saudi Arabia	15,000.00
41.	Slovenia	2,299.30
42.	Sweden	11,591.82
43.	Switzerland	49,066.12
44.	Thailand	4,000.00
45.	Türkiye	11,108.54
46.	Turkmenistan	1,833.56
47.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	162,108.38
48.	Zimbabwe	1,942.18
Voluntary contributions		1,237,135.33
Accumulated interest		418,159.12
Total		1,655,294.45

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