



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

International Cooperation and Assistance Division

S/1260/2015

24 March 2015

ENGLISH and FRENCH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE THIRTEENTH REGIONAL MEETING OF
NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES IN AFRICA
PRECEDED BY A REGIONAL MEETING ON EDUCATION AND OUTREACH
ALGIERS, ALGERIA
2 - 4 JUNE 2015**

1. On behalf of the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General wishes to invite National Authorities to nominate representatives to attend the Thirteenth Regional Meeting of National Authorities of States Parties in Africa, to be preceded by a regional meeting on education and outreach, which will both be held in Algiers, Algeria, from 2 to 4 June 2015.
2. At its Eighth Session, the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter "the Conference") adopted a plan of action regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations (C-8/DEC.16, dated 24 October 2003), and at its subsequent regular sessions adopted decisions on the follow-up to that plan (C-10/DEC.16, dated 11 November 2005; C-11/DEC.4, dated 6 December 2006; C-12/DEC.9, dated 9 November 2007; C-13/DEC.7, dated 5 December 2008; and C-14/DEC.12, dated 4 December 2009). The Second and Third Review Conferences¹ encouraged the States Parties and the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter "the Secretariat") to continue to support the implementation by States Parties of the aforementioned decisions of the Conference in order for them to achieve full implementation of their Article VII obligations.
3. This regional meeting of National Authorities, to be held on 4 June 2015, will serve as a forum in which the States Parties in the region can present their needs for assistance in relation to Article VII and indicate what assistance they can offer to other States Parties in this regard. In addition, it will help the Secretariat to determine how it can enhance the assistance it offers to States Parties in the region in the light of the aforementioned Conference decisions.
4. The meeting will also serve as a forum in which representatives of National Authorities can confer with each other and with Secretariat staff in order to identify

¹ The Second and Third Special Sessions of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.



what further steps, if any, each participating State Party needs to take in order to implement its obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”).

5. The programme for the meeting includes the following:
 - (a) a review of the current status of the implementation of the Convention and new approaches and initiatives related thereto;
 - (b) a review of recent developments and updates in relation to the implementation of Article VI of the Convention;
 - (c) an assessment and identification of priorities for effective national implementation of the Convention; and
 - (d) bilateral meetings with Secretariat staff.
6. The regional meeting of National Authorities will be preceded by a regional meeting on education and outreach on 2 and 3 June 2015.
7. In line with the corresponding recommendations by the Third Review Conference (April 2013), the meeting will provide a regional forum for exchanging ideas and best practices in education and outreach, including a showcase of related materials.
8. The meeting will provide a forum for wide-ranging discussion and the exchange of ideas and best practices on ways to raise awareness about the Convention, especially at relevant educational institutions. This will include demonstrations of materials and tools developed by the OPCW in various media formats. The objective will be to identify appropriate approaches and synergies arising from discussion among groups of participants and then chart the way forward.
9. With an aim to draw in diverse experience and perspectives through the participation of representatives of the National Authorities and relevant educational institutions, the themes of the meeting will address the following:
 - (a) innovative approaches to teaching and raising awareness;
 - (b) the exchange of information on national initiatives;
 - (c) the development of educational tools and materials and embedding relevant topics in educational curricula;
 - (d) the development of exhibition packages to promote the Convention;
 - (e) strategies for engaging university and high school students; and
 - (f) new avenues for using social networking tools.
10. The provisional programmes for the regional meetings are included as Annex 1 to this Note.

11. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor two participants from each State Party: one from the National Authority and one from a relevant educational institution. Nominees from the National Authorities should actually be involved in the national implementation of the Convention, while nominees from educational institutions should be involved in developing the curricula at the national level either at a university or high school. The nominees who do not meet the above criteria will not be accepted to participate in the regional meeting. Participants from each State Party represented at the meeting will be expected to make presentations on topics assigned by the Secretariat.
12. 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, hotel accommodation and medical insurance, in addition to a limited subsistence allowance to cover meals and sundry expenses. Sponsored participants who do not intend to use the accommodation arranged by the Secretariat are requested to indicate this as soon as possible to prevent the Secretariat from incurring hotel cancellation fees. In any case, the Secretariat will not cover the costs of any accommodation that it has not arranged.
13. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. The Secretariat will purchase tickets and send them to the participants. Participants will be allowed to purchase tickets locally only if the Secretariat authorises it and if it leads to further savings for the Secretariat. Sponsored participants shall bear all costs resulting from any changes they make once the Secretariat has purchased the tickets. Participants who have not been sponsored will be requested to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements. In order to keep costs to a minimum, sponsored participants from National Authorities are expected to arrive no earlier than 1 June 2015 and to depart no later than 5 June 2015; sponsored participants from relevant educational institutions are expected to arrive no earlier than 1 June 2015 and to depart no later than 4 June 2015.
14. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to Algeria. When applying for any required entry visa, they should present the Embassy or Consulate of Algeria with a copy of the acceptance letter from the OPCW.
15. The meetings will be conducted in English and French. All participants are therefore expected to have good oral and written command of English or French.
16. Interested National Authorities are invited to complete the nomination and endorsement forms that are attached in Annexes 2 and 3 to this invitation Note, ensuring in particular to provide all of the requested contact details.
17. Completed forms should be addressed to the Director, International Cooperation and Assistance 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 by e-mail to ipb@opcw.org. All nominations must be received by the Secretariat **no later than 17 April 2015**. Please be advised that participants must present an OPCW acceptance letter in order to register for the meetings. National Authorities

are kindly requested to note that the Secretariat will not accept any nominations after the final nomination submission deadline.

18. Additional information about these meetings may be obtained from the Implementation Support Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact persons are Mr Pankaj Sharma (E-mail: pankaj.sharma@opcw.org; Tel.: +31 (0) 70 416 3823), and Ms Helen Andriessen (E-mail: helen.andriessen@opcw.org; Tel.: +31 (0) 70 416 3771).

Annexes:

- Annex 1: Provisional Programmes
- Annex 2: Nomination Form
- Annex 3: Endorsement Form

Annex 1

**REGIONAL MEETING ON EDUCATION AND OUTREACH IN AFRICA
ALGIERS, ALGERIA
2 AND 3 JUNE 2015**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
<i>Tuesday, 2 June 2015</i>	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:30	Opening ceremony
09:30 – 09:45	Group photograph
09:45 – 10:15*	History of the use of chemical weapons
10:15 – 10:45*	Introduction to the OPCW
10:45 – 11:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:15 – 11:45	Status of the implementation of the Convention
11:45 – 12:30	National project on education and outreach – presentation by Argentina
12:30 – 13:15	Education and outreach activities by the Secretariat
13:15 – 14:15	<i>Lunch</i>
14:15 – 14:35	Presentation by the host country
14:35 – 14:55	Presentation by National Representative – State Party 1
14:55 – 15:15	Presentation by National Representative – State Party 2
15:15 – 16:00	Presentation by expert(s) from the OPCW Scientific Advisory Board (and/or its temporary working group)
16:00 – 16:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:30 – 16:50	Presentation by National Representative – State Party 3
16:50 – 17:30	Presentation by chemical industry
17:30 – 18:25	Break-out group discussion on approaches to teaching and awareness raising
18:25 – 18:30	Summary of day one
<i>Wednesday, 3 June 2015</i>	
09:00 – 09:45	Presentation by the Technical Secretariat on education and outreach tools
09:45 – 10:05	Presentation by National Representative – State Party 4
10:05 – 10:25	Presentation by National Representative – State Party 5
10:25 – 10:45	Presentation by National Representative – State Party 6
10:45 – 11:00	Presentation by National Representative – State Party 7
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:30 – 13:00	Break-out group discussion on educational tools and materials
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 15:30	Break-out group discussion on sustaining momentum, engaging with students, and generating interest/awareness in relevant subject matters
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:00 – 17:30	Presentations by break-out groups on recommendations and path forward
17:30 – 18:00	Summary and closure of the meeting

* Time reserved for bilateral meetings with the representatives of National Authorities.

**THIRTEENTH REGIONAL MEETING
OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES IN AFRICA
ALGIERS, ALGERIA
4 JUNE 2015**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
09:00 – 09:15	Opening remarks
09:15 – 10:30	Recent developments/updates in relation to the implementation of Article VI of the Convention, including updates on SIX ¹ and electronic declarations (EDNA ² version 3.1)
10:30 – 10:45	Presentation by National Authority – NA 1
10:45 – 11:00	Presentation by National Authority – NA 2
11:00 – 11:15	Presentation by National Authority – NA 3
11:15 – 11:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:45 – 12:00	Presentation by National Authority – NA 4
12:00 – 12:30	Outcomes of the 2015 Workshop for Ministries of Defence/National Security Agencies in Africa; 2 to 6 March 2015; Pretoria, South Africa
12:30 – 13:00	The African Union Commission and its regional economic communities/ regional mechanisms for conflict prevention, management and resolution and their efforts at promoting and strengthening the effective national implementation of the Convention in Africa
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 14:45	Presentation on ICA ³ programmes and new initiatives
14:45 – 15:45	Break-out group discussion to assess and identify priorities for effective national implementation
15:45 – 16:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:15 – 17:00	Presentations by the break-out groups on their findings, solutions, and conclusions
17:00 – 17:30	Summary and closure of the meeting

¹ SIX = Secure Information Exchange System.

² EDNA = Electronic Declarations Tool for National Authorities.

³ ICA = International Cooperation and Assistance Division.

Annex 2

**THIRTEENTH REGIONAL MEETING
OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES IN AFRICA
AND REGIONAL MEETING ON EDUCATION AND OUTREACH
ALGIERS, ALGERIA
2 – 4 JUNE 2015**

NOMINATION FORM

Please submit the completed form **by 17 April 2015** to:
The Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW
Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands
Fax: +31 (0)70 306 3535 or +31 (0)70 416 3228; e-mail: ipb@opcw.org

Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS.

1.	Family name of nominee*				
2.	First name(s)*				
3.	Date of birth	Day	Month	Year	
4.	Citizenship				
5.	Gender**	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>		
6.	Passport number				
7.	Date of issue	Day	Month	Year	
8.	Expiry date	Day	Month	Year	
9.	Place of issue				
10.	Areas of expertise				
11.	Employer				
12.	Position				
13.	Contact address (Please do not give a post-office box number)	Street			
		Number	Postcode		
		City			
		Country			
14.	E-mail address				
15.	Telephone numbers, including country and city codes	Home			
		Work			
		Mobile			
16.	Fax numbers, including country and city codes	Home			
		Work			
17.	Is sponsorship a condition of participation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>		
18.	Emergency contact person, including country and city codes and e-mail address	Name		Relationship	
		Home			
		Mobile			
		E-mail			
19.	Signature of applicant	Date			

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

** For these and all like items, please tick the appropriate box.

Annex 3

**THIRTEENTH REGIONAL MEETING
OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES IN AFRICA
AND REGIONAL MEETING ON EDUCATION AND OUTREACH
ALGIERS, ALGERIA
2 – 4 JUNE 2015**

ENDORSEMENT BY THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY

I, _____, Head/Chief Coordinator of the National Authority of the State Party of _____, on behalf of the Government of _____, hereby endorse the nomination of Mr/Ms _____, holding the position/designation of _____ in the Office/Division/Branch of _____, as indicated in the attached nomination form for participation in the Thirteenth Regional Meeting of National Authorities of States Parties in Africa, to be preceded by a regional meeting on education and outreach, in Algiers, Algeria, from 2 to 4 June 2015.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Designation: _____

Official seal of the Organisation: