



**WARSAW-KYIV INTERNATIONAL FORUM**  
**Developing cooperation in reducing chemical threats and enhancing chemical safety and security and voluntary fire service**

Warsaw, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017

**Forum Declaration**  
**on the cooperation in the development of Voluntary Fire Brigades in Ukraine**

1. The Warsaw-Kyiv Forum was co-organized by the International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security (ICCSS), Warsaw, Poland and the Ukrainian Fire And Technological Safety Union (USPTB), with support and participation of Polish and Ukraine government agencies, industry and civil society, and international partners from governments and international organizations, including the Organisation for Security and C-operation in Europe (OSCE).
2. The Warsaw-Kyiv Forum confirmed that chemical threats remain serious in Ukraine, with emphasis on the East of Ukraine, based on the review and reports from Ukraine (including from the OSCE Comprehensive Review on Chemical Security in Ukraine) partners and participants. Many chemical sites, storage and disposal places have been abandoned, there are continued threats against chemical infrastructure.
3. The participants welcome the very positive role of and requested the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine to continue leading role in developing concrete programs aiming at enhancing chemical safety and security and improving the first response capacity in emergency situations.
4. The participants supported the initiative to create the nation-wide program “Ukraine system of voluntary fire service”, to be introduced in accordance with the EU rules and regulations on civil protection and emergency response. The development and implementation of the Ukraine system of voluntary fire service, as an important process of supporting local communities, developing self-governance and civil society, increasing local capacities to prevent, prepare for and respond to CBRN accidents and environmental protection. Being implemented in Ukraine the proposed approach should be offered to other countries.
5. The Warsaw-Kyiv Forum reviewed the existing capabilities and potential of the Polish and international partners from governments, industry, science and technology to cooperate with the Ukrainian stakeholders in the areas of chemical security, environmental protection, and in the development of the voluntary fire service in Ukraine.

6. The participants reviewed and confirmed the Poland's comparative advantages in the areas of state fire service, civil protection and voluntary fire service. They confirmed that the Polish model for the voluntary fire service is relevant and suitable for Ukraine.

7. They also recognized the major potential and capabilities of the Main School of Fire Service in Warsaw, Poland and Lviv State University of Life Safety, as leaders in the development and conduct of training programs and best practices exchanges for Ukraine leaders and personnel for voluntary fire service.

8. The Ukrainian Fire and Technological Safety Union" – UFTSU and the International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security (ICCSS) in Warsaw were encouraged to continue close cooperation and lead efforts, with the relevant government agencies in Ukraine and Poland, as well as international partners and stakeholders, to promote the development of Ukraine system of voluntary fire service. The following steps have been considered as priority:

- a. The development and introduction of comprehensive legislation and administrative and technical regulations to enable the functioning of the system of voluntary fire service;
- b. The development and introduction of a model voluntary fire service stations to serve as practical training centers;
- c. The development and introduction of a comprehensive training system to enable train and certify the personnel for voluntary fire service;
- d. The development of the technical specifications and equipment to be used in the voluntary fire service stations.

9. The Ukraine and Polish partners participating in the Warsaw-Kyiv Forum confirmed the established partnership in the in the development of Ukraine system of voluntary fire service, based on the Polish model.

10. The participants agreed to meet in the summer 2017 in Kyiv to discuss and review further the concrete activities to be implemented in the development of Ukraine system of voluntary fire service.