



S/2057/2022

9 May 2022

ENGLISH and FRENCH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

REGIONAL GENERAL TRAINING COURSE ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION AND NATIONAL OBLIGATIONS FOR PERSONNEL OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES AND RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS LOMÉ, TOGO, 23 – 25 AUGUST 2022

1. On behalf of the Government of Togo and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) of the OPCW is pleased to announce a three-day general training course on the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) and national obligations for the personnel of National Authorities and relevant stakeholders, which will be held in Lomé, Togo, from 23 – 25 August 2022.
2. The purpose of the course is to assist States Parties in complying with their obligations under the Convention by enhancing the knowledge and skills of the personnel of National Authorities and relevant stakeholders. The specific objective of the course is to fulfil the aims set out in the action plan for the implementation of obligations under Article VII of the Convention.
3. The general training course is intended primarily for the personnel of National Authorities and their relevant stakeholders who are responsible for the specific tasks involved in implementation of the Convention at the national level, but who have little or limited knowledge in this area. The course will include both theoretical and practical exercises. The provisional programme for the course is attached as an Annex to this Note.
4. The expected results of the course are the following:
 - (a) an increased understanding of the Convention and the obligations of National Authorities;
 - (b) improved capacity of National Authorities to design and deliver national training courses on the implementation of the Convention; and
 - (c) the development of additional, country-specific measures in support of the implementation of the Convention and, in particular, relevant obligations.
5. The course will be conducted in English with simultaneous interpretation provided in French.

6. States Parties, the nationals of which have not previously participated in a basic or similar course organised by the Secretariat, are particularly encouraged to nominate candidates. One candidate from each such State Party will be given priority. Nominees who have previously participated in a basic course for personnel of National Authorities will not be considered.
7. The candidates selected for the general training course will be required to complete the OPCW e-learning modules prior to attending the course. These modules are available on the OPCW website (www.opcw.org/opcw-e-learning). Pre- and post-tests on all topics covered by the training course will be conducted on the first and last days of the course.
8. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, accommodation, meals, and medical insurance for the duration of the course, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses. The Secretariat will not pay for medical assistance. Participants should therefore be fit to travel. All participants taking prescribed medication should arrive with supplies sufficient for the duration of the event.
9. The Secretariat will arrange accommodation for all sponsored participants. Any participants who do not intend to use this accommodation are requested to indicate this as soon as possible, so that the Secretariat does not incur hotel cancellation fees. In any case, the Secretariat will not cover the costs of any accommodation it has not arranged itself.
10. Applications by the nominated participants should be submitted online through Eventus, the OPCW event management system (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>), **no later than Wednesday, 15 June 2022**. These applications must be reviewed and endorsed digitally by the respective National Authority through Eventus **before 20 June 2022**, to be followed by the final review through the Secretariat.
11. Additional information about the general training course may be obtained from the Implementation Support Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact persons are Mr Solomon Haile (solomon.haile@opcw.org) and Ms Olukemi Adenuga (olukemi.adenuga@opcw.org).

Annex: Provisional Programme

Annex

**REGIONAL GENERAL TRAINING COURSE ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS
CONVENTION AND NATIONAL OBLIGATIONS FOR PERSONNEL OF
NATIONAL AUTHORITIES AND RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS
LOMÉ, TOGO, 23 – 25 AUGUST 2022**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
<i>Tuesday, 23 August 2022</i>	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:30	Opening ceremony and group photograph
09:30 – 09:50	Pre-training test
09:50 – 10:20	History of chemical weapons and an overview of the Chemical Weapons Convention
10:20 – 10:50	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:50 – 11:10	Introduction to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)
11:10 – 12:00	The role of the National Authority in the implementation of the Convention
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00 – 14:30	The status of national implementation measures under Article VII in Africa
14:30 – 15:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:00 – 16:30	Breakout groups: guided group discussion—reflections on the attributes of effective National Authorities
16:30 – 17:00	Declaration requirements under Article III of the Convention
<i>Wednesday, 24 August 2022</i>	
09:00 – 09:30	Declaration requirements under Article VI of the Convention: - schedules of chemicals - facility declarations under Article VI
09:30 – 10:00	Identification of declarable activities under the Convention and tools to assist with the identification of declarable activities
10:00 – 10:30	Quizzes and exercises
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00 – 11:30	Transfer provisions of the Convention
11:30 – 12:00	Practical issues and common problems in reporting imports and exports
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00 – 14:30	Introduction to electronic declarations, the electronic declaration tool for National Authorities (EDNA), and the Secure Information Exchange (SIX)
14:30 – 15:15	The verification regime under Articles III, IV, and V of the Convention
15:15 – 15:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:45 – 16:30	The verification regime under Article VI
16:30 – 17:00	Receiving Article VI inspections
<i>Thursday, 25 August 2022</i>	
09:00 – 12:30	Field visit
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:30	Breakout groups: reporting on guided group discussion conclusions—the attributes of an effectively functioning National Authority

Time	Activity
14:30 – 15:00	Highlights of science- and policy-related developments
15:00 – 15:30	Programmes of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division, including the next phase of the Africa Programme
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:00 – 17:00	Evaluation of the course by the participants and wrap-up

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