



Verification Division
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NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

ELECTRONIC DECLARATION SOFTWARE FOR NATIONAL AUTHORITIES

Introduction

1. The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) is currently developing a software package that will enable National Authorities to create and submit Article VI declarations in electronic format. Member States have been provided with information on this software in presentations by the Verification Information System (VIS) Project Team in the margins of the Second Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (Second Review Conference) and during the informal consultations on industry-related issues on 6 May 2008. These presentations, and other VIS-related documents, are available on the OPCW external server under the heading ‘VIS Documents’.
2. The software for the creation of electronic declarations by the National Authorities—EDNA—will be developed in two steps: The first release of the software, which will be available as of the National Authority days held on 29 and 30 November 2008, will cover declarations of OCPF plant sites and aggregate national data (AND). The second release, which also covers declarations of Schedule 1, 2, and 3 facilities, will be available in the second half of 2009.

Distribution of EDNA

3. Member States can receive the EDNA software through a CD-ROM that will be provided to their Permanent Representative to the OPCW or sent to a recipient in the Member State as specified to the VIS Project Manager by the Permanent Representative. The EDNA software can also be downloaded from the OPCW external server, under the heading ‘VIS Documents’.
4. Please inform the VIS Project Manager, Per Runn, if you wish to receive the first version of EDNA, indicating your preferred option for receiving the software. To run and install EDNA a licence code is required that either will be provided together with the CD-ROM or on request to Member States opting for downloading the software from the OPCW external server.



Training

5. In connection with the formal release of the first version of EDNA, the Secretariat will arrange for training sessions at the OPCW headquarters. The first such sessions are planned for 27 November 2008. If these sessions are not enough to allow participation by all interested parties, or if the timing is not suitable to prospective participants, additional opportunities for training can be arranged for the week of 1 to 5 December 2008.
6. When applying for the training on EDNA, Member States should indicate the names and affiliations of the proposed participants, the preferred date(s) and alternative dates if the preferred date(s) cannot be accommodated. The request for participation in the training should reach the Secretariat no later than 14 November 2008.

Point of contact

7. Please send all requests for receiving the declaration software EDNA and participation in training on the software to:

Per Runn

VIS Project Manager

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Fax: +31 70 306 35 35

Email: *per.runn@opcw.org* with copy to *vis@opcw.org*

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