

ABSTRACT

The modern use of chemical weapons began with World War I. In consideration of the risks of chemical weapons, the international community has sought to reach an agreement for the prohibition of chemical weapons. After 12 years of negotiations, the Chemical Weapons Convention was adopted by the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva on 3 September 1992.

After the U.N. team's investigative report confirmed the large scale use of sarin nerve agent against civilians in the Ghouta area of Damascus on August 21, the Syrian government acceded to the Chemical Weapons Convention on September 14, 2013. This convention requires its member states to eliminate all of their chemical weapon stocks, munitions, precursor chemicals, and related production and storage facilities.

The Bashar Al-Assad regime has kept its chemical weapons stocks secure, they are also concerned about what could happen to these weapons in the course of the civil war, such as diversion to rebels. President Obama stated that the United States might take military action against Syria if they used or lost control of its chemical weapons. Russia and China has teamed up in opposing military strikes on Syria and fully support Syria to sign the Chemical Weapons Convention.