



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

18 May 2015

Excellency,

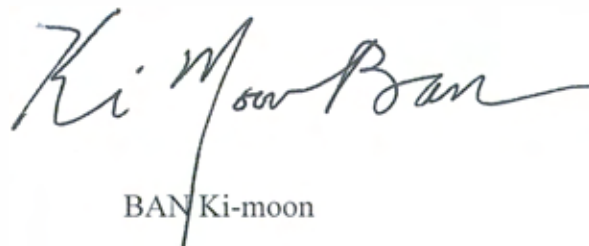
I have the honour to refer to your letter of 7 April 2015, in which you recall recent allegations of the use of toxic chemicals as weapons in the Idlib province of the Syrian Arab Republic. In this regard, your letter notes that, if warranted, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) will take further action to establish the facts surrounding these allegations.

Your letter also recalls that an OPCW fact-finding mission is ready to be deployed to investigate allegations previously brought to your attention by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic regarding the alleged use of toxic chemicals as weapons by armed opposition groups.

I remain deeply concerned by all such allegations. In that regard, and further to your indication that the need for assistance may arise, I hereby confirm the willingness of the United Nations to provide assistance to OPCW in the framework of ongoing cooperation.

I take note of the modalities for cooperation between the United Nations and OPCW in relation to the OPCW fact-finding mission which, by an exchange of letters dated 2 May 2014 and 5 May 2014 respectively, constitute a Supplementary Arrangement pursuant to Article XIV of the Agreement Concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and OPCW.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.


BAN Ki-moon

His Excellency
Mr. Ahmet Üzümcü
Director-General
Organisation for the Prohibition of
Chemical Weapons
The Hague

SG Letter to DG OPCW
re UN assistance
Drafted by: ODA
Reviewed by: PC/DB
Proofread by: JW/NS

Authorized:
Date: 16 May 2015