



# OPCW

Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

## Updates on The Hague Ethical Guidelines

MX2 , the BWC Meeting of Experts  
31 July– 2 August 2019

Cheng Tang  
Chair, OPCW Scientific Advisory Board

Jonathan Forman  
OPCW Science Policy Adviser and Secretary to the SAB

# The Hague Ethical Guidelines

## IUPAC Endorses The Hague Ethical Guidelines

Monday, 02 May 2016



**IUPAC**

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF  
PURE AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY

The logo of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), which has endorsed The Hague Ethical Guidelines.

strategic mission and vision.”

The International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) has endorsed [The Hague Ethical Guidelines](#), which was facilitated by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) to guide the responsible practice of chemistry under the norms of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC).

IUPAC President, Prof Natalia P. Tarasova, in her 22 April 2016 letter to the OPCW Director-General, Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü, highlighted that “the Core Element of the Hague Ethical Guidelines, which states ‘Achievements in the field of chemistry should be used to benefit humankind and protect the environment’ is fully consistent with the IUPAC

## International Council of Chemical Associations Endorses Hague Ethical Guidelines

23 MAY 2018



THE HAGUE  
ETHICAL  
GUIDELINES

## OPCW Ethical Guidelines Inspire Global Chemists' Code

Wednesday, 08 June 2016



Chemical Society.

The Hague Ethical Guidelines, facilitated by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) to guide the responsible practice of chemistry under the Chemical Weapons Convention, have inspired the creation of a new Global Chemists' Code of Ethics. The new global code was drafted by 30 scientists from 18 countries who gathered in Kuala Lumpur at a workshop funded by the U.S. Department of State's Chemical Security Programme and organised by the American

**EuCheMS**  
European Chemical Sciences  
WP on Ethics in Chemistry

- > Working Party on Ethics in Chemistry
- > News
- > Conferences
- > Publications, reports and other references
- > Useful Links
- > Honours

"Ethics and Science for the Environment" (ESforE) – Memorandum of understanding

Hague Ethical Guidelines from the "Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons" (Link to the pdf – HERE)



OPCW

# The Hague Ethical Guidelines

**Core Element. Achievements in the field chemistry should be used to be benefit humankind and protect environment.**



Sustainability

**Sustainability.** Chemistry practitioners have a special responsibility for promoting and achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals of meeting the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

**Education.** Formal and informal educational providers, enterprise, industry and civil society should cooperate to equip anybody working in chemistry and others with the necessary knowledge and tools to take responsibility for the benefit of humankind, the protection of the environment and to ensure relevant and meaningful engagement with the general public.



Education

**Awareness and engagement.** Teachers, chemistry practitioners, and policymakers should be aware of the multiple uses of chemicals, specifically their use as chemical weapons or their precursors. They should promote the peaceful applications of chemicals and work to prevent any misuse of chemicals, scientific knowledge, tools and technologies, and any harmful or unethical developments in research and innovation. They should disseminate relevant information about national and international laws, regulations, policies and practices.

**Ethics.** To adequately respond to societal challenges, education, research and innovation must respect fundamental rights and apply the highest ethical standards. Ethics should be perceived as a way of ensuring high quality results in science.



Ethics



Safety and Security

**Safety and Security.** Chemistry practitioners should promote the beneficial applications, uses, and development of science and technology while encouraging and maintaining a strong culture of safety, health, and security.

**Accountability.** Chemistry practitioners have a responsibility to ensure that chemicals, equipment and facilities are protected against theft and diversion and are not used for illegal, harmful or destructive purposes. These persons should be aware of applicable laws and regulations governing the manufacture and use of chemicals, and they should report any misuse of chemicals, scientific knowledge, equipment and facilities to the relevant authorities.



Accountability



Oversight

**Oversight.** Chemistry practitioners who supervise others have the additional responsibility to ensure that chemicals, equipment and facilities are not used by those persons for illegal, harmful or destructive purposes.

**Exchange of information.** Chemistry practitioners should promote the exchange of scientific and technical information relating to the development and application of chemistry for peaceful purposes.



Exchange of Information



ORGANISATION FOR THE  
PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A WORLD FREE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS



@OPCW  
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# A. The Hague Ethical Guidelines acknowledged by the Fourth Review Conference of the Chemical Weapons Convention (21 – 30 November 2018, World Forum, The Hague)



OPCW

Review Conference

Fourth Session  
21 – 30 November 2018

RC-4/3  
30 November 2018  
Original: ENGLISH

## CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES TO REVIEW THE OPERATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (FOURTH REVIEW CONFERENCE)

The Chairperson of the Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Fourth Review Conference”) issues this report under the general powers of the presiding officer (Rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the States Parties). Before presenting this report the Chairperson submitted a Draft Informal Report on the Review of the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention for the consideration of the Fourth Review Conference. Based on comments received he concluded that on the following paragraphs consensus could not be achieved despite broad consultations and best efforts: 9.12, 9.13, 9.14, 9.15, 9.17, 9.19, 9.25, 9.37, 9.38, 9.39, 9.52, 9.53, 9.54, 9.55, 9.57, 9.59 (a), 9.81 (o), and 9.98.

9.86 The Fourth Review Conference acknowledged the establishment of “The Hague Ethical Guidelines”, which constitute an important step to advance understanding among chemistry practitioners of the importance of nurturing responsible and ethical norms for scientific research and development.



Download RC-4/DG.1

## B. The Hague Ethical Guidelines being further promoted by the Advisory Board on Education and Outreach (ABEO) of the OPCW

### Hague Ethical Guidelines Jigsaw Exercise

By Alastair Hay

#### What is a Jigsaw Exercise?

The Jigsaw exercise is a well-recognised interactive teaching tool; ideal for encouraging everyone to participate and helpful if you have some in the group who are uncomfortable voicing their opinions.

This exercise is a great way to discuss topics which may, on first glance, appear somewhat dry – such as the principles in the Hague Ethical Guidelines.

#### Exercise

The exercise is configured for 36 participants but can be adapted for multiple group sizes, as long as you keep numbers similar in each group.

#### Example Combinations:

- 4 groups of 4, discuss 4 principles.
- 3 groups of 3, discuss 3 principles.
- 5 groups of 5, discuss 5 principles, etc.

[See example slides on how to run the exercise with 36 participants.](#)

It is also possible to run groups in parallel. This exercise has been done with 3 parallel groups comprising a total of 98 participants.

#### Helpful Tip

1. Working with larger groups requires much more planning and we suggest you do the exercise with no more than 36 participants when you first try it.
2. Mix individuals up so that those who know one another are allocated to different groups. This approach will encourage everyone to participate.

#### Running the Exercise

1. Create your groups, as indicated above, and allocate each group a number and a letter, to be displayed visibly on each table. So table 1 could also be table A.
2. Give each group a separate principle to discuss. Emphasise the need for each member of the group to become an expert on the principle, as they will each have to argue its importance in the next step of the exercise.
3. Give the groups 15 to 20 minutes to familiarise themselves with the principle and the reasons why it is important. Some may take notes, but this is not mandatory.

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on 28 February 2019

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# Exercise to Encourage Discussion on the Principles of The Hague Ethical Guidelines

By Professor Alastair Hay

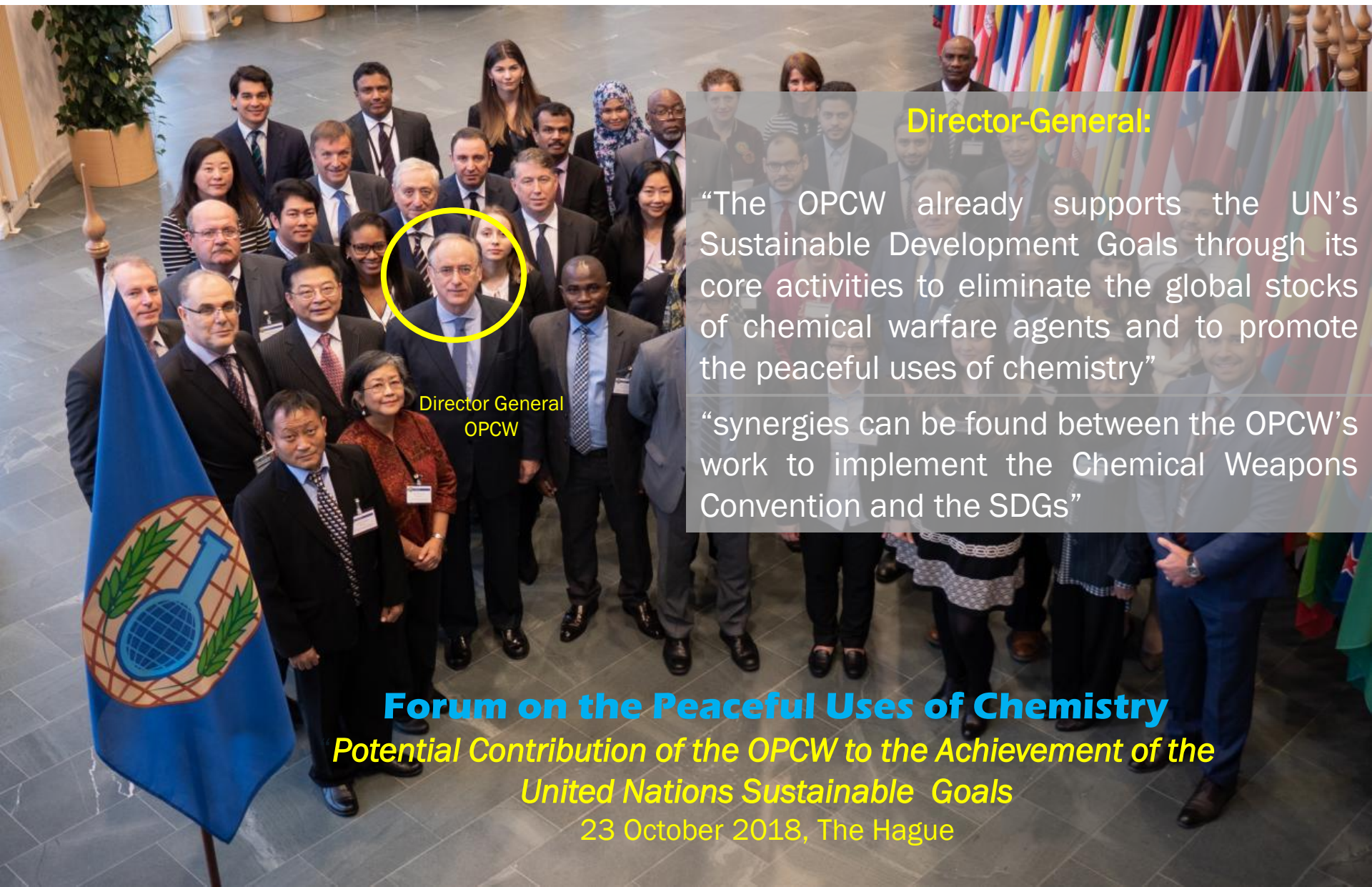
Published on the OPCW website  
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OPCW

## C. Promoting the principal of “Sustainability” to achieve UN SDGs



**Director-General:**

“The OPCW already supports the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals through its core activities to eliminate the global stocks of chemical warfare agents and to promote the peaceful uses of chemistry”

“synergies can be found between the OPCW’s work to implement the Chemical Weapons Convention and the SDGs”

**Director General  
OPCW**

**Forum on the Peaceful Uses of Chemistry**  
**Potential Contribution of the OPCW to the Achievement of the**  
**United Nations Sustainable Goals**  
23 October 2018, The Hague

## D. Promoting the principal of “Safety and Security” by developing guidelines on chemical safety and security for SMEs

### Deputy Director-General:

“Fostering a culture of chemical safety and security is important to both the advancement of industry and the prevention of the re-emergence of chemical weapons. These mutual goals encompass a broad range of stakeholders, and the OPCW has an important role to play.”

Deputy Director General  
OPCW

Workshop on Developing Tools for Chemical Safety and Security  
25-27 March 2019, The Hague

# Summary

- The development of “The Hague Ethical Guidelines” is only the first step in “Applying the norms of practice of chemistry to support the Chemical Weapons Convention;
- Exploring synergies through sustained efforts is still required to promote the key elements outlined in The Hague Ethical Guidelines.





# 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