

COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2022/573**of 7 April 2022****amending Decision (CFSP) 2019/538 in support of activities of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in the framework of the implementation of the EU Strategy against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Articles 28(1) and 31(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Whereas:

- (1) On 1 April 2019, the Council adopted Decision (CFSP) 2019/538 ⁽¹⁾ in support of activities of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in the framework of the implementation of the EU Strategy against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction.
- (2) On 9 February 2022, the OPCW, which is responsible for the technical implementation of the projects referred to in Article 1 of Decision (CFSP) 2019/538, requested an extension of twelve months until 30 April 2023 of the implementation period of that Decision. The requested extension will allow the OPCW to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the implementation of specific project activities.
- (3) The continuation of the implementation of projects referred to in Article 1 of Decision (CFSP) 2019/538 does not have any implication as regards financial resources until 30 April 2023.
- (4) Decision (CFSP) 2019/538 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

In Article 5 of Decision (CFSP) 2019/538, paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:

- ‘2. This Decision shall expire on 30 April 2023.’.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Luxembourg, 7 April 2022.

For the Council
The President
J. DENORMANDIE

⁽¹⁾ Council Decision (CFSP) 2019/538 of 1 April 2019 in support of activities of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in the framework of the implementation of the EU Strategy against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (OJ L 93, 2.4.2019, p. 3).