



Administration Division
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NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

REQUEST FOR NATIONAL AUTHORITIES TO MAKE ELIGIBLE COMPANIES AWARE OF THE “REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST” ISSUED WITH RESPECT TO THE DESTRUCTION OF SYRIAN CHEMICAL WEAPONS

1. In its decision EC-M-34/DEC.1, dated 15 November 2013, the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) requested the Director-General to explore, on an urgent basis, options for the destruction in commercial chemical disposal facilities of a range of chemicals declared by the Syrian Arab Republic.
2. The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) wishes to bring to the attention of National Authorities the fact that it has published a request for expression of interest (EOI) on the OPCW public website (www.opcw.org).
3. The EOI seeks to identify commercial companies interested in participating in a tendering process for the treatment and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous organic and inorganic chemicals, effluent, and related packaging materials and containers/drums associated with the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons.
4. A significant part of the declaration of its programme by the Syrian Arab Republic includes chemicals that fall into the category of common industrial chemicals, or chemicals that can safely be rendered harmless or destroyed. The EOI lists 18 such chemicals. Of these, 13 are not scheduled under the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) and two are bulk commodity chemicals covered under Schedule 3. Three are listed in Schedule 2B, which covers chemicals traded worldwide.
5. The chemicals envisaged for commercial disposal are estimated to weigh 800 metric tonnes.
6. In addition, the EOI seeks to identify commercial companies to carry out the destruction of the effluent resulting from other Schedule 1 and 2 chemicals that would separately undergo “effective destruction” in accordance with the above-mentioned Council decision. The amount of effluent that may be required for disposal is estimated at around 6 million litres.



7. The Secretariat is in the process of developing a set of technical selection criteria that will serve as the basis for the evaluation of the tenders. This set of criteria will be made available to States Parties for their information.
8. In order to ensure the widest possible dissemination of the EOI, the Secretariat would appreciate the support of National Authorities in bringing it to the attention of eligible companies in their respective countries.
9. The deadline for the receipt of EOIs by companies is 29 November 2013.
10. Please also be informed that the above-mentioned destruction of the chemicals referred to is subject to verification measures under the Convention.

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