



**OPCW**

**Technical Secretariat**

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International Cooperation and  
Assistance Division  
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**NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

**DRAFTING OF GUIDELINES FOR THE OPERATION OF THE VOLUNTARY FUND  
FOR ASSISTANCE**

1. Assistance under Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention can, inter alia, be provided through the voluntary fund for assistance, which was established by the Conference of the States Parties (C-I/DEC.52, dated 16 May 1997) in accordance with subparagraph 21(j) of Article VIII, for operation by the Secretariat (Article VIII, subparagraph 39(c)) under the supervision of the Executive Council (Article VIII, subparagraph 34(b)). Guidelines are needed for the operation of this voluntary fund.
2. On the basis of a proposal from the Second Meeting on Coordination of Assistance (paragraph 3 and subparagraph 5(b) of EC-X/TS.1, dated 16 June 1998), the Executive Council at its Tenth Session mandated the Secretariat to convene a drafting group of experts of the Member States to prepare guidelines for the operation of the voluntary fund for assistance (subparagraph 16.8 of EC-X/2, dated 19 June 1998).
3. The Secretariat now invites interested delegations to arrange for suitable experts to attend the first meeting to draft these guidelines. This open-ended meeting will take place between 14:30 and 17:00 hours on Thursday 2 July 1998, in room 007 at the new OPCW headquarters building.
4. During the Second Meeting on Coordination of Assistance a draft paper on guidelines, developed by the Secretariat, was distributed. Interested delegations may, upon request, obtain copies of this draft paper from the International Cooperation and Assistance Division.

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