September 30th

Organisation For The Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR

Den Haag, Netherlands

Hello, my name is Ritu Agarwal and I am a senior at Blue Valley Northwest High School in the United States. For one of my classes I was told to choose a global issue plaguing the world, and I chose chemical warfare. This warfare is destroying the world and stopping any chance that citizens have to overthrow regimes. Since I first started paying attention to world affairs at the age of eleven, I have heard chemical warfare when discussing chlorine gas in the context of quelling protests for democracy in the Middle East and later on when learning about World War II. I have participated in Model UN where I participated in a conference discussing this topic. Here I learned even more about how even though the UN has banned most chemical warfare, it still allows chlorine gas and some member states still utilize these methods on their citizens.

I am seeking information on how your organization is able to safely destroy the chemicals, due to the process being costly and harmful to the environment. Also, how are you able to verify that once destroyed, the chemicals remain in their neutralized state? Thank you for championing this cause worldwide and providing a source for students to learn more.

Sincerely,

Ritu Agarwal

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