



101st Session  
4 – 7 October 2022

EC-101/DG.12  
C-27/DG.8  
7 September 2022  
Original: ENGLISH

**NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL****THE PROGRAMME TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION WITH AFRICA  
ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION****INTRODUCTION**

1. The Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Africa Programme”) was instituted by the Director-General in 2007 (EC-50/DG.17, dated 26 September 2007) to give strategic direction to the engagement of the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) with African States Parties as regards implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”).
2. The Africa Programme was initially intended to last three years, from 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2010. Since then, the Programme has been extended four times, each for a three-year period: from 2011 to 2013 (EC-64/DG.5, dated 6 April 2011), from 2014 to 2016 (EC-75/DG.5, dated 17 February 2014), from 2017 to 2019 (EC-84/DG.18, dated 17 February 2017), and from 2020 to 2022 (EC-93/DG.9, dated 18 February 2020).
3. Since the establishment of the Africa Programme, the Director-General has regularly apprised the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) at all of its annual sessions of the progress of Programme implementation and of the results achieved.
4. This Note reports on the progress achieved in the implementation of the Africa Programme in 2022, which represents the third and final year of the fifth phase of the Programme, and provides an overview of the key developments, activities, and results achieved within its framework.
5. This document provides factual information regarding the key developments registered in the Programme in 2022 up to 31 August 2022, the cut-off date for this document. It also reflects planned activities for the remainder of the year. Annex 1 to this Note provides an overview of all activities conducted under the Programme in 2022 and planned for the remainder of the year.



6. In accordance with established practice, the factual reporting on the planned activities for the period 1 September to 31 December 2022 will be provided as an annex to the next Note by the Director-General on the Africa Programme, due to be submitted to the Conference at its Twenty-Eighth Session in 2023. Similarly, Annex 2 to the present Note reports on key activities organised under the Programme in the period 1 September to 31 December 2021.
7. The present Note also includes an overview of the implementation of the fifth phase of the Programme, as 2022 is the final year of that phase. A provisional list of key activities organised by the Secretariat during the fifth phase is therefore included in Annex 3.

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFRICA PROGRAMME IN 2022**

8. Implementation of the Africa Programme continued to progress apace in 2022, in accordance with the fifth phase planning. Throughout the year, the Secretariat has significantly intensified the delivery of its targeted activities while addressing the eight objectives of the fifth phase concurrently.
9. In terms of capacity building and provision of technical assistance, which constitute the backbone of the Programme, a total of 59 relevant activities addressing all eight objectives of the fifth phase were scheduled for delivery by the Secretariat in 2022, including 28 activities specifically for the Africa region.
10. The comprehensive list of activities for 2022, attached as Annex 1, includes targeted training courses, workshops, forums, exercises, technical consultations, and coaching sessions.
11. Activity areas range from improving national implementation of the Convention to enhancing the effectiveness of National Authorities, to improving controls over cross-border transfers of scheduled chemicals, to developing assistance and protection capabilities against chemical incidents and attacks, to providing education on chemical safety and security management, and to upgrading laboratory competencies across the continent.
12. As at the cut-off date of this Note, 35 of the 59 aforementioned training activities had already been delivered, including 18 activities organised specifically for the Africa region. These 35 activities accommodated 625 African participants from 42 African Member States,<sup>1</sup> already exceeding the yearly average number of African participants registered during the previous phase of the Programme (around 400 participants).
13. The activities conducted during the reporting period include both online and in-person events; beginning in late March 2022, the Secretariat began to gradually resume in-person capacity-building events as a result of an improving pandemic situation and the relaxation of restrictions on international travel.

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<sup>1</sup> Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

14. In addition to capacity-building and technical assistance activities, in 2022 the Secretariat has continued to provide sponsorship for nine fellowships and four research projects for African scientists. Eight additional African research projects have been co-funded with the International Foundation for Science (IFS). Under the Conference Support Programme, the Secretariat has also provided sponsorship to three international scientific events held in Italy and Mauritius, which accommodated, inter alia, 130 scientists from Africa.
15. More details regarding the aforementioned activities are reflected in Annex 1.
16. The Africa Programme has continued to be funded essentially through the OPCW regular budget. The Secretariat has also continued to seek additional resources through voluntary contributions with a view to further expanding the Programme's depth, reach, and impact. As at the cut-off date of this report, activities under the Africa Programme in 2022 had received in-kind and financial support from Canada, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and the European Union. In-kind support has also been provided by Member States co-organising activities under the Programme. The description of activities in Annex 1 provides relevant information on the voluntary contributions benefitting the Programme in 2022.
17. The Secretariat has also continued its fundraising efforts in 2022 to mobilise resources for the special projects it had earlier proposed for extrabudgetary funding under the fifth phase. These efforts have resulted in voluntary contributions for the following three projects (in addition to the four projects already funded):
  - (a) In March 2022, Canada fully funded the following two projects: "CHEMEX Africa: building chemical incident response capacity under the OPCW Africa Programme" (EUR 394,830); and "Peer-to-peer training for African customs training institutions" (EUR 215,712).
  - (b) In April 2022, France provided EUR 300,000 to the project "Strengthening mitigation of and preparedness to respond to chemical incidents and attacks involving chemical weapons and toxic chemicals in French-speaking West African States Parties in addressing threats arising from non-State actors". These funds complemented a previous contribution of EUR 200,000 from France in October 2021 for the same project.
18. Subsequently, as at the cut-off date of this Note, voluntary contributions fully funding 7 of the 10 proposed special projects had been received. The amount received (EUR 1,453,642) represents 84.46% of the total amount required for all proposed special projects. The Secretariat continues its resource mobilisation efforts for the three remaining special projects.
19. In terms of partnerships, during the reporting period the Secretariat continued its cooperation with a variety of stakeholders to organise activities under the Africa Programme and to explore new synergies and initiatives. The list of partners includes international, regional, and national organisations. Valuable support was also provided by several Member States co-organising events under the Programme.

20. In parallel, in 2022 the Africa Programme Steering Committee continued to provide support, advice, and guidance to the Secretariat for the implementation of the Programme. The Committee members for 2022 are Algeria, Angola, Cameroon, Chad, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Rwanda, Senegal, and South Africa. Cameroon assumed the Committee Chairpersonship for 2022. Canada, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and the European Union are currently observers in the Committee, as they financially support the Programme through voluntary contributions.
21. The Steering Committee successfully held its fifth meeting online on 24 June 2022, with the participation of over 40 participants representing Committee members and observers, as well as the Secretariat. The Committee, chaired by H.E. Ambassador Madeleine Liguemoh Ondoua, the Permanent Representative of Cameroon to the OPCW, took note with great appreciation of the progress achieved in the implementation of the fifth phase of the Programme as well as the preparations for the sixth phase. The Committee commended the Secretariat, as well as the Programme partners and donors, for their valuable contributions. The sixth meeting of the Committee is scheduled to take place in November 2022.
22. During the reporting period the Secretariat continued to endeavour to develop initiatives to enhance the stakeholder engagement in the Programme. In this connection, it continued to send post-participation letters to African participants already taking part in capacity-building activities, urging them to report to their respective National Authorities and employers on their participation and knowledge gained, and to engage in knowledge-sharing and awareness-raising in regard to the Convention and the OPCW, in coordination with their National Authorities.
23. The Secretariat has also continued to maintain and further develop the OPCW Africa Network. The network, which counted over 950 members as at 31 August 2022, constitutes an online hub where members regularly interact, network, and exchange information and expertise in relation to the Convention and the peaceful applications of chemistry. Separately, in July 2022, the Secretariat launched preparations for the third edition of the OPCW Africa Bulletin, scheduled to be issued in November 2022.
24. In parallel to the continued implementation of the fifth phase of the Programme, the Secretariat, in March 2022 initiated preparations for the sixth phase, which will cover the period 2023 to 2025.
25. In this context, a needs assessment survey was circulated among African Member States during the second quarter of the year to refresh the list of Africa's needs in relation to the Convention and to update the Programme objectives for the next cycle. The survey outcome was reviewed together with the African National Authorities in the beginning of June, on the occasion of their annual meeting, as well as by the Programme Steering Committee during its meeting of 24 June 2022. The consultations have led to the identification of the objectives to be set for the sixth phase.
26. Consultations have been scheduled to continue planning for the sixth phase after the summer period, with a view to finalising it in time for the global meeting of National Authorities in November 2022. In line with established practice, a subsequent Note by the Director-General on the sixth phase will be submitted to the Executive Council at its 102nd Session in March 2023.

**PRELIMINARY OVERVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIFTH PHASE OF THE AFRICA PROGRAMME (2020-2022)**

27. Despite the exceptional circumstances that marked the period of implementation of the fifth phase of the Africa Programme, notably the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing restrictions on travel and the organisation of in-person events for a substantial portion of the implementation period, the Secretariat did not spare any efforts to adapt to the challenging operational context and to deliver on the Programme.
28. As at the cut-off date of this report, a total of 155 capacity-building and technical assistance activities have been scheduled for delivery by the Secretariat within the framework of the fifth phase of the Africa Programme (2020-2022), in line with the agreed objectives and planning. These activities, which include 85 events organised specifically for the Africa region, are set to benefit some 2,750 participants representing 44 African Member States.<sup>2</sup> The provisional list of these activities is included as Annex 3 to this report. Specific details of these activities are included in this as well as the previous Notes by the Director-General on the Africa Programme for 2020 (EC-95/DG.11 C-25/DG.9, dated 10 September 2020) and for 2021 (EC-98/DG.14 C-26/DG.12, dated 9 September 2021).
29. Out of these 155 activities, some 40 have been focusing on advancing implementation of the Convention in Africa and enhancing the effectiveness of the African National Authorities. In line with the fifth phase planning, these activities have been contributing to:
- (a) supporting the drafting, review, and facilitation of the adoption of national implementing legislation. Activities in this area included individual technical consultations and national legislative review forums, inter alia;
  - (b) supporting African Member States in building and sustaining their capacities for full and effective implementation of the Convention. Activities in this area included general training courses on the Convention for personnel of National Authorities, training courses on fulfilling declarations and inspections obligations under Article VI of the Convention, and facilitation of technical visits in the context of mentorship/partnership visits, inter alia. The global and regional meetings of National Authorities have also served as a platform for the exchange of knowledge, expertise, and best practices with and among African Member States for the effective implementation of the Convention; and
  - (c) sensitising and raising the awareness of national stakeholders of the importance of the full and effective implementation of the Convention. Activities in this area included the organisation of meetings of representatives of the chemical industry and National Authorities, a stakeholders' forum, and a workshop on the role of national implementing legislation in addressing threats from non-State actors, inter alia.

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Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

30. In the area of strengthening controls over cross-border transfers of toxic chemicals to prevent access to such chemicals, including by non-State actors for purposes prohibited by the Convention, seven key capacity-building activities organised by the Secretariat contributed to enhancing the knowledge and expertise of participating customs training institutions in Africa in terms of the transfers regime of the Convention, and to developing the analytical capacities of African laboratories supporting customs services in relation to the identification and analysis of Convention-related substances.
31. With respect to enhancing protection and response capabilities against chemical incidents and attacks, 48 capacity-building activities organised by the Secretariat have been further augmenting the preparedness and response capabilities of African States Parties against chemical incidents and attacks. In this context, the Secretariat continued and further enhanced its cooperation with the African regional economic communities and the institutions identified as partners in chemical emergency response training at the subregional level, with a view to maximising the impact of its activities and ensuring the sustainability of the results of its action.
32. In this framework, the Secretariat continued to follow the training cycle approach consisting of basic and then advanced courses, followed by practical exercises. Additionally, for Africa the Secretariat organised specialised capacity-building activities focusing on specific needs, such as developing hospital preparedness for chemical emergencies and conducting sampling and analysis in highly contaminated environments following a chemical attack or incident.
33. The fifth phase was also marked by the inception, as a pilot project in Africa, of the Online Self-Assessment Tool (OSAT), with the technical and financial support of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The OSAT is aimed at helping Member States, initially in the Southern African Development Community (SADC), assess chemical safety and security risks from hazardous chemicals, audit existing response capacities, and identify necessary improvement measures, including those that the OPCW could help build. Following the completion of the design phase, the implementation phase of the OSAT project was launched with the financial support of France, Germany, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the European Union. Fifteen States Parties from the SADC region have already engaged in self-assessments using the OSAT. They have been able to identify gaps in their national chemical emergency preparedness and response capabilities. Based on the findings and with the assistance of experts from the Secretariat, 11 of these States Parties have already designed a set of necessary improvement measures to upgrade their national programmes for protective purposes. The OSAT is expected to contribute to the further development of national programmes for protective purposes.
34. In addition, in adapting to the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, several courses on the Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders and on the use of the Emergency Response Guidebook for first responders have been offered online for different African subregions.
35. In relation to advancing chemical safety and security, 22 capacity-building activities organised by the Secretariat contributed to developing the awareness, knowledge, and capabilities in participating African Member States in relation to relevant policy and guidelines to prevent chemical accidents and the potential misuse of toxic chemicals. These activities focused in part on specific contexts such as chemical industries, laboratories, and the supply chain. These activities include discussions on a range of issues, including industry outreach and quantitative chemical safety and security risk assessments for accident prevention, as well as preparedness and scenario-based strategies to identify safety

- and security gaps in existing national frameworks. In addition, the fifth phase of the Africa Programme was marked by the organisation of specialised capacity-building events that enhanced the understanding of participating African States Parties in relation to legislative and regulatory issues in chemical security and contributed to developing their capacities to adopt appropriate chemical security legal and regulatory frameworks.
36. In connection with strengthening the capabilities of chemical laboratories in Africa, and in line with the fifth phase planning, 19 capacity-building activities have benefitted African Member States during the reporting period. The Secretariat's support generally contributed to improving the technical competence of laboratories in African States Parties that are involved in chemical analysis, particularly in relation to the implementation of the Convention and the identification of related scheduled chemicals. Part of these activities were dedicated to continuing the assistance provided to laboratories identified in Africa, namely in Kenya and Nigeria, to build the capacities required to pass the official OPCW proficiency tests and subsequently join the Organisation's network of designated laboratories. These specific activities received financial support from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
  37. The Secretariat has also continued to facilitate twinning projects for the benefit of African laboratories. In addition to the existing twinning project between the Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research (TNO) and Protechnik Laboratories in South Africa, two other projects have been initiated during the fifth phase of the Programme: one between the Bundeswehr Research Institute for Protective Technologies and CBRN<sup>3</sup> Protection (Germany) and the National Institute of Criminalistics and Criminology of the National Gendarmerie (Algeria), and the other between Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (United States of America) and the National Forensic Laboratory (Morocco).
  38. During the fifth phase of the Africa Programme the Secretariat has facilitated, under the Equipment Exchange Programme, two transfers of laboratory equipment, from Germany to both the Sudan and the United Republic of Tanzania.
  39. Additionally, an innovative course was designed as a special project under the fifth phase to contribute to developing African States Parties' capabilities in the area of laboratory equipment maintenance. The course is tentatively scheduled to take place as an in-person event in December 2022.
  40. Separately, and in line with objective 7 of the fifth phase, the Secretariat has also been endeavouring to further promote in Africa the acquisition and exchange of scientific and technological knowledge and skills in areas of peaceful chemistry. As mentioned earlier, the capacity-building activities organised during the fifth phase have facilitated the transfer of such knowledge and expertise to hundreds of African participants. Moreover, the Secretariat has provided financial support to 288 African scientists to take part in six international conferences, and sponsored 12 African research projects and 13 fellowships of African scientists in advanced scientific institutions. The Secretariat also organised five knowledge forums facilitating the exchange of peaceful uses of chemistry, including those targeting women and youth. These forums were attended by more than 100 African participants.

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CBRN = chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear.

41. One of the major innovations of the Africa Programme in its fifth phase has been the special attention devoted to promoting the engagement of stakeholders and their ownership of the Programme. An important enabler in this regard has been the promotion of the visibility and understanding of the Programme and the work of the Organisation, especially in Africa. To this end, and in line with the fifth phase planning, the Secretariat has undertaken a series of new initiatives that have proven to be effective. These initiatives include the establishment of the OPCW Africa Network and the launch of the annual OPCW Africa Bulletin.
42. The OPCW Africa Network has undergone continuous development throughout the fifth phase and, as at the cut-off date of this report, had over 950 members among African scientists and other Programme stakeholders. Since its inception in 2020, the Network has evolved into an effective platform for expertise and information sharing with and among its members on relevant topics, including chemistry-related developments, OPCW capacity-building activities and sponsorships, as well as employment opportunities within the Secretariat.
43. The OPCW Africa Bulletin has also continued to help improve the visibility of the Programme and the sustained engagement of both partners and beneficiaries in it. Two editions of the Bulletin were published in 2020 and 2021, and the third is scheduled for publication in November 2022.
44. The Secretariat maintained communication with the beneficiaries of activities organised under the fifth phase in an effort to facilitate their continued engagement, in particular through post-participation letters. The letters have been used by the Secretariat as tool to encourage Programme beneficiaries to follow up on their participation in capacity-building activities at national and regional level.
45. The restructuring and reactivation of the Africa Programme Steering Committee during the fifth phase has demonstrated its added value to the Programme. The active participation of representatives of African Member States, as well as that of the donors on the Committee, has provided more impetus to the Programme. The Committee meets twice a year and has provided adequate monitoring, advice, and support to the Secretariat regarding implementation of the fifth phase.
46. Special projects for extrabudgetary funding were developed for the first time within the framework of the fifth phase, and the resource mobilisation efforts by the Secretariat have also been an important enabler that has allowed the orderly channelling of voluntary funding to the programme. The special projects address the three overarching areas of need identified in the fifth phase, namely, chemical safety and security, laboratory development, and national implementation of the Convention. An overview of these projects is provided in the table below.



**TABLE: SPECIAL PROJECTS FOR EXTRABUDGETARY FUNDING**

	<b>Project</b>	<b>Total Estimated Budget (EUR)</b>
1.	CHEMEX Africa: building chemical incident response capacity under the OPCW Africa Programme	394,830
2.	Regional conference on enforcing effective customs control over the trade in toxic chemicals in Africa	165,000
3.	Specialised analytical chemistry course for laboratories supporting customs services in Africa	81,400
4.	Peer-to-peer training for African customs training institutions	215,712
5.	Specialised course on equipment maintenance and troubleshooting for laboratories in African States Parties	66,700
6.	Influential Visitors Programme for the Pan-African Parliament	71,500
7.	Legal workshop for African parliamentary institutions	41,800
8.	Enhancing South-South cooperation through the Mentorship/Partnership Programme	154,000
9.	Strengthening mitigation and preparedness to respond to chemical incidents and attacks involving chemical weapons and toxic chemicals in French-speaking West African States Parties in addressing threats arising from non-State actors	500,000
10.	Workshop on the role of national implementing legislation in addressing threats arising from non-State actors in Africa	30,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,720,942</b>

48. The extrabudgetary funds have significantly increased the potential of the Programme by topping up the regular budget resources allocated to it. As at the cut-off date of this report, the fundraising efforts by the Secretariat had resulted in the full funding of seven of the extrabudgetary projects for a total value of EUR 1.45 million. Preparations are ongoing to implement these projects, three of which (Projects 3, 5, and 10) are already scheduled for implementation in face-to-face mode in the fourth quarter of 2022.
49. In parallel, the Secretariat has continued to maintain, develop, and diversify the range of its partnerships with a view to ensuring more effective implementation of the Africa Programme. The list of current partners includes international, regional, and national organisations, as well as relevant institutions in the fields of industry and academia, as well as laboratories. These partnerships have markedly enhanced the synergies in the planning and delivery of capacity-building activities under the fifth phase. Valuable support has also been provided by several Member States co-organising events under the Programme.

50. At the continental level, collaboration has continued with African regional economic communities and contacts have been maintained with the African Union's Commission for Political Affairs, Peace, and Security. The Secretariat has continued efforts to reactivate its bilateral cooperation with the African Union, in line with the action plan proposed to the Commission in 2020, based on the existing memorandum of understanding between the two organisations.
51. The action plan consists of 12 suggested actions covering three specific areas, namely collaboration and conduct of joint activities, the conduct of regular consultations, and the exchange of visits at the senior level, in addition to organisational arrangements such as the designation of focal points and the holding of periodic coordination meetings.
52. In addition to partnerships, the Secretariat has also endeavoured to identify additional donors to the Programme. As a result of these efforts, during the reporting period Canada and France joined the list of Programme donors, in addition to the Czech Republic, Germany, Switzerland, the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the European Union. The donors have made generous in-kind and financial contributions to activities and projects organised within the framework of the fifth phase of the Programme.

#### **KEY LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE FIFTH PHASE OF THE AFRICA PROGRAMME**

53. The experience gained thus far in the implementation of the fifth phase will be fed into the next cycle of the Programme. In this context, the following lessons learned have been found to be particularly relevant:
  - (a) Promoting Programme visibility enhances the engagement and participation of stakeholders. The initiatives devised by the Secretariat within the framework of the fifth phase with a view to promoting Programme visibility and stakeholder engagement—for example, the OPCW Africa Network, the Africa Bulletin, the Programme Steering Committee, and the special projects for extrabudgetary funding—have helped increase the participation among the beneficiaries, partners, and donors alike. In terms of participants, the share of the participation of the Africa region in the OPCW capacity-building activities increased from 15.8% in 2019 (392 participants out of 2,476), i.e. before the fifth phase, to around 25% in 2020 and 2021 (399 out of 1,550 in 2020, and 1,016 out of 4,162 in 2021). In 2022, the number of African participants is also expected to again exceed 1,000 participants. Africa's share in OPCW capacity-building support has therefore become more proportionate to its share in the membership of the Organisation.
  - (b) Institutional capacity building is more effective and sustainable than individual capacity building. A good example is the proficiency testing training, where the Secretariat, jointly with the concerned National Authority and with the support of partners, puts the focus on a specific laboratory, with a roadmap for capacity development. This is in contrast to sporadic training of individual participants from different laboratories, without pre-defined follow-up plans.

- (c) Bilateral cooperation between Member States, including South-South cooperation, with the facilitation of the Secretariat, provides excellent support to capacity building. This aspect has been observed in relevant programmes such as the Mentorship/Partnership Programme for National Authorities and the assistance and protection Instructors Exchange Programme. Since cooperating Member States are usually familiar with one another's situation, there can be facilitating factors, such as a common language or work culture. Such cooperation between Member States provides additional support to what is directly delivered by the Secretariat.
- (d) The Programme Steering Committee presents high added value in terms of provision of support and guidance to the Programme and the continued engagement on the part of stakeholders. The meetings of the Steering Committee have evolved into a periodic, in-depth review and discussion on Programme implementation, which has proven to be beneficial to the Member States and the Secretariat alike.
- (e) The development of relevant partnerships and the mobilisation of additional, voluntary resources for the special projects to complement regular budget resources have helped to expand the Programme and deepen its impact. Basically, more available resources means increased Secretariat capabilities, which translates into more activities and, hence, more impact.
- (f) Follow-up of OPCW capacity-building activities by the National Authorities is essential to achieving the Programme objectives and to ensuring a higher impact of the activities. The effective use by National Authorities of well-maintained databases of national participants and experts trained by the OPCW is a key enabler in this context.

Annexes (English only):

- Annex 1: Overview of Key Activities Conducted in and Planned for the Remainder of 2022 in the Framework of the Fifth Phase of the Africa Programme (as at 31 August 2022)
- Annex 2: Overview of Key Activities Conducted in the Framework of the Fifth Phase of the Africa Programme (1 September to 31 December 2021)
- Annex 3: Provisional List of Key Activities Conducted in the Framework of the Fifth Phase of the Africa Programme (2020 – 2022)

## **Annex 1**

### **OVERVIEW OF KEY ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN AND PLANNED FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2022 IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE FIFTH PHASE OF THE AFRICA PROGRAMME (AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022)**

#### **OBJECTIVE 1: ADVANCE NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION IN AFRICA**

#### **OBJECTIVE 2: ENHANCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL AUTHORITIES**

##### **Global training course on fulfilling declarations and inspections obligations under Article VI of the Convention, online, 7 – 25 February 2022**

1. During this course, National Authority and chemical industry representatives discussed the implementation of Article VI obligations and opportunities to address related challenges. They also enhanced their knowledge and skills in preparing declarations and receiving and escorting OPCW inspections. The three-week online course combined self-paced learning with interactive live sessions. Participants included 22 representatives from the following African Member States: Algeria, Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Mauritius, Mozambique, and Zambia.

##### **Workshop on the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 National Implementation Action Plan of Botswana, online, 8 and 9 February 2022**

2. The Secretariat actively participated in a workshop, jointly organised by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the Government of Botswana, with the aim of making progress on Botswana's 1540 National Implementation Action Plan (NAP). The NAP maps out priorities and plans for implementing the key provisions of resolution 1540 (2004).
3. The Secretariat contributed constructively to the workshop's discussions and made specific offers of assistance to Botswana under the Africa Programme, notably in areas of Convention national implementing legislation and assistance and protection. The OPCW's inputs were well received and greatly appreciated by Botswana's officials and organisers. Contacts have been maintained among relevant stakeholders to follow up on the results of the workshop.

##### **Bilateral visit by representatives of the National Authority of Mauritania to Morocco under the OPCW Mentorship/Partnership Programme, 21 – 25 February 2022**

4. The visit offered an opportunity to exchange experiences and expertise regarding various aspects of the implementation of the Convention. Three representatives of Mauritania took part to this working visit to Rabat, Morocco.

**Bilateral visit by representatives of the National Authority of France to Côte d’Ivoire, 28 March – 1 April 2022**

5. The National Authority of Côte d’Ivoire hosted a delegation from France as the second part of the exchange programme, which had been delayed because of COVID-19. The visit aimed at advancing the implementation of the Convention at the national level. In 2019, a delegation from Côte d’Ivoire visited the French National Authority.

**Advanced training course on fulfilling declarations and inspections obligations under Article VI of the Convention, online, 25 April – 11 May 2022**

6. The global, three-week online course provided an important opportunity for the participants to engage collaboratively with the Secretariat on declarations and inspections issues, allowing them to enhance their knowledge and understanding of key national obligations. In addition, the course provided a comprehensive overview of essential Article VI requirements, including the effective and timely submission of declarations and the role of the National Authority in receiving and escorting OPCW inspections.
7. The course combined self-paced learning with interactive live sessions. The course was attended by 19 participants from 12 Member States, including seven from Africa: Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, South Africa, and Togo.

**National legislative review forum for the Republic of Malawi, online, 30 May 2022**

8. The comprehensive training delivered during the forum provided the representatives of Malawi with practical and country-specific advice on setting up a national legislative framework which will ensure full and effective implementation of the Convention at the national level.
9. The forum was attended by eight delegates from Malawi’s National Authority for the Convention, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence, and Permanent Representation to the OPCW.

**Twentieth Regional Meeting of African National Authorities, online, 31 May – 2 June 2022**

10. The meeting provided participating National Authorities’ delegates with an opportunity to review the progress made under the fifth phase of the Africa Programme over the last year and to exchange information on matters affecting the implementation of the Convention in Africa. The Secretariat updated the participants on progress in Article VII implementation as well as on declarations under Article VI (Activities Not Prohibited) and related support<sup>4</sup>, and on OPCW inspections. Participants also discussed the Fifth Review Conference<sup>4</sup> and geographic representation of Member States among Secretariat personnel.

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<sup>4</sup> Review Conference = Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

11. The meeting was attended by 27 participants from 16 African Member States: Algeria, Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritania, Morocco, Nigeria, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

**Fifth meeting of the Steering Committee of the Africa Programme, online, 24 June 2022**

12. The meeting, chaired by H.E. Ambassador Madeleine Liguemoh Ondoua, Permanent Representative of Cameroon to the OPCW and Chairperson of the Steering Committee, reviewed the progress achieved in the implementation of the fifth phase of the Programme since the previous meeting of the Committee on 15 November 2021. It also took stock of the advancement of the preparations for the sixth phase of the Programme.
13. The briefings delivered by the Secretariat's team in this connection were very well received. Noting the developments and activities conducted under the Programme, the Steering Committee members and observers commended the Director-General and the Secretariat team on the progress achieved on both accounts. The Committee also expressed gratitude to Programme donors and partners for their support for Africa within the Programme framework.
14. The delegations of Algeria, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, and South Africa noted their satisfaction with implementation thus far and highlighted the ongoing initiatives they support, as both partners and beneficiaries of the Programme. The delegations of Canada, Germany, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland also intervened to outline their support for the Programme and to reiterate their commitment to its continued success.
15. The meeting was attended by 43 Committee members, observers, and Secretariat staff, led by the Director-General and Deputy Director-General. The acting Director of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division also participated in the meeting, along with the division's staff in charge of implementation of activities under the Africa Programme.

**National legislative review forum for Niger, online, 18 July 2022**

16. The forum provided the representatives of Niger with an opportunity to review, in close consultation with experts from the Secretariat, their Convention draft implementing legislation currently being considered for adoption. The forum was attended by three delegates representing Niger's Convention National Authority, Ministry of Justice, and civil society.

**Regional general training course on the Convention and national obligations for personnel of National Authorities and other national stakeholders in the Africa Region, Lomé, Togo, 23 – 25 August 2022**

17. The course, jointly organised by the Secretariat and the Government of Togo, contributed to enhancing the knowledge and skills of the participating personnel of African National Authorities and other relevant national Convention stakeholders.

18. The training included both theoretical and practical exercises and increased the participants' understanding of the Convention and the obligations of National Authorities, improved their capacity to design and deliver national training courses on the implementation of the Convention, and developed additional, country-specific measures in support of Convention implementation and, in particular, relevant obligations.
19. The course benefited 35 participants from 20 African Member States: Algeria, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, and Zambia.

**Global stakeholders forum to advance the adoption of implementing legislation, The Hague, the Netherlands, 13 – 15 September 2022**

20. The forum aims to help Member States from different regions to move their legislative processes forward with a view to fully domesticate the Convention. Participating States Parties are to exchange on the challenges they have encountered in the development and adoption of their implementing laws, and how they overcame them. The participants are to develop concrete actions that will enable their respective countries to move closer to adopting the necessary Convention implementing legislation. The event is designed to benefit 40 participants, including from the Africa region.

**Ninth Annual Meeting of Representatives of Chemical Industry and National Authorities of States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention, Doha, Qatar, 18 – 20 October 2022**

21. The event seeks to enhance cooperation between the chemical industry and National Authorities to support the full and effective implementation of the Convention. The meeting enables both parties to enhance each other's understanding of the work they do in relation to the Convention, and how they can collaborate to achieve these goals. The meeting is scheduled to include representatives from the Africa region.

**National legislative review forum for Kenya to identify and address gaps in implementing legislation, October 2022 (dates to be confirmed)**

22. The forum aims at assisting Kenya in identifying and addressing gaps in its draft Convention implementing legislation, with a view to helping the Kenyan Government move forward the national legislative process aimed at enacting such legislation. Seven representatives from Kenya will take part in this event.

**Sixth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Africa Programme, online, 14 November 2022**

23. The meeting will review the implementation of the fifth phase of the Africa Programme and the progress in the preparations for the sixth phase.

**Regional workshop for French-speaking African States Parties on the role of national implementing legislation in addressing threats from non-State actors, Dakar, Senegal, 16 – 18 November 2022**

24. The workshop, financially supported through a voluntary contribution from France, will benefit 25 to 30 participants from French-speaking Member States in the Africa region. The workshop is one of the special projects presented by the Secretariat in 2020 for extrabudgetary funding under the Africa Programme.

**Global Meeting of National Authorities, The Hague, the Netherlands, 22 – 25 November 2022**

25. This annual meeting provides a forum for National Authorities to highlight and work through relevant issues in order to enhance their capacities to comply with their obligations under the Convention. It also promotes cooperation among National Authorities and serves as an important platform to hold bilateral meetings between the National Authorities and the Secretariat. Two hundred participants representing National Authorities from all geographical regions, including Africa, are expected to take part to the meeting this year.

**OBJECTIVE 3: STRENGTHEN CONTROLS OVER CROSS-BORDER TRANSFERS OF TOXIC CHEMICALS TO PREVENT ACCESS TO SUCH CHEMICALS, INCLUDING BY NON-STATE ACTORS, FOR PURPOSES PROHIBITED UNDER THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION**

**Online training course for customs officers on the transfers regime of the Convention, online, 16 – 18 May 2022**

26. The course, designed specifically for customs officials and co-organised with the World Customs Organization (WCO), provided an introduction to the OPCW and the Convention as well as the role played by National Authorities and customs administrations in each Member State. It took an in-depth look at the Convention's verification regime, the activities and scheduled chemicals that require monitoring under the Convention, and the tools that can be used to identify those chemicals. Discussions also covered common problems in reporting the import and export of scheduled chemicals, as well as practical issues in controlling chemical trade.
27. The training included presentations, hands-on exercises, and quizzes to check knowledge sharing between the trainers and customs officers. Participants shared best practices from their own authorities, including regarding the handling of scheduled chemicals and procedures governing the control of scheduled chemicals.
28. The course benefitted 58 participants from 34 Member States, including the following from Africa: Burundi, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, the Sudan, Togo, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.



**Train-the-trainer course for representatives of customs training institutions and academies on the technical aspects of the transfers regime of the Convention, The Hague, the Netherlands, 6 – 9 September 2022**

29. The course, organised in cooperation with the WCO, aims at strengthening national capacities to enforce the transfers regime of the Convention, with a focus on national customs training institutions. Targeted engagement with representatives of customs training organisations is expected to facilitate the integration of Convention-specific content in relevant training curricula, and to increase the national pools of customs officers with adequate skills and knowledge of the transfers regime.
30. The course is expected to benefit 40 representatives of customs training institutions and academies from OPCW Member States, including from the Africa region.

**Specialised analytical chemistry course for laboratories supporting customs services in African Member States, Warsaw, Poland, 10 – 14 October 2022**

31. This course, fully funded by the United States of America, is one of the special projects proposed by the Secretariat for extrabudgetary funding under the Africa Programme. The course is designed to benefit 20 African chemists representing laboratories supporting customs authorities in their countries.

**OBJECTIVE 4: ENHANCE PROTECTION AND RESPONSE CAPABILITIES AGAINST CHEMICAL INCIDENTS AND ATTACKS**

**Meeting of assistance and protection partnering training centres in Africa, online, 2 and 3 February 2022**

32. The meeting served as a platform for the Secretariat to discuss plans for cooperation with partner training centres in Africa in 2022 and beyond. Participants also shared their experiences with virtual training during the pandemic and discussed both the challenges and opportunities of this delivery modality. Valuable insights into the operational and technical challenges in the region were also discussed, as these play a key role in ensuring successful programme delivery.
33. Donor partners providing voluntary funding to the assistance and protection programme in Africa also participated and shared presentations on the range of projects they support in Africa.
34. The meeting was attended by 38 participants representing partner training centres in Africa and programme donors from 14 OPCW Member States: Algeria, Canada, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, South Africa, the Sudan, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and Uganda.

**Online trainer course for national emergency response instructors, online, 15 – 17 February 2022**

35. The course, organised in collaboration with the Population Protection Institute of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic, was aimed at fire and rescue instructors, first responders, and military CBRN specialists who train and routinely share expertise with colleagues in their national institutions.
36. Participants enhanced their knowledge of chemical warfare agents, theoretical aspects of detection, identification, sampling, and individual protection, as well as decontamination and treatment techniques used during chemical incidents. Additionally, the course covered teaching strategies for instructors. The training was attended by 14 participants representing 12 OPCW Member States, including from Angola, Nigeria, and Senegal.

**Course on emergency toxicology for receiving medical facilities in Africa, online, 22 – 24 February 2022**

37. The training, funded by the United States of America and conducted by the OPCW in collaboration with the University of Arizona, contributed to enhancing the capabilities of medical facilities handling chemical incidents. It covered the general principles of emergency planning, patient reception, and decontamination treatment protocols.
38. The course benefitted 16 participants representing the following five OPCW Member States from the East African Community: Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, and the United Republic of Tanzania.

**Course on reconnaissance and sampling operations in a highly contaminated environment, online, 14 March – 1 April 2022**

39. The event was conducted in partnership with the Defence Science and Technology Organisation of Pakistan.
40. Participants learned about the theoretical and practical aspects of detection, identification, monitoring, and sampling. They also further developed decontamination techniques for reconnaissance and sampling operations during chemical incidents. The course also covered safety measures for dealing with chemical emergencies.
41. Participants included military, police, customs, and other civilian professionals from a range of emergency response backgrounds, and represented Member States from every OPCW regional group. Africa was represented by 21 participants from the following six Member States: Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, Algeria, Mauritius, and Morocco.

**Online Self-Assessment Tool workshop for Member States from the Southern African Development Community, Cape Town, South Africa, 28 – 30 March 2022**

42. The workshop is part of the OPCW project to implement a joint regional review of chemical emergency preparedness and response capabilities for Member States from the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

43. The project, financed by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the European Union, is designed to improve the implementation of Article X of the Convention (Assistance and Protection Against Chemical Weapons) at subregional and national levels.
44. Participating Member States first used the OPCW's new OSAT to assess the entire life cycle of hazardous chemicals from a risk perspective.
45. The workshop reviewed and discussed information gathered through the self-assessment. Participants worked with Secretariat experts to take stock of chemical risks and gaps in chemical emergency preparedness and response capabilities.
46. The event was attended by a total of 82 participants (52 in-person and 30 online) representing national institutions responsible for chemical emergencies from the following 13 OPCW Member States: Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

**Module 2 – Course on assistance and protection in deterrence and prevention of the use of chemical weapons and toxic industrial chemicals from a law enforcement first responder perspective, online, 11 – 30 April 2022**

47. This online training, held from 11 to 30 April for participants from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), covered evidence collection and sampling in a contaminated environment.
48. The online course was part of a three-component capacity-building project bearing the same title. Module 2 of the course was attended by 16 professionals from nine OPCW Member States: Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cabo Verde, Ghana, Italy, Nigeria, Senegal, Togo, and the United Republic of Tanzania.

**Subregional basic course on emergency response to chemical incidents for States Parties of the SADC, Swakopmund, Namibia, 9 – 13 May 2022**

49. The course, organised in partnership with the Government of Namibia and with financial support from the European Union, helped participating first responders expand their emergency response and protection capabilities against chemical warfare agents and toxic chemical incidents.
50. The course was delivered by OPCW experts and a team of instructors from Kenya, Mauritius, and Uganda under the OPCW Instructor Exchange Programme. It covered the use of individual and collective protective equipment as well as monitoring, detection, and decontamination equipment and techniques. Experts also provided instruction on how to conduct sampling and analysis in contaminated areas.
51. The training benefitted 44 representatives from 14 OPCW Member States in the SADC region: Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

**Regional table-top exercise on assistance and protection for ECOWAS States Parties, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 24 – 26 May 2022**

52. The exercise, co-organised with the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and financially supported by the European Union, dealt with responding to major chemical incidents and putting into place effective response and assistance procedures.
53. Areas addressed during this event included operational frameworks, policymaking, interagency cooperation, consequence management, and communication. Participants also had an opportunity to exchange information and foster networks to increase cooperation.
54. The event was attended in person by 40 representatives from 12 OPCW Member States from the ECOWAS region: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo.

**Live agent training for experts, Zemianske Kostol'any, Slovakia, 31 May – 10 June 2022**

55. The course, jointly organised by the Secretariat and the Government of Slovakia, provided training for qualified participants who may be called upon to respond to chemical emergencies in their home country.
56. The course covered relevant topics, including detection of chemical warfare agents, donning and doffing of chemical protective clothing, preparation of samples for transport, decontamination operations, and appropriate responses and countermeasures in the event of incidents involving chemical warfare agents or toxic chemicals.
57. Participants worked with live chemicals in a controlled training environment and practiced advanced elements of contaminated scene operations.
58. The training was attended by 16 participants from 13 Member States, including from Algeria, Burundi, and Uganda.

**Assistance and protection training for instructors, Lázně Bohdaneč, Czech Republic, 1 – 9 June 2022**

59. The course, co-organised and hosted by the Population Protection Institute of the Czech Republic, equipped participants with deeper insight into the process of chemical incident response as well as with the abilities to train others in how to manage chemical incidents.
60. The training incorporated a variety of training techniques, including presentations, demonstrations, table-top exercises, on-site trainings, and field exercises. Participants tested each other and performed various command roles to learn strategies that could be later implemented in their respective countries as future instructors.
61. The training was attended in person by 15 professionals from 12 OPCW Member States, including from Algeria, Kenya, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zimbabwe.

**Module 3 – Course on assistance and protection in deterrence and prevention of the use of chemical weapons and toxic industrial chemicals from a law enforcement first responder perspective, Montelibretti, Italy, 6 – 10 June 2022**

62. The course constituted the final segment of the capacity-building project bearing the same title, and followed on the earlier online course held from 11 to 30 April. The final course used practical exercises to reinforce the knowledge gained during the earlier online training.
63. The training involved close coordination and collaboration between multiple Italian organisations, including the National Fire Brigade, the Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical (NBC) Joint Defense School of the Ministry of Defence, and the Forensic and Bomb Squad of the Carabinieri.
64. Participants learned how to approach and collect different types of samples that could be found at the scene of a chemical incident and how to photograph evidence and relate the findings into a hypothesis. In addition, the course covered basic principles of the chain of custody, reporting, and cataloguing procedures.
65. Participants integrated newly acquired knowledge, building on past experiences and exchanging points of views and practices. Participating law enforcement professionals and experts from the Secretariat and the Italian National Authority also exchanged information and experiences regarding the implementation of Article X of the Convention and incident response.
66. The course was attended by eight professionals from six OPCW Member States: Australia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Italy, Nigeria, and Senegal.

**Subregional basic course on emergency response to chemical incidents for the ECOWAS States Parties, Abuja, Nigeria, 14 – 18 June 2022**

67. The course, co-organised with the Government of Nigeria, took place from 14 to 18 June in Abuja, Nigeria, with financial support from the European Union. It helped first responders expand their emergency response and protection capabilities against chemical warfare agents and toxic chemical incidents. The training was delivered by OPCW experts and a team of instructors from Kenya and the Seychelles under the OPCW Instructor Exchange Programme, and covered the use of individual and collective protective equipment as well as monitoring, detection, and decontamination equipment and techniques. Experts also provided instruction on how to conduct sampling and analysis in contaminated areas.
68. The training was attended by 38 representatives from 12 OPCW Member States in the ECOWAS region: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo.

**Basic course on emergency response to chemical incidents for Portuguese-speaking States Parties in Africa, Luanda, Angola, 27 June – 1 July 2022**

69. The course for Portuguese-speaking countries, hosted and co-organised by the Government of Angola, was the first in a three-part training cycle that builds preparedness for and stronger resilience to chemical emergencies.
70. The training enhanced the capabilities of participating Member States to manage a chemical emergency within their borders. It covered theoretical knowledge and practical, hands-on training related to the use of protective equipment, the effects and characteristics of chemical warfare agents, chemical detection and identification, and establishing the incident command and control system, an approach to coordinating incident responses from multiple agencies.
71. Participants also exchanged knowledge and national experience related to the implementation of Article X of the Convention, which focuses on assistance and protection measures in chemical emergencies.
72. The course was attended by 25 participants from the following six OPCW Member States: Angola, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, and Portugal.
73. The advanced and exercise courses, the two remaining phases of the training cycle, will take place in Portugal and Brazil before the end of 2023.

**Swiss basic course on assistance and protection, Spiez, Switzerland, 11 – 15 July 2022**

74. The course, co-organised with and hosted by the Swiss NBC Defense School in Spiez, provided fundamental training in protection against chemical weapons. It included a theoretical introduction to chemical warfare agents and the basics of individual protective measures, as well as included practical training with chemical detection and decontamination equipment.
75. Many of the participants, including military, police, firefighting, and technical personnel, were specialists associated with the training of civilians in protection against chemical weapons.
76. The basic course was attended by 30 participants, including from the following African OPCW Member States: Côte d'Ivoire, Mauritania, Senegal, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

**Exercise on assistance and protection for Portuguese-speaking Member States, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 11 – 15 July 2022**

77. The exercise, organised jointly with the Government of Brazil and supported by the Brazilian Navy, was the final component of a three-year training cycle for Portuguese-speaking Member States of the OPCW. It was preceded by a basic course in Brazil in 2018, and an advanced course in Portugal in 2019.
78. The exercise covered several topics, including the use of personal protective equipment, incident command, pre-hospital medical care, and field exercises.

79. The exercise was attended by 23 participants from seven OPCW Member States: Angola, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, and Sao Tome and Principe.

**Subregional basic course on emergency response to chemical incidents for the Members States of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, Khartoum, Sudan, 25 – 29 July 2022**

80. The course was supported through a voluntary contribution by the European Union and co-organised with the Government of the Sudan. Participants learned about the detection, identification, sampling, and decontamination techniques required for reconnaissance and sampling operations in highly contaminated environments. The course also covered safety measures and the procedures necessary to manage a response from the scene of an incident. The training was attended by 26 participants from Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, the Sudan, and Uganda.

**Regional workshop on assistance and protection project for Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Yaoundé, Cameroon, 4 – 9 September 2022**

81. Supported with a voluntary contribution from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, this workshop aims at developing the knowledge and expertise of 30 participants from Member States in the ECCAS region in areas of assistance and protection.

**International basic course on chemical weapons assistance and protection, Ahrweiler, Germany, 12 – 16 September 2022**

82. This course is related to the offer made by Germany under Article X pertaining to assistance and protection against chemical weapons. It aims to provide training on: planning and establishing a support team for the protection of civilian populations against chemical weapons; conducting emergency operations in contaminated areas; responding to incidents involving chemical warfare agents; using individual protective equipment; using monitoring, detection, and decontamination techniques; and taking samples.
83. The course will also offer an overview of the kinds of assistance that the OPCW and Germany can provide upon the request of a State Party, and will facilitate the exchange of information and experiences regarding the implementation of Article X of the Convention. The course is designed to benefit 25 participants from OPCW Member States, including from Africa.

**Swiss laboratory course, Spiez, Switzerland, 31 October – 4 November 2022**

84. Organised jointly with the Swiss NBC Defense School, the course will provide experts involved in chemical emergency response with training on how to identify chemical warfare agents and to use individual protective equipment.
85. The course is offered to 20 participants representing Member States from all geographical regions, including Africa.

**Subregional training for first responders in the East African Community (EAC), Jinja, Uganda, 2 – 9 November 2022**

86. The training is technically and financially supported by the Czech Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and will benefit 20 first responders to chemical emergencies representing Member States in the EAC region.

**Advanced international course and exercise on assistance and protection against chemical weapons, Islamabad, Pakistan, 7 – 11 November 2022**

87. Organised in partnership with the Defence Science and Technology Organisation of Pakistan, the event will provide advanced theoretical and practical training on assistance and protection against chemical incidents and attacks to 20 participants representing OPCW Member States from all geographical regions, including Africa.

**Basic course on response to incidents involving chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals for States Parties in the Africa Region, Murcia, Spain, 7 – 11 November 2022**

88. The course, jointly organised with the Government of Spain and the Murcia Fire Brigade, is designed to provide training for up to 20 participants from African Member States on the basics of assistance and protection under Article X of the Convention, which encompasses the response to chemical warfare agents and incidents involving toxic industrial chemicals.

**Fifth operational training on chemical emergency response, planning and management for East African Community (EAC) partner States, Jinja, Uganda, 16 – 25 November 2022**

89. The training is technically and financially supported by the Czech Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and is designed to further develop the expertise of the instructors' pool in the region and provide a platform for dialogue and mutual learning in areas of chemical emergency response, planning, and management. The training will benefit 25 participants representing Member States in the EAC region.

**OBJECTIVE 5: ADVANCE CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY CULTURE, STANDARDS, AND PRACTICES IN AFRICA**

**Workshop to develop guidelines for road transportation of hazardous chemicals, Wuppertal, Germany, 4 – 6 April 2022**

90. The workshop, organised together with the Wuppertal University of Germany, gathered 11 experts in the area of chemical safety and security and the transportation of hazardous chemicals.
91. The experts brainstormed about how to develop the guidelines to support governments and industry in strengthening chemical safety and security measures during hazardous chemical transportation by road. The workshop is part of a process that includes a series of consultations, workshops, and meetings.



92. In addition to Kenya, the experts hailed from Brazil, Germany, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America.

**Seminar on chemical safety and security management for African Member States, Harare, Zimbabwe, 10 – 12 May 2022**

93. The seminar aimed to raise awareness of the importance of chemical safety and security policy and guidelines to prevent chemical accidents and the potential misuse of toxic chemicals.
94. Participants were briefed on a variety of safety and security management topics relevant to chemical industries across the continent. They discussed a range of issues, including industry outreach and quantitative chemical safety and security risk assessments for accident prevention. Preparedness and scenario-based strategies to identify safety and security gaps in existing national frameworks were also discussed. Additionally, the course covered developing layers of protection to mitigate chemical threats.
95. For practical exposure to chemical safety and security management protocols, participants visited a chemical industry plant in the Msasa area of Harare. The plant produces phosphatic fertilizers using phosphate rock supplied from the Dorowa mine. As this fertilizer production process uses scheduled chemicals, the facility has implemented strict chemical safety and security protocols, which provided an excellent hands-on experience for participants.
96. The seminar was attended by 40 participants representing the following 13 OPCW Member States: Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Niger, Nigeria, Seychelles, South Africa, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

**Associate Programme 2022, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 28 July – 8 September 2022**

97. In addition to familiarising the participants with the provisions of the Convention and the functioning of the OPCW, the 2022 edition of the Associate Programme, the OPCW's flagship capacity-building programme, assisted in building participants' skills in chemical engineering and industrial management, with a focus on chemical safety and security.
98. The 2022 edition of the Programme included induction and intermediate segments conducted at the OPCW Headquarters, as well as an academic course with practical components delivered at the University of Surrey in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Programme was attended by 30 participants, including from the 15 following African Member States: Botswana, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Niger, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Uganda, and the United Republic of Tanzania.

**Wuppertal Course on explosion protection and safety management in the chemical process industries, 5 September – 7 October 2022**

99. Funded through a voluntary contribution from the Federal Government of Germany and organised online in collaboration with Wuppertal University, the course uses the “train-the-trainer” approach for participants who are in a position and ready to share the gained knowledge and expertise in their home countries for the full implementation of the Convention.
100. The course will begin with a briefing on the Convention, particularly those provisions related to how it is implemented in terms of the chemical industry. The focus will then shift to the following topics: management of hazardous substances (chemical transportation, handling, and storage); human factors (organisational and communicational aspects); explosion protection (hazard assessment approach, determination of substance properties, zoning, ignition sources, explosion protection measures, etc.); and group exercises (explosion hazard assessment approaches based on examples from the process industries).
101. The training is designed to benefit 24 participants from OPCW Member States, including from the Africa region.

**Workshop on general aspects on chemical safety and security in laboratories, Milan, Italy, 20 – 22 September 2022**

102. The workshop will be co-organised by the OPCW and the Institute of Chemical Sciences and Technologies “Giulio Natta” (SCITEC) of the Italian National Research Council (CNR) in cooperation with Federchimica (Italy), and with support from the National Authority of Italy.
103. The objective of the workshop is to provide an update on the current standards, policies, and best practices in chemical safety and security in both research and industrial experimental work set-ups. It has been designed for specialised personnel, such as safety coordinators and environmental health and safety or security managers, as well as representatives of related policymaking institutions from OPCW Member States. The workshop is designed to benefit 20 participants from OPCW Member States, including from Africa.

**Advanced course on chemical safety and security management for African Member States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 18 – 20 October 2022**

104. Jointly organised with the Government of Mauritius and financially supported by the European Union, the advanced course is part of the OPCW’s continued efforts to raise awareness on the importance of chemical safety and security management in Africa, so as to prevent chemical accidents and the potential misuse of highly toxic chemicals in African countries. The overall goal is twofold: first, to sensitise States Parties to new approaches in chemical management systems that can be adopted in relation to chemical safety and security, with a particular focus on the national policy framework; and second, to promote and share good practices among chemical industries. The course is designed to benefit 20 participants.

**Executive programme on integrated chemicals management, Port Louis, Mauritius, 18 – 22 October 2022**

105. The programme, intended for Member States whose economies are developing or in transition, is open to chemists, chemical engineers, and other relevant government, industry, or other professionals who assume managerial and leadership responsibilities related to the implementation of the Convention. The overall objective of the programme is to help the relevant Member States build capacity and develop in-depth knowledge and leadership skills in integrated chemicals management, including in the areas of chemical safety and security and sustainability.
106. Financially supported by the European Union, the Executive Programme is designed to benefit 17 participants from all regions, including Africa.

**Regional workshop on best practices in the development of a legislative and regulatory framework on chemical security for States Parties in Africa, Zimbabwe, 8 – 10 November 2022**

107. Organised in collaboration with the Government of Zimbabwe, the workshop is aimed at providing a forum for sharing information on participating States Parties' legal and regulatory frameworks on chemical security, as well as discussing approaches in the development of chemical security measures. During the event, the participants will be informed about existing national legal and regulatory frameworks on chemical security, methodologies for assessing risks and gaps in existing legal regimes, and ways of engaging different stakeholders.

**OBJECTIVE 6: STRENGTHEN THE CAPABILITIES OF CHEMICAL LABORATORIES IN AFRICA**

**Training programme aimed at enhancing analytical capacities of laboratories in Africa to pass the OPCW proficiency tests, 21 January – 23 March 2022**

108. The training was delivered by the Finnish Institute for Verification of the Chemical Weapons Convention (VERIFIN) and attended by 13 participants from laboratories in Kenya and Nigeria.
109. The comprehensive training programme started with bilateral proficiency testing training, for which VERIFIN provided samples that each laboratory analysed. The laboratories also received a series of individualised coaching workshops followed by joint mentorship sessions to facilitate the exchange of experiences.
110. The training programme was organised under the framework of the OPCW project entitled "Assessing and enhancing the capacity of analytical laboratories from African and GRULAC Member States to achieving OPCW designation", and was funded through a voluntary contribution from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The project focuses on the strategies and procedures required to pass OPCW proficiency tests, which is the primary requirement for a laboratory to obtain and maintain OPCW designated laboratory status.

**Analytical skills development course, online, 25 – 29 April 2022**

111. The course was held in partnership with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research–Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (CSIR–IICT) in Hyderabad, India, and targeted analytical chemists and chemical professionals from OPCW Member States with economies that are developing or in transition.
112. Through this course, participants gained insights into gas chromatography (GC) and gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS), as well as derivatisation techniques and methods of chemical sample preparation and analysis.
113. The course was attended by 19 participants from 18 OPCW Member States, including the following African countries: Algeria, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Namibia, Nigeria, Morocco, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, and Uganda.

**Basic analytical chemistry course for women chemists, Rijswijk, the Netherlands, 17 – 19 May 2022**

114. The three-day training provided female chemistry practitioners with foundational knowledge as well as practical skills and techniques for the analysis of scheduled chemicals subject to verification under the Convention. It also provided an opportunity for professional networking and discussions about how to increase the number of women working in the chemical sciences.
115. The training was attended by 10 female chemists, including from Botswana, Ghana, and Zimbabwe.

**Analytical skills development courses for African Member States, Pretoria, South Africa, 23 May – 3 June 2022**

116. Held at Protechnik Laboratories in Pretoria, South Africa, the course provided the participants with the technical knowledge and practical skills related to the analysis of Convention-related substances.
117. Throughout the two weeks, the participants learned the theories of the GC-MS and participated in exercises on the use of the GC-MS equipment for the analysis of chemical substances in the laboratory.
118. The course was attended by 22 participants from the following 16 African Member States: Algeria, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zimbabwe.

**Analytical skills development course for chemistry professionals from African Member States, online, 30 May – 10 June 2022**

119. Organised by the Secretariat together with VERIFIN, and with financial support from the European Union, the training focused on building the capacities of qualified analytical chemists in the quantitative analysis of chemicals related to the Convention and other skills.

120. The training deepened the knowledge of participants on sample preparation, quality control, and health and environmental issues related to toxic chemicals and national implementation of the Convention. In addition, the participants received a training in GC and were also introduced to GC-MS, as well as to a range of extraction, clean-up, and derivatisation procedures that are used in the analysis of chemicals related to the Convention.
121. The programme was attended by 14 participants from the following 11 African OPCW Member States: Burundi, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Nigeria, Togo, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

**Analytical skills development course, Hyderabad, India, 5 – 16 September 2022**

122. Organised in partnership with CSIR–IICT in Hyderabad, the course is designed to benefit 20 chemists, including from Africa.

**Two parallel courses on the enhancement of laboratory skills, Helsinki, Finland, 5 – 16 September 2022**

123. Organised in partnership with VERIFIN, the two courses are designed for 13 chemists from OPCW Member States, including from the Africa region.

**Analytical skills development course, Hyderabad, India, 5 – 16 December 2022**

124. Organised in partnership with CSIR–IICT in Hyderabad, the course is intended to benefit 19 chemists, including from Africa.

**Laboratory twinning**

125. In addition to training courses, the Secretariat has continued to facilitate twinning projects between laboratories, aimed at developing capacities of assisted laboratories in Africa, including in the framework of OPCW proficiency testing. Twinning activities include training and mentorship visits.
126. With regard to the Laboratory Twinning Initiative, the third phase of the project “Assessing and Enhancing Capacity of Analytical Laboratories from African and GRULAC Member States”, benefiting from voluntary funding from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, ended in March 2022. The two African laboratories involved were in Kenya and Nigeria. A new phase is under preparation and is due to start soon, with the continued financial support from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
127. Two other twinning projects involving African Member States are ongoing, with financial support from the European Union in addition to funds from the OPCW regular budget. One project is between the Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research and Protechnik Laboratories in South Africa, and the other is between the Bundeswehr Research Institute for Protective Technologies and CBRN Protection in Germany and the National Institute of Criminalistics and Criminology of the National Gendarmerie in Algeria. The project between the laboratories in South Africa and in the Netherlands is due to resume later in 2022 after a delay caused by the COVID-19

pandemic. In addition, another laboratory twinning project involving Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory of the United States of America and the National Forensic Laboratory of Morocco is under preparation.

#### **Equipment Exchange Programme**

128. Under the Equipment Exchange Programme, which supports the transfer of used but still functional equipment from institutions in one State Party to another, the Secretariat maintained discussions during the reporting period to facilitate training for the United Republic of Tanzania on equipment it received from Germany in December 2020. The Secretariat has maintained continuous contact with potential donors to encourage further such donations.

#### **OBJECTIVE 7: PROMOTE KNOWLEDGE OF PEACEFUL CHEMISTRY AND ITS EXCHANGE IN AFRICA**

##### **Educational training programme on peaceful uses of chemistry for youth, online, 7 April 2022**

129. Supported by the European Union, the training was part of the OPCW's efforts to raise awareness about the Convention among the next generation of professionals in the fields of science and chemistry.
130. The training touched upon the educational and ethical issues faced by chemists as well as ongoing efforts to prevent the abuse of dual-use chemicals. It also provided an opportunity for participants to liaise, network, and build professional relationships for their future careers in chemistry and disarmament.
131. The event also featured a presentation by the Kenyan National Disaster Management Unit about its experiences encouraging and promoting the engagement of youth in the implementation of the Convention.
132. The training was attended by 47 participants from 18 Member States. Africa was represented by participants from Kenya, Mauritius, Morocco, and Togo.

##### **Forum on peaceful uses of chemistry, online, 28 April 2022**

133. The forum aimed at raising awareness and enhancing knowledge and understanding of chemical safety and security management, with particular focus on chemical safety and related best practices. Participants discussed emerging trends as well as evolving and existing ethical challenges faced by chemistry practitioners. They also received a presentation from the United Nations Institute of Training and Research on ongoing efforts towards better chemical and waste management.
134. The event also featured a presentation by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research on an overview of gender balance in the chemical weapons regime as well as information on sex-specific and gendered effects of chemical weapons.
135. The forum was attended by 39 participants from 16 OPCW Member States, including the following African countries: Algeria, Kenya, Mauritania, Morocco, and Nigeria.

**Symposium on women in chemistry, Turin, Italy, 9 – 10 November 2022**

136. Organised in cooperation with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), the symposium will be held at UNICRI Headquarters in Turin, Italy. The theme for this year's symposium is "Identifying Opportunities for Gender Diversity in Chemical Safety and Security". The aims of the symposium are to illustrate the strength and depth of the contribution of women to peaceful chemistry, to promote international solidarity and cooperation, and to raise awareness of the opportunities for capacity and knowledge development for women in chemistry. The symposium will benefit 20 participants from all geographical regions, including Africa.

**Support for fellowships**

137. Five fellowships started in the third and fourth quarters of 2021 and have been ongoing in 2022: Zimbabwe in Switzerland, Cameroon in Germany, Nigeria in South Africa, and Uganda in Germany and in Finland. Two others took place successfully in the first half of 2022: Nigeria in the United States of America, and Uganda in South Africa. Another two fellowships are scheduled to begin in the third quarter of 2022.

**Support for scientific conferences**

138. In the framework of the Conference Support Programme, the Secretariat sponsored two scientists from Morocco and South Africa to participate in the sixth course of the International School of Crystallography entitled "Crystallography under extreme conditions: The future is bright and very compressed", held in Erice, Trapani, Italy, from 4 to 10 June 2022.
139. The Secretariat also sponsored selected African participants to take part in the 14th Green Chemistry Postgraduate Summer School 2022, held online and in person in Venice, Italy, from 3 to 8 July 2022. One Moroccan, three Nigerian, and four South African participants were sponsored to attend the in-person segment of the event. Another 40 African participants were sponsored to attend the event's online component.
140. In addition, the Secretariat sponsored the "Virtual Conference on Chemistry and its Applications" (VCCA-2022), organised from 8 to 12 August 2022 by the Computational Chemistry Group of the University of Mauritius. Eighty African scientists were sponsored to attend the event.

**Support of research projects**

141. Under the Programme for the Support of Research Projects, during the reporting period the Secretariat has sponsored four African research projects (from Kenya, South Africa, Tunisia, and Uganda) and co-funded, with the International Foundation for Science based in Sweden, eight others (Benin (2), Côte d'Ivoire (2), Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda, and Zimbabwe).

## **OBJECTIVE 8: FOSTER PROGRAMME VISIBILITY, STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT, AND PARTNERSHIPS**

142. One of the major innovations of the fifth phase of the Africa Programme is the special attention dedicated to promoting the engagement of Convention stakeholders and their ownership of the Programme. An important enabler in this regard is the promotion in Africa of the visibility and understanding of the Programme, the Convention, and the work of the OPCW.
143. A number of activities have been undertaken by the Secretariat during the reporting period, with a view to continuing to address this specific objective of the Programme.

### **Participation in a “Coordination Workshop for the Project on Supporting Universalisation and Effective Implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention in Africa”, Geneva, Switzerland, 26 and 27 July 2022**

144. At the invitation of UNODA—the Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit, the Secretariat contributed to this coordination workshop held in Geneva on 26 and 27 July 2022. The Secretariat delivered a pre-recorded presentation to share its experience and lessons learned regarding the Africa Programme. The detailed presentation offered by the Secretariat to the workshop was highly appreciated.

### **OPCW Africa Network**

145. The Secretariat continued to maintain and develop the OPCW Africa Network through the facilitation of regular interaction, the exchange of knowledge and expertise, and professional networking. The outreach efforts undertaken by the Secretariat led to an increase in Network membership to over 950 active members by the end of the reporting period.

### **OPCW Africa Bulletin**

146. The annual OPCW Africa Bulletin is one of the innovations incorporated in the concept of the fifth phase of the Africa Programme. The Bulletin is designed for sensitisation and information purposes, dissemination of educational materials, and showcasing progress and success stories in the Programme. The third edition of the Bulletin is to be issued in November 2022 as planned.

### **Continued alumni engagement through post-participation action plans**

147. During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued to send individual post-participation letters, including action plans, to the alumni of capacity-building activities organised under the fifth phase of the Africa Programme.

### **Partnerships**

148. In 2022, the Secretariat continued to cooperate with a variety of partners for the conduct of projects and activities under the Africa Programme and for the continuous exploration of new joint initiatives.



149. As highlighted in various parts of this Annex, the list of partners includes international, regional, and national organisations, academia, laboratories, and chemical industries. The list also includes Member States that hosted activities under the Programme.
150. Separately, in 2022 the Secretariat has also continued to collaborate with several donors under the Africa Programme. While funded essentially from the OPCW regular budget, the Africa Programme continued to benefit from generous voluntary contributions from Canada, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and the European Union (as at 31 August 2022).

## Annex 2

### **OVERVIEW OF KEY ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE FIFTH PHASE OF THE AFRICA PROGRAMME (1 SEPTEMBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2021)**

#### **OBJECTIVE 1: ADVANCE NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION IN AFRICA**

#### **OBJECTIVE 2: ENHANCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL AUTHORITIES**

##### **Subregional training course on fulfilling declarations and inspections obligations under Article VI of the Chemical Weapons Convention for Arabic-speaking States Parties in the Middle East and North Africa, online, 13 – 30 September 2021**

1. The course provided participants with an opportunity to enhance their knowledge of Article VI obligations, as well as the chance to share experiences and best practices and discuss Article VI-related issues. Thirty participants completed the course including 12 representatives of the following African Member States: Mauritania, Morocco, the Sudan, and Tunisia.

##### **Eighth Annual Meeting of Representatives of Chemical Industry and National Authorities of States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention, online, 12 and 13 October 2021**

2. The meeting, organised online, in partnership with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the International Chemical Trade Association, promoted cooperation between National Authorities and the chemical industry by providing a platform for representatives to share experiences, challenges, and good practices on the implementation of the Convention. Participants also discussed issues related to regulatory compliance and exchanged information on approaches to chemical industry outreach. Participants included 18 representatives of 11 African Member States: Algeria, Botswana, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritania, Morocco, Nigeria, the Sudan, Togo, and Tunisia.

##### **Twenty-Third Annual Meeting of National Authorities, online, 23 – 26 November 2021**

3. The meeting offered a platform for interactive communications and cooperation for the National Authorities, both among themselves and with the Secretariat, regarding the implementation of the Convention. Participants also exchanged views and expertise on the OPCW's capacity-building support related to the development of legislative and regulatory frameworks for chemical security, to chemical security management, and to strengthening response capacities against the use or threat of use of chemical weapons. From the Africa region, over 50 representatives of more than 20 States Parties took part in the meeting.

**Fourth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Africa Programme, hybrid event, 15 November 2021**

4. The meeting, chaired by H.E. Ambassador Lawrence Lenayapa, the Permanent Representative of Kenya to the OPCW, reviewed the progress achieved in the implementation of the Africa Programme since the third meeting of the Committee, held on 25 June 2021. The meeting was attended by 49 participants representing Steering Committee members and observers, as well as Secretariat staff led by the Director-General.
5. Noting the developments in the implementation of the Africa Programme, the Committee lauded the Secretariat for the progress achieved despite the continuing constraints imposed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Committee also expressed gratitude to Programme donors and partners for their support for Africa within the Programme's framework.

**Briefing on the Chemical Weapons Convention for non-Hague-based Permanent Representations to the OPCW, 12 November 2021**

6. As part of this event, which is held annually, the Secretariat provided a briefing on the status of implementation of the Convention, as well as the various OPCW capacity-building programmes designed to support the national implementation of the Convention. A total of 76 representatives from 43 States Parties attended, including 38 representatives of the following 18 African Member States based in Brussels: Botswana, Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Eswatini, the Gambia, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
7. In addition, the Secretariat updated the participating States Parties, inter alia, on the implementation of the Africa Programme in 2021. The update, which was well received, galvanised additional support for the Programme on the part of the participating delegations.

**OBJECTIVE 3: STRENGTHEN CONTROLS OVER CROSS-BORDER TRANSFERS OF TOXIC CHEMICALS TO PREVENT ACCESS TO SUCH CHEMICALS, INCLUDING BY NON-STATE ACTORS, FOR PURPOSES PROHIBITED UNDER THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION**

**Course for analytical chemists from laboratories supporting customs services, online, 4 – 14 October 2021**

8. The course provided the participants with in-depth information about sample preparation, chemical structure and properties of scheduled chemicals, and the use of the analytical techniques for chemicals relevant to the Convention. The use of the OPCW Central Analytical Database (OCAD) for compound identification was also explained. Participants included six representatives of the following African Member States: Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, and Uganda.

**Training course for representatives of customs training institutions from Africa, online, 8 – 10 December 2021**

9. The course, held online in French and English, gave participants an opportunity to discuss transfer-related issues with experts from the OPCW and the WCO and to identify best practices in exercising effective control over trade in toxic chemicals. Participants also shared experiences in implementing national training programmes on the enforcement of trade controls. The course was completed by 39 participants from the following 17 African Member States: Algeria, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

**OBJECTIVE 4: ENHANCE PROTECTION AND RESPONSE CAPABILITIES AGAINST CHEMICAL INCIDENTS AND ATTACKS**

**Webinar on chemical security and response measures and emergency response arrangements for major public events, online, 22 and 23 September 2021**

10. The webinar was organised to assist Cameroon in its preparation for the 2022 Africa Cup of Nations. The event featured expert speakers from the Population Protection Institute of the Czech Republic, the National CBRN Centre of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Defence Ministry of Brazil, the National Emergency Management Agency of Nigeria, and the Convention National Authority of Cameroon. The webinar was attended by 162 participants from the following 30 African Member States: Algeria, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, the Sudan, Uganda, Togo, Tunisia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
11. The event offered an interactive platform for experts from different regions to share their experiences on major event preparations (FIFA World Cup, Olympic Games, etc.) and provided Cameroon's Africa Cup of Nations planners and response organisations with a thorough understanding of chemical threats, agents, and potential incident scenarios. This approach will also contribute to regional security and more effective interagency cooperation.

**International workshop for women in a first responder role to chemical incidents, online, 23 and 24 September 2021**

12. The Secretariat organised the first international online workshop for women in a first responder role to chemical incidents. Participants, which included 28 African female professionals from eight African Member States: Algeria, Burundi, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, the Sudan. They examined gender-based challenges in operational issues, including gender considerations for response procedures, and also discussed a range of challenges that women face when building a career in fields related to chemical emergency response and management.

**Basic assistance and protection training course for first responders, online, 11 – 15 October 2021**

13. The online basic assistance and protection course for first responders was organised by the Secretariat in cooperation with the Republic of Korea's CBRN Defence Command of the Ministry of Defence. The course was attended by 41 participants from 20 Member States, including the following from Africa: Nigeria, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.
14. Participants learned about chemical warfare agents, theoretical and practical aspects of detection, identification, individual protection, as well as decontamination and treatment techniques used during chemical incidents.

**Basic training course on chemical incident response, online, 23 – 25 November 2021**

15. In partnership with the Brazilian National Authority and with the technical support of the Brazilian Army and Navy, the Secretariat conducted a virtual course on chemical incident response for experts from Portuguese-speaking Member States. Seventeen experts from six Member States attended the training, including from the following African Member States: Angola, Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau, and Mozambique.
16. The training covered a range of topics, including types and characteristics of chemical warfare agents and industrial chemicals, incident command, personal protection, sampling, detection and identification, and decontamination. The course also provided information about safety measures and procedures necessary to manage incidents directly at the scene.

**Basic assistance and protection course, online, 29 November – 2 December 2021**

17. The course was organised by the Secretariat in partnership with the Malaysian National Authority (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia) and the Fire and Rescue Department of Malaysia, and focused on chemical incident response.
18. Through pre-recorded presentations, demonstration videos, downloadable learning material, and live coaching sessions, the course contributed to improving participating Member States' chemical emergency response capabilities for the better protection of their populations. Topics covered included protection, detection, rescue operations, decontamination, reconnaissance, evidence collection in contaminated areas, scenario-based response, and medical response. Participants were also briefed about the relevant technical support available from the OPCW.
19. The course attracted 79 participants from 29 Member States, including the following seven from Africa: Cabo Verde, Kenya, Mauritania, Mauritius, Nigeria, Senegal, and Tunisia.

**National workshop on emergency response in mitigation of chemical warfare threats to major public events, hybrid, 1 – 3 December 2021**

20. From 1 to 3 December, the Secretariat supported Cameroon's chemical emergency response planning and delivery in anticipation of the country's hosting of the 2022 Africa Cup of Nations football tournament. The event was hosted by the Government of Cameroon and was facilitated online by experts from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Secretariat. The workshop was attended by 54 national emergency planners and managers from civil defence organisations, fire and rescue departments, police forces, and military CBRN units.

**Specialised training course on deterrence and prevention of the use of chemical weapons and toxic industrial chemicals, online, 1 – 17 December 2021**

21. Conducted by the Secretariat in partnership with the National Authority of Italy, this new training course was designed specifically for law enforcement officials as part of the OPCW's ongoing efforts to strengthen the chemical emergency response and management capacity of OPCW Member States. Focused on the deterrence and prevention of the use of chemical weapons and toxic industrial chemicals, the course was attended by 27 professionals, including from the following seven African Member States: Cabo Verde, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, Togo, and the United Republic of Tanzania.

**Assistance and protection online course for instructors, online, 14 – 16 December 2021**

22. Conducted in collaboration with the Population Protection Institute of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic, the course was attended by 31 participants from 25 Member States, including the following six from Africa: Algeria, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zimbabwe. The participants enhanced their knowledge of chemical warfare agents, theoretical aspects of detection, identification, individual protection, as well as decontamination and treatment techniques used during chemical incidents. They also improved their instruction skills by providing lectures on the types and effects of chemical weapons, as well as on protection, sampling, and decontamination methods. Additionally, the course covered teaching strategies for instructors.

**Online Self-Assessment Tool presentation to Member States of the Southern African Development Community, online, 15 December 2021**

23. On 15 December 2021, the Secretariat presented the new OSAT to Member States of the SADC. The tool helps Member States assess chemical safety and security risks from hazardous chemicals, audit existing response capacities, and identify necessary improvement measures. The online meeting was attended by 24 representatives of OPCW National Authorities, national institutions, and Permanent Representations to the OPCW from 10 Member States: Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

**OBJECTIVE 5: ADVANCE CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY CULTURE, STANDARDS, AND PRACTICES IN AFRICA**

**Wuppertal course on explosion protection and error management in the chemical process industries for OPCW Member States, online, 6 September – 8 October 2021**

24. Organised in partnership with the University of Wuppertal, Germany and with funding from the German Federal Government, the course contributed to improving the capacity of the participants in respect of explosion protection and preventing human errors in chemical process industries. Participants included 11 representatives from the following nine African Member States: Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritania, Mauritius, Nigeria, Seychelles, South Africa, and Tunisia.

25. The participants attended five interactive sessions covering diverse topics such as explosion basics, assessment of explosion risks, safety characteristics of substances, classification of hazardous areas, and explosion protection measures. During the practical section, a miniature model of a chemical reactor—the “Wuppertal mini-plant”—was used during interactive assignments. The programme also included two live online seminars about individual-level and organisational aspects of error and error management.

**Training course in French on legislative and regulatory issues in chemical security for States Parties in Africa, online, 16 – 21 October 2021**

26. From 16 to 21 October, the Secretariat organised an online training course on legislative and regulatory issues in chemical security for French-speaking African States Parties. The course sought to enhance the capacities of participants to analyse their respective national legal and regulatory frameworks and to support them in identifying and addressing regulatory and legislative gaps related to chemical security. The course was completed by 40 participants from the following 12 African Member States: Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Togo, and Tunisia. The course was organised in collaboration with the International Council of Chemical Associations, the International Chemical Trade Association, the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and INTERPOL.

**OBJECTIVE 6: STRENGTHEN THE CAPABILITIES OF CHEMICAL LABORATORIES IN AFRICA**

**Laboratory analytical chemistry courses, online, 4 – 15 October 2021**

27. Two analytical chemistry courses were offered in parallel by the Secretariat from 4 to 15 October, benefitting two groups of laboratory professionals in the field of chemistry: women chemists and professionals from laboratories interested in passing the OPCW proficiency tests to gain designated status. The courses featured an introduction to the Convention and the OPCW and provided in-depth information about sample preparation, the chemical structure and properties of scheduled chemicals, and the use of analytical techniques for chemicals relevant to the Convention. The following African Member States were represented in these courses: Botswana, Ghana, Mauritius, Morocco, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

**Analytical chemistry course for African Member States, online, 23 – 25 November 2021**

28. An online analytical chemistry course for African Member States was organised from 23 to 25 November to enhance the laboratory skills of participants from African Member States in the analysis of Convention-related substances using GC and MS. Seventeen analytical chemists from the following 17 Member States participated in the course: Algeria, Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

## **OBJECTIVE 7: PROMOTE KNOWLEDGE OF PEACEFUL CHEMISTRY AND ITS EXCHANGE IN AFRICA**

### **Support for fellowships**

29. Five fellowships sponsored by the OPCW began in the third and fourth quarters of 2021 and continued into 2022: Zimbabwe in Switzerland, Cameroon in Germany, Nigeria in South Africa, and Uganda in Germany and in Finland.

### **Support for research projects**

30. Under the Programme for Support of Research Projects, the Secretariat sponsored, during the reporting period, four African research projects (from Kenya, South Africa, Tunisia, and Uganda) and co-funded, with the International Foundation for Science based in Sweden, eight others (Benin (2), Côte d'Ivoire (2), Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda, and Zimbabwe).

## **OBJECTIVE 8: FOSTER PROGRAMME VISIBILITY, STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT, AND PARTNERSHIPS**

### **OPCW Africa Network**

31. During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued to maintain and develop the Network through the facilitation of regular interaction, the exchange of knowledge and expertise, and professional networking. The outreach efforts undertaken by the Secretariat led to an increase in Network membership to 850 active members by the end of the reporting period.

### **OPCW Africa Bulletin**

32. In October 2021, the Secretariat issued the second edition of the OPCW Africa Bulletin. The feedback received by the Secretariat with regard to the bulletin, including from Africa Programme stakeholders, was very positive. The bulletin was also highly commended by the Africa Programme Steering Committee at its meeting of 15 November 2021.

### **Continued alumni engagement through post-participation action plans**

33. During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued to send individual post-participation action plans to the alumni of capacity-building activities organised under the fifth phase of the Africa Programme. Copies of these plans were also addressed to the respective National Authorities and Permanent Representations of the alumni, for their records and continued coordination and follow-up.

### **Partnerships**

34. During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued its cooperation with a variety of stakeholders for the organisation of activities under the Africa Programme and for the exploration of new initiatives. The list of partners includes international, regional, and national organisations. Valuable support was also provided by several Member States co-organising events under the Programme.



### Annex 3

## PROVISIONAL LIST OF KEY ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE FIFTH PHASE OF THE AFRICA PROGRAMME (2020 – 2022)

### OBJECTIVE 1: ADVANCE NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION IN AFRICA

### OBJECTIVE 2: ENHANCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL AUTHORITIES

1. Lessons-learned workshop on the Mentorship/Partnership Programme, The Hague, the Netherlands, 30 and 31 January 2020
2. Study visit by a Moroccan parliamentary delegation to the OPCW Headquarters, 17 February 2020
3. Inaugural meeting of the Steering Committee of the Africa Programme, online, 26 June 2020
4. Presentation of special projects for extrabudgetary funding under the fifth phase of the Africa Programme, online, 1 July 2020
5. Eighteenth Regional Meeting of African National Authorities, online, 4 August 2020
6. General training course on the Chemical Weapons Convention for the personnel of National Authorities and relevant stakeholders in French-speaking Member States in Central and West Africa, online, 7 – 9 September 2020
7. Second meeting of the Steering Committee of the Africa Programme, online, 16 November 2020
8. Seventh Annual Meeting of Representatives of the Chemical Industry and National Authorities of States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention, online, 17 and 18 November 2020
9. Briefing on the Convention for non-Hague-based Permanent Representations, online, 18 November 2020
10. Twenty-Second Annual Meeting of National Authorities, online, 23 – 25 November 2020
11. Individual technical consultations in areas of national implementation of the Convention, Ethiopia, online, first quarter 2021
12. Individual technical consultations in areas of national implementation of the Convention, Kenya, online, first quarter 2021
13. Individual technical consultations in areas of national implementation of the Convention, Madagascar, online, first quarter 2021
14. Individual technical consultations in areas of national implementation of the Convention, South Africa, online, first quarter 2021
15. Individual technical consultations in areas of national implementation of Convention, the Sudan, online, first quarter 2021

16. National legislative review forum for Mauritania, online, 23 February 2021
17. Training course on fulfilling declarations and inspections obligations under Article VI of the Convention, online, 1 March – 15 April 2021
18. General training course on the chemical weapons convention for the personnel of National Authorities and relevant stakeholders, online, 19 – 22 April 2021
19. Consultations with Togo on the status of its draft law implementing the Chemical Weapons Convention, online, 3 June 2021
20. Nineteenth Regional Meeting of African National Authorities, online, 15 – 17 June 2021
21. Third Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Africa Programme, online, 25 June 2021
22. Assistance with the national implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in Mozambique, online, 2 August 2021
23. Subregional training course on fulfilling declarations and inspections obligations under Article VI of the Chemical Weapons Convention for Arabic-speaking States Parties in the Middle East and North Africa, online, 13 – 30 September 2021
24. Eighth Annual Meeting of Representatives of the Chemical Industry and National Authorities of the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention, online, 12 and 13 October 2021
25. Briefing on the Chemical Weapons Convention for non-Hague-based Permanent Representations to the OPCW, 12 November 2021
26. Fourth meeting of the Steering Committee of the Africa Programme, online, 15 November 2021
27. Twenty-Third Annual Meeting of the National Authorities, online, 23 – 26 November 2021
28. Global training course on fulfilling declarations and inspections obligations under Article VI of the Convention, online, 7 – 25 February 2022
29. Workshop on the UNSCR 1540 National Implementation Action Plan of Botswana, online, 8 and 9 February 2022
30. Bilateral visit by representatives of the National Authority of Mauritania to Morocco under the OPCW Mentorship/Partnership Programme, Rabat, Morocco, 21 – 25 February 2022
31. Bilateral visit by representatives of the National Authority of France to Côte d'Ivoire under the OPCW Mentorship/Partnership Programme, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 28 March – 1 April 2022
32. Advanced training course on fulfilling Article VI declarations and inspections, online, 25 April – 11 May 2022
33. National legislative review forum for the Republic of Malawi, online, 30 May 2022
34. Twentieth Regional Meeting of African National Authorities, online, 31 May – 2 June 2022
35. Fifth meeting of the Steering Committee of the Africa Programme, online, 24 June 2022
36. National legislative review forum for the Republic of Niger, online, 14 July 2022

37. Regional general training course on the Convention and national obligations for personnel of National Authorities and other national stakeholders, Lomé, Togo, 23 – 25 August 2022
38. Global stakeholders forum to advance the adoption of implementing legislation, The Hague, the Netherlands, 13 – 15 September 2022
39. Ninth Annual Meeting of Representatives of Chemical Industry and National Authorities of States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention, Doha, Qatar, 18 – 20 October 2022
40. National legislative review forum for Kenya to identify and address gaps in Implementing legislation, online, October 2022 (dates to be confirmed)
41. Sixth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Africa Programme, online, 14 November 2022
42. Regional workshop for French-speaking African States Parties on the role of national implementing legislation in addressing threats from non-State Actors, Dakar, Senegal, 16 – 18 November 2022
43. Global Meeting of National Authorities, The Hague, the Netherlands, 22 – 25 November 2022

**OBJECTIVE 3: STRENGTHEN CONTROLS OVER CROSS-BORDER TRANSFERS OF TOXIC CHEMICALS TO PREVENT ACCESS TO SUCH CHEMICALS, INCLUDING BY NON-STATE ACTORS, FOR PURPOSES PROHIBITED UNDER THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION**

1. Training course for customs officials on the transfers regime of the Chemical Weapons Convention, online, 14 – 18 September 2020
2. Training course for customs officials on the transfers regime of the Chemical Weapons Convention, online, 25 – 27 May 2021
3. Course for analytical chemists from laboratories supporting customs services, online, 4 – 14 October 2021
4. Training course for customs officials from the Africa region on the transfers regime of the Chemical Weapons Convention, online, 8 – 10 December 2021
5. Training course for customs officers on the transfers regime of the Chemical Weapons Convention, online, 16 – 18 May 2022
6. Train-the-trainer course for representatives of customs training institutions and academies on the technical aspects of the transfers regime of the Chemical Weapons Convention, The Hague, the Netherlands, 6 – 9 September 2022
7. Specialised analytical chemistry course for laboratories supporting customs services in African Member States, Warsaw, Poland, 10 – 14 October 2022

**OBJECTIVE 4: ENHANCE PROTECTION AND RESPONSE CAPABILITIES AGAINST CHEMICAL INCIDENTS AND ATTACKS**

1. International course on pre-hospital medical care for chemical casualties, Doha, Qatar, 17 – 20 February 2020
2. National basic training course on assistance and protection against chemical weapons for Rwanda’s airport, border, and police personnel, Kigali, Rwanda, 2 – 6 March 2020
3. Basic Training on the Use of the Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders and the Emergency Response Guidebook for First Responders from States Parties in the East African Community, online, 19 – 20 October 2020
4. Regional Table-top exercise on chemical emergency response for the Economic Community of West African States, online, 16 – 17 November 2020
5. Launch meeting of the assistance and protection project for the Southern African Development Community, online, 23 November 2020
6. Basic course on assistance and protection for Member States in the Intergovernmental Authority on Development region, online, 23 – 24 November 2020
7. Basic Course on Emergency Response to Chemical Incidents for North Africa and the Sahel, online, 7 – 10 December 2020
8. Refresher course for instructors on chemical emergency response, planning, and management from Member States in the East African Community (EAC), online, 15 December 2020
9. Basic training course on the Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders and use of the Emergency Response Guidebook for first responders from States Parties in the Southern African Development Community (SADC), online, 2 – 3 March 2021
10. International course on reconnaissance and sampling operations in a highly contaminated environment, online, 15 – 19 March 2021
11. Basic training course on the Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders and the use of Emergency Response Guidebook for first responders from States Parties in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), online, 28 – 29 April 2021
12. Training course on incident response operations and sample management of chemical incidents for Member States of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) region, online, 25 – 27 May 2021
13. Coordination meeting on the “Assistance and Protection Project for the Southern African Development Community” (2020 – 2021), online, 1 June 2021
14. Basic course on Decontamination of chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals for emergency first responders of African Member States, online, 13 – 15 July 2021
15. Training course on conducting sampling and analysis in a highly contaminated environment for African Member States, online, 27 – 29 July 2021

16. Basic training course on the Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders and use of the Emergency Response Guidebook for First Responders in French-Speaking African Member States, online, 18 – 20 August 2021
17. Webinar for African Member States on chemical security response measures and emergency response arrangements for major public events, online, 22 and 23 September 2021
18. Workshop for women first responders in chemical emergencies, online, 23 and 24 September 2021
19. Regional basic assistance and protection course for first responders, online, 11 – 15 October 2021
20. Virtual course on assistance and protection against chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals for first responders of Portuguese-speaking States Parties, 23 – 25 November 2021
21. Basic assistance and protection course, online, 29 November – 2 December 2021
22. National workshop on emergency response mitigation against chemical threat to major public events to support Cameroon in its preparation to 2022 Africa Cup of Nations, Yaoundé, Cameroon, 1 – 3 December 2021
23. Course on assistance and protection in deterrence and prevention of the use of chemical weapons and toxic industrial chemicals from a law enforcement point of view (Part 1), online, 6 – 17 December 2021
24. Launching session of the OSAT implementation phase for the Southern African Development Community (SADC), online, 15 December 2021
25. Assistance and protection online course for instructors, online, 14 – 16 December 2021
26. Virtual meeting of assistance and protection partnering training centres in Africa, online, 2 – 3 February 2022
27. Online trainer course for national emergency response instructors, online, 15 – 17 February 2022
28. Course on emergency toxicology for receiving medical facilities in Africa, online, 22 – 24 February 2022
29. Course on reconnaissance and sampling operations in a highly contaminated environment, online, 14 March to 1 April 2022
30. OSAT workshop for Member States from the Southern African Development Community, Cape Town, South Africa, 28 – 30 March 2022
31. Module 2 – Course on assistance and protection in deterrence and prevention of the use of chemical weapons and toxic industrial chemicals from a law enforcement first responder perspective, online, 11 – 30 April 2022
32. Subregional basic course on emergency response to chemical incidents for States Parties of the SADC, Swakopmund, Namibia, 9 – 13 May 2022
33. Regional table-top exercise on assistance and protection for States Parties in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) region, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 24 – 26 May 2022

34. Live agent training for experts, Zemianske Kostol'any, Slovakia, online, 31 May – 10 June 2022
35. Assistance and protection training for instructors, Lázně Bohdaneč, Czech Republic, 1 – 9 June 2022
36. Module 3 – Course on assistance and protection in deterrence and prevention of the use of chemical weapons and toxic industrial chemicals from a law enforcement first responder perspective, Montelibretti, Italy, 6 – 10 June 2022
37. Subregional basic course on emergency response to chemical incidents for States Parties in the ECOWAS region, Abuja, Nigeria, 14 – 18 June 2022
38. Basic course on emergency response to chemical incidents for Portuguese-speaking States Parties in Africa, Luanda, Angola, 27 June – 1 July 2022
39. Swiss basic course on assistance and protection, Spiez, Switzerland, 11 – 15 July 2022
40. Exercise on assistance and protection for Portuguese-speaking States Parties, Rio de Janeiro, 11 – 15 July 2022
41. Subregional basic course on emergency response to chemical incidents for States Parties in the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Khartoum, Sudan, 25 – 29 July 2022
42. Regional workshop on assistance and protection project for States Parties in the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Yaoundé, Cameroon, 4 – 9 September 2022
43. International basic course on chemical weapons assistance and protection, Ahrweiler, Germany, 12 – 16 September 2022
44. Swiss laboratory course, Spiez, Switzerland, 31 October – 4 November 2022
45. Subregional training for first responders in the East African Community (EAC), Jinja, Uganda, 2 – 9 November 2022
46. Advanced international course and exercise on assistance and protection against chemical weapons, Islamabad, Pakistan, 7 – 11 November 2022
47. Basic course on response to incidents involving chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals for States Parties in the Africa Region, Murcia, Spain, 7 – 11 November 2022
48. Fifth operational training on chemical emergency response, planning and management for the East African Community (EAC) partner States, Jinja, Uganda, 16 – 25 November 2022

**OBJECTIVE 5: ADVANCE CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY CULTURE, STANDARDS, AND PRACTICES IN AFRICA**

1. Advanced course on chemical safety and security management, online, 25 June 2020
2. Training course on chemical safety and security management for African States Parties, online, 12 August 2020
3. Executive programme on integrated chemicals management, online, 19 August 2020

4. Training course on chemical safety and security management for African Member States, online, 19 August 2020
5. Wuppertal course on explosion protection and error management, online, 7 – 30 September 2020
6. Intersessional training for the Twenty-First OPCW Associate Programme, online, 21 September – 2 October 2020
7. Course on legislative and regulatory issues of chemical security for African States Parties, online, 19 – 22 April 2021
8. Intersessional training for the Associate Programme 2021, 19 May – 1 June 2021
9. Workshop on general aspects of chemical safety and security in laboratories, online, 8 – 10 June 2021
10. Launch event on the indicative guidelines for chemical safety and security in small and medium-sized enterprises to foster the peaceful uses of chemistry, online, 29 June 2021
11. Advanced chemical safety and security management course for Member States in the Africa region, online, 2 July 2021
12. Wuppertal course on explosion protection and error management in the chemical process industries for OPCW States Parties, online, 6 September – 8 October 2021
13. Course on legislative and regulatory issues of chemical security for French-speaking African States Parties, online, 16 – 21 October 2021
14. Workshop to develop guidelines for road transportation of hazardous chemicals, Wuppertal, Germany, 4 – 6 April 2022
15. Seminar on chemical safety and security management for African States Parties, Harare, Zimbabwe, 10 – 12 May 2022
16. Advanced course on supply chain vulnerability assessment – Workshop for Nigeria, The Hague, the Netherlands, 27 – 28 June 2022
17. Associate Programme 2022, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 28 July – 8 September 2022
18. Wuppertal course on explosion protection and safety management in the chemical process industries, online, 5 September – 7 October 2022
19. Workshop on general aspects on chemical safety and security in laboratories, Milan, Italy, 20 – 22 September 2022
20. Advanced course on chemical safety and security management for African Member States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 18 – 20 October 2022
21. Executive programme on integrated chemicals management, Port Louis, Mauritius, 18 – 22 October 2022
22. Regional workshop on best practices in the development of a legislative and regulatory framework on chemical security for States Parties in Africa, Zimbabwe, 8 – 10 November 2022

## **OBJECTIVE 6: STRENGTHEN THE CAPABILITIES OF CHEMICAL LABORATORIES IN AFRICA**

1. Training course on the analysis of Chemical Weapons Convention-related chemicals and preparation for OPCW proficiency testing under the project to assess and enhance the capacity of analytical laboratories in States Parties from Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean, Helsinki, Finland, 10 – 14 February 2020
2. Online workshop on “Assessing and Enhancing Capacity of Analytical Laboratories from African and GRULAC Member States: Towards OPCW Designation”, 2 and 3 June 2020
3. Two OPCW–VERIFIN combined courses on liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry and laboratory quality management, online, 7 – 11 September 2020
4. Coaching workshop in support of the participation of assisted laboratories from the Africa and GRULAC regions in OPCW Proficiency Testing, online, 21 January 2021
5. Coaching workshop in support of the participation of assisted laboratories from the Africa and GRULAC regions in OPCW proficiency testing, online, 19 February 2021
6. Capacity-building course for laboratories from States Parties in Africa that aspire to join the OPCW network of designated laboratories, online, 15 to 19 March 2021
7. Workshop to review progress and agreed next steps for laboratories from States Parties in the Africa and GRULAC regions towards achieving OPCW designated laboratory status, online, 8 April 2021
8. Course on the enhancement of laboratory skills in chemical weapons-related laboratory quality management in collaboration with VERIFIN, online, 23 – 27 August 2021
9. Online course on the enhancement of laboratory skills in liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry, in collaboration with VERIFIN, online, 23 – 27 August 2021
10. Basic analytical chemistry course for women chemists, online, 4 – 13 October 2021
11. Basic course on proficiency testing to support laboratories interested in passing the proficiency tests to gain OPCW designated status, online, 4 – 15 October 2021
12. Analytical chemistry skills development course for the Africa Region (in partnership with Protechnik Laboratories–South Africa), online, 23 – 25 November 2021
13. Training programme aimed at enhancing analytical capacities of laboratories in Africa to pass the OPCW proficiency test, online, 21 January – 23 March 2022
14. Analytical skills development course in partnership with the Indian Institute of chemical technology (CSIR-IICT) in Hyderabad, India, online, 25 – 29 April 2022
15. Analytical skills development course for African States Parties, in collaboration with Protechnik, South Africa, online, 23 May – 3 June 2022
16. Basic analytical chemistry course for women chemists, Rijswijk, the Netherlands, 16 – 20 May 2022
17. Analytical skills development course for chemistry professionals from African Member States, in partnership with VERIFIN, online, 30 May – 10 June 2022



18. Analytical skills development course, Hyderabad, India, 5 – 16 September 2022
19. Two parallel courses on the enhancement of laboratory skills, Helsinki, Finland, 5 – 16 September 2022
20. Analytical skills development course, Hyderabad, India, 5 – 16 December 2022
21. Laboratory twinning projects throughout the fifth phase of the Africa Programme: Three ongoing projects (Algeria–Germany, Morocco–the United States of America, and South Africa–the Netherlands)
22. Equipment Exchange Programme throughout the fifth phase of the Africa Programme: Transfers of laboratory equipment from Germany to the Sudan and to the United Republic of Tanzania

#### **OBJECTIVE 7: PROMOTE KNOWLEDGE OF PEACEFUL CHEMISTRY AND ITS EXCHANGE IN AFRICA**

1. Forum for the Africa Region on the peaceful uses of chemistry, “New Norms for OPCW Capacity-Building Programmes after the COVID-19 Pandemic”, online, 1 April 2021
2. Fifth edition of the OPCW’s Women in Chemistry Symposium: “Fostering a Culture of Promoting Peaceful Uses of Chemistry”, online, 1 July 2021
3. Educational training programme on peaceful uses of chemistry for youth, Online, 7 April 2022
4. Forum on peaceful uses of chemistry, online, 28 April 2022
5. Symposium on women in chemistry, Turin, Italy, 9 and 10 November 2022
6. Sponsorship of African scientists under the OPCW Fellowship Programme, throughout the fifth phase of the Africa Programme (2020 – 2022)
7. Sponsorship of African scientists under the OPCW Conference Support Programme, throughout the fifth phase of the Africa Programme (2020 – 2022)
8. Sponsorship of African scientists under the OPCW Programme for the Support of Research Projects, throughout the fifth phase of the Africa Programme (2020 – 2022)

#### **OBJECTIVE 8: FOSTER PROGRAMME VISIBILITY, STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT, AND PARTNERSHIPS**

1. Participation in a “Coordination Workshop for the Project on Supporting Universalisation and Effective Implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention in Africa”, Geneva, Switzerland, 26 – 27 July 2022
2. OPCW Africa Network, throughout the fifth phase of the Africa Programme (2020 – 2022)
3. OPCW Africa Bulletin, throughout the fifth phase of the Africa Programme (2020 – 2022)
4. Continued alumni engagement through post-participation action plans, throughout the fifth phase of the Africa Programme (2020 – 2022)
5. Partnership development and resource mobilisation, throughout the fifth phase of the Africa Programme (2020 – 2022)