

PERMANENT REPRESENTATION
OF TURKEY TO THE OPCW

2011/LAHE/5959656

The Hague, 8 July 2011

Dear Mr. Crowley,

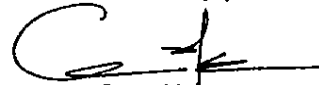
With reference to your letter dated 9 March 2011, I would like to provide the following information, which I believe will respond to your additional queries.

- As already mentioned in our previous letter of 25 February 2011, the "CS MKE MOD 251" mortar shell was produced in 1996 prior to the entry into force of the CWC for Turkey in 1997. At the time of ratification, there remained 850 pieces of CS MKE MOD 251 type munitions in the inventory of the Turkish Armed Forces. The facility for their production was discontinued after 1997.
- Reporting details of the work pertaining to the development and testing of the CS MKE MOD 251 to the Technical Secretariat was not considered at the time, as all research & development work and testing had ceased before Turkey's ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), and no such work was conducted by any company in Turkey, including the MKEK as of that period. No tests have been conducted using live subjects at any time.
- The destruction of CS containing canisters of the remaining CS MKE MOD 251 munitions has now been completed at our state-of-the-art munitions disposal facility located near Ankara. Until recently, almost the entire capacity of the facility was dedicated to the destruction of the last remaining anti-personnel landmines in our stockpiles.

Mr. Michael Crowley
Project Coordinator
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- MKEK has circulated a notice to all its distributors, reminding them of Turkey's CWC obligations and has asked them to remove all information relevant to CS MKE MOD 251 munitions from their catalogues and dispose of any epoxy copies of the said munitions that may exist in their exhibition kits. The Ministry of Defence has also begun sending reminders to all licensed arms brokering companies in Turkey that trading 120mm CS mortar ammunition is not permissible under Turkey's CWC obligations and all companies should make certain such items obtainable through suppliers outside of Turkey are not purchased, offered or displayed in their catalogues and web-sites.

Sincerely yours,



Cem Utkan

Counsellor

Chargé d'Affaires a.i.