



S/2135/2023
17 February 2023
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**INVITATION TO APPLY FOR A SEMINAR
ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION AND CHEMICAL SAFETY AND
SECURITY MANAGEMENT FOR ASIAN STATES PARTIES
THE DOHA REGIONAL CENTRE FOR CBRN TRAINING
DOHA, QATAR
19 – 21 MARCH 2023**

1. The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) is pleased to invite National Authorities and government representatives responsible for chemical safety and security management, representatives from chemical industry associations, and managers involved in chemical industry safety and security and in the Responsible Care® programme to submit applications for a seminar on the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) and chemical safety and security management for Member States of the OPCW in the Asia region, to be held at the Doha Regional Centre for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) Training in Doha, Qatar, from 19 to 21 March 2023.
2. The seminar is being organised to further promote international cooperation programmes that focus on chemical industry outreach and industry-related aspects of the implementation of Article XI of the Convention. The aim of this seminar is to support sound chemical safety and security management in the chemical industry in Asian States Parties. The objectives of the seminar include sharing best practices and discussing current issues in chemical safety and security management, with a particular focus on providing assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises. As a result, the seminar will benefit chemical industry personnel who are involved in safety and security management issues, and enhance the capacities of National Authorities and chemical industry associations in Member States of the OPCW in the Asia region.
3. The objectives of the seminar are to:
 - (a) provide an opportunity for participating States Parties to consider and discuss specific chemical safety and security management issues related to chemical processes that have a direct bearing on the effective implementation of the Convention;
 - (b) contribute to the sharing of information and the exchange of experiences on the practical implementation of chemical safety and security management programmes;
 - (c) review best practices in regard to the safety and security management of chemicals and to generate, through interactions and discussions, recommendations on the structure for future standardised seminars to promote these practices in small and medium-sized enterprises in Asian Member States;



- (d) foster wider cooperation between States Parties on issues related to the chemical industry in order that the objectives of Article XI of the Convention (promoting the peaceful uses of chemistry) can be achieved; and
 - (e) enhance and promote the safe handling of chemicals at the national level.
4. This seminar will allow ample time for question and answer sessions, and will include theoretical and practical components. The seminar topics will include an overview of international cooperation programmes, the Convention, and the OPCW. During the seminar, participants will be provided with updated information on, inter alia, current practices and concepts relating to the safety and security management of chemical processes, the history of the subject, modern safety strategies, current trends in safety and security management in the chemical industry, chemical site security management, and safety and security culture. Best practices in the chemical industry will also be presented. Leading experts in chemical safety management will give presentations and facilitate discussions. Participants should therefore have a strong background in chemistry and/or chemical engineering, with at least five years of experience in a relevant discipline.
 5. Seminar participants will be expected to prepare brief presentations on current safety and security management practices based on their experience, including suggestions for improving the safety management culture in their respective countries or the organisations in which they work.
 6. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor a limited number of participants, for whom it will cover the costs of travel, meals, and medical insurance, and provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses. The Secretariat will also arrange and pay for accommodation for sponsored participants. A letter with the detailed programme will be sent to all registered participants in due course.
 7. Applications from Asian Member States should be endorsed by their respective National Authorities. The endorsement will be completed automatically through Eventus—the OPCW event management system (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>). Each application should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of the nominee's participation. States Parties are welcome to nominate participants for whom sponsorship is not required. **The Secretariat strongly encourages applications from qualified female candidates. Only selected candidates will be notified by the Secretariat.**
 8. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. It will purchase tickets and send them to participants. Participants will be allowed to purchase tickets locally only if this leads to further savings for the Secretariat and if the Secretariat authorises it. In order for the Secretariat to keep costs to a minimum, participants are expected to **arrive no earlier than Saturday, 18 March 2023** and to **depart no later than Wednesday, 22 March 2023**. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the seminar or that result from changes to travel arrangements that it has not authorised. Sponsored participants must bear all costs resulting from changes they make, including cancellations, once the Secretariat has purchased tickets. Participants who have not been sponsored are requested to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

9. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to the seminar. When applying for an entry visa, they should present the Embassy or Consulate of Qatar with a copy of the acceptance letter from the OPCW.
10. The seminar will be conducted in English with interpretation available into Arabic. All participants are therefore expected to have a good written and oral command of one of these languages.
11. Interested applicants are invited to apply online through Eventus. Applicants should create an account in Eventus and then register for the training course. Please note that all questions marked with an asterisk (*) in the online form must be answered for a candidate to be considered for this event. These applications must be reviewed and endorsed electronically through Eventus by the respective National Authorities, to be followed by a final review and approval by the Secretariat. In the event that interested applicants have difficulties submitting their application online via Eventus, the applicants are requested to send an email explaining the problem to icb@opcw.org with a reference to the name and location of the event in the subject line of the message. All applications must be received by the Secretariat **no later than 3 March 2023**.
12. Additional information about the seminar may be obtained from the International Cooperation Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the OPCW, as well as from the website of the Qatar National Committee for the Prohibition of Weapons (<http://ncpw.org.qa/ncpw/webpage/index.jsp>). The OPCW focal points for this seminar are Mr Taeon Kim, Programme Officer (Email: taeon.kim@opcw.org), and Mr Farid Tata, Senior Project Assistant (Email: farid.tata@opcw.org).

Annex: Provisional Programme

Annex

**SEMINAR ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION AND
CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT
FOR ASIAN STATES PARTIES
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PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
Sunday, 19 March 2023	
07:30 – 08:00	Registration
08:00 – 08:30	Welcome remarks
08:30 – 09:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
09:00 – 10:00	Dual-use chemicals and the peaceful application of chemistry
10:00 – 11:00	Know-Your-Customer (KYC) and action plans to improve KYC to prevent the illegal acquisition of chemicals
11:00 – 12:00	Emerging threats and critical infrastructure protection
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00 – 14:00	Scenario-based strategies to prevent chemical accidents and incidents
14:00 – 15:00	Dual-use chemicals and chemical supply chain security
Monday, 20 March 2023	
08:00 – 08:30	The international cooperation activities of the OPCW
08:30 – 09:00	Needs assessment and the OPCW Indicative Guidelines on Chemical Safety and Security Management for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
09:00 – 09:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
09:30 – 10:30	Introduction to process safety management audits
10:30 – 12:30	Alarm management in the chemical industry
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00 – 15:00	Emergency response and planning in the chemical industry
Tuesday, 21 March 2023	
Session V: Chemical safety and security management issues and best practices	
08:00 – 09:00	Chemical safety and security management in Qatar
09:00 – 10:00	Critical infrastructure protection: best practices
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:30 – 11:30	Round table discussion: chemical safety and security management
11:30 – 12:30	The role of customs in chemical security
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:00	Wrap-up discussion and closing