



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

External Relations Division
S/594/2006
10 October 2006
ENGLISH and FRENCH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
FOR A WORKSHOP ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
ALGIERS, ALGERIA
13 AND 14 NOVEMBER 2006**

1. On behalf of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General is pleased to invite States Parties and States not Party in Africa to a workshop on the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”), to be co-organised with the Government of Algeria, in Algiers, on 13 and 14 November 2006.
2. The objectives of the workshop, which is supported by a European Union Joint Action,¹ are to raise awareness of the Convention, promote its universality in Africa, explain the obligations of States Parties under the Convention and its benefits to them, and encourage the full and effective implementation of the Convention in Africa. The workshop is also intended to promote the work of the OPCW among African States, to provide a forum for the sharing of experiences and best practices, and to stimulate a dialogue between States Parties and States not Party.
3. These goals are consistent with the decisions on universality adopted by the policy-making organs of the OPCW, namely the action plan for the universality of the Convention, which was adopted by the Executive Council (EC-M-23/DEC.3, dated 24 October 2003), and a decision on the implementation of the plan, which was adopted by the Conference of the States Parties (C-10/DEC.11, dated 10 November 2005). The workshop is also being organised within the context of decisions adopted by the African Union (AU), including AHG/Dec.181 (XXXVIII), which was adopted by the 38th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organisation of African Unity, held in Durban, South Africa, on 8 July 2002. That decision encouraged “the call to achieve universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention in Africa.”²
4. The two-day workshop will include a number of elements:

1 Council Joint Action 2005/913/CFSP of 12 December 2005

2 The text of this decision is included as Annex 3 to the present Note.



- (a) a review of key provisions of the Convention, and of States Parties' obligations under it;
 - (b) a discussion of problems that commonly arise as States Parties seek to implement those obligations;
 - (c) an overview of the status of implementation of the Convention in Africa;
 - (d) a discussion of practical measures that can help achieve effective implementation; and
 - (e) information sessions on the Convention that are tailored to the needs of States not Party and States Parties in Africa.
5. The workshop will highlight the benefits of joining the Convention from the standpoint of international cooperation, and will include segments on the OPCW's programmes on international cooperation, protection, and assistance. The provisional programme for the workshop is included as Annex 1 to this Note.
6. In order for the Secretariat to meet the needs of individual States during the workshop, adequate time will be reserved for consultations between the Secretariat and both States Parties and States not Party. These consultations will provide an opportunity for discussions on the status of preparations in individual States not Party to join and implement the Convention, and the kinds of assistance or support that can be provided.
7. Participants are requested to indicate on the nomination form that is included as Annex 2 to this Note whether a meeting with the Secretariat is required, so that these consultations can be planned in advance.
8. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor the participation of two representatives from each African State not Party. Each nomination should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of the nominee's participation. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, meals, and medical insurance, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses. In cases where the Secretariat arranges accommodation for sponsored participants, it will also cover the costs of that accommodation. Sponsored participants who do not intend to use the accommodation provided by the Secretariat are requested to indicate that to the Secretariat as soon as possible, so that it does not incur hotel cancellation fees. In any case the Secretariat will not pay for accommodation it has not arranged. States Parties are encouraged to bear the costs associated with sending representatives to the workshop.
9. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most-economical options. It will purchase tickets and send them to participants. Sponsored participants will be allowed to purchase tickets locally only if this leads to further savings for the Secretariat and if the Secretariat authorises it. Sponsored participants are expected to arrive in Algiers **no earlier than 12 November 2006**, and to depart **no later than 15 November 2006**. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the workshop or that result from changes to travel arrangements it has not authorised. Sponsored participants shall bear all costs resulting from changes they

make, including cancellations, once the Secretariat has purchased their tickets. Participants who have not been sponsored are requested to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements, although the Secretariat may, on request and subject to availability, arrange accommodation at reduced rates.

10. The workshop will be conducted in both English and French, and simultaneous interpretation will be provided. All participants must therefore possess a good command of one of these languages.
11. Participants are advised to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to Algeria.
12. Participants will be informed in due course regarding the venue for the workshop and hotel arrangements.
13. Both States Parties and States not Party in Africa are invited to complete the nomination form that is included as Annex 2 to this Note, making sure in particular to provide all the contact details it requests. Completed forms should be sent to the Director, External Relations Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. Nominations may also be submitted by fax to +31 (0)70 306 3535 or +31 (0)70 306 3280, or by e-mail to grb@opcw.org. All nominations must be received by the Secretariat **no later than 25 October 2006**. Please be advised that participants must present an OPCW acceptance letter in order to register at the workshop.
14. Additional information on the workshop may be obtained from the Government Relations and Political Affairs Branch, External Relations Division, at the contact address given above. The contact persons are Mr Martin A. Ewi, who can be reached at +31 (0)70 416 3023, and Ms Marie Kagaju Laugharn, who can be reached at +31 (0)70 416 3238.

Annexes:

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| Annex 1: | Provisional Programme |
| Annex 2 (English only): | Nomination Form |
| Annex 3: | Text of the African Union Decision on the Implementation and Universality of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (AHG/Dec. 181 (XXXVIII)) |

Annex 1

**WORKSHOP ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
ALGIERS, ALGERIA
13 AND 14 NOVEMBER 2006**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
<i>Monday, 13 November</i>	
08:00 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:30	Opening of the workshop
09:30 – 10:15	The history of chemical disarmament and the Convention in the context of non-proliferation, arms control, and disarmament
10:15 – 10:30	<i>Break</i>
10:30 – 11:15	The status of implementation of the Convention, and universality
11:15 – 12:00	The AU and the OPCW: cooperation in pursuit of a common goal
12:00 – 12:45	The Peace and Security Council of the AU and its relevance to the Convention and the OPCW
12:45 – 14:15	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:15 – 15:00	Steps needed to achieve the universality of the Convention in Africa and to address the challenges facing States not Party
15:00 – 15:45	Benefits of joining the Convention
15:45 – 16:00	<i>Break</i>
16:00 – 17:00	Promoting the peaceful uses of chemistry: international-cooperation programmes and projects of the OPCW
<i>Tuesday, 14 November</i>	
09:00 – 10:15	Assistance and protection under the Convention
10:15 – 10:30	<i>Break</i>
10:30 – 11:15	Verification provisions of the Convention
11:15 – 12:00	Export and import provisions of the Convention
12:00 – 13:00	Discussions
13:00 – 14:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:30 – 15:15	National implementation: legal and administrative requirements
15:15 – 17:30	The role of National Authorities in the implementation of the Convention: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Status of preparations for ratification or accession by States not Party attending the workshop ▪ Basic provisions covering national implementation and enforcement ▪ Establishing a National Authority ▪ Networking in the region, and relations with the OPCW <p>The implementation-support programmes of the OPCW</p>
18:00 – 18:30	Summary of the workshop, follow-up, time-lines, and support measures
	Closure of the workshop

Annex 2

**WORKSHOP ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
ALGIERS, ALGERIA
13 AND 14 NOVEMBER 2006**

NOMINATION FORM

Please submit the completed form by **25 October 2006** to:
The Director, External Relations Division, OPCW
Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands
Fax: +31 (0)70 306 3535 or +31 (0)70 306 3280; e-mail: grb@opcw.org.

Please use BLOCK LETTERS.

1.	Government body making the nomination			
2.	Family name of nominee ³			
3.	First name(s)			
4.	Date of birth	Day	Month	Year
5.	Citizenship			
6.	Gender ⁴	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	
7.	Passport number			
8.	Date of issue	Day	Month	Year
9.	Expiry date	Day	Month	Year
10.	Place of issue			
11.	Function in regard to the implementation of the Convention			
12.	Employer			
13.	Position (including title)			
14.	Employer's address (Please do not give a post-office box number.)	Street		
		Number	Post code	
		City		
		Country		
15.	E-mail address			
16.	Telephone numbers, including country and city codes	Home		
		Work		
		Mobile		
17.	Fax numbers, including country and city codes	Home		
		Work		

³ Please give the first and family names exactly as they appear in the nominee's passport.

⁴ For this and like items below, please tick the appropriate box or boxes.

18.	Has the nominee previously attended a workshop of this kind?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If so, when and where?
19.	Is sponsorship a condition of participation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
20.	Is interpretation into the French language required?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
21.	Dietary requirements	Vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/> No special requirements <input type="checkbox"/>
22.	What areas of the Convention are of concern or interest to your country?
23.	Is a meeting with the Secretariat required?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If so, please indicate what areas you would like the meeting to cover: Verification-related <input type="checkbox"/> Legal <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (please specify):

Annex 3

**Text of the
African Union Decision on the Implementation and Universality
of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and
Use
of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction
(AHG/Dec. 181 (XXXVIII)⁵**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (hereinafter the Convention) that aims to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and their destruction,
2. **RECALLS** United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/55/33 of 20 November 2000 which notes with appreciation the ongoing work to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention, to ensure the full implementation of its provisions and to provide a forum for consultation and cooperation among States Parties,
3. **ALSO RECALLS** the steadfast position of Africa regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction and in particular to the Pelindaba Treaty,
4. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the conclusions and recommendations of the workshop devoted to Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention held in Khartoum, the Sudan, from 9 to 11 March 2002,
5. **WELCOMES** the recommendation for an effective implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in Africa through sustained technical assistance from the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons,
6. **ENCOURAGES** the call to achieve universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention in Africa,
7. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to inform Council, at its regular sessions, of developments regarding the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention and the progress made on the issue of universality.

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5 Resolution adopted by the 38th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organisation of African Unity, and endorsed by the First Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the AU, held in Durban, South Africa, from 9 to 11 July 2002.