

**NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL****ENGAGING THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS****INTRODUCTION**

1. The chemical industry has been recognised as a key stakeholder with regard to full and effective implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”). In accordance with the recommendations made in the report of the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (RC-3/3\*, dated 19 April 2013), the Director-General decided to strengthen the partnership between the OPCW and the chemical industry for the benefit of the object and purpose of the Convention, notably the prevention of the re-emergence of chemical weapons.
2. This Note complements and updates the information reported previously in Notes by the Director-General: C-19/DG.14 (dated 3 October 2014), C-20/DG.15 (dated 16 November 2015), C-21/DG.15 (dated 3 October 2016), and C-22/DG.18 (dated 10 October 2017).

**ENGAGEMENT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHEMICAL ASSOCIATIONS**

3. As described in C-20/DG.15, following an exchange of letters a coordination mechanism was established in 2015 with the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA). This mechanism is comprised of the OPCW-ICCA Joint Steering Committee (JSC) and the Chemical Industry Coordination Group (CICG). The membership of the JSC consists of the Director-General and senior OPCW staff and the ICCA Secretary and senior ICCA staff. The JSC guides the work of the CICG, which consists of technical staff of the OPCW and ICCA, and which implements joint activities and efforts between the two organisations.
4. The fifth CICG meeting took place on 23 November 2017 on the margins of the Nineteenth Annual Meeting of National Authorities. It gave ICCA representatives the opportunity to make presentations to the National Authorities and to exchange views on issues of common interest. The sixth CICG meeting took place on 1 June 2018 at OPCW Headquarters. Participants discussed issues such as improving the efficiency of industry inspections, capacity-building in chemical safety and security, and strengthening industry relations with National Authorities, with the goal of increasing cooperation and joint efforts. They also discussed potential changes to the CICG’s work to increase the group’s focus on the achievement of concrete and measureable results.



5. These proposed changes were presented to the JSC at its third meeting, which took place on 26 October 2018 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. The JSC expressed support for the proposals, which the CICG will begin to implement in 2019. Additionally, the JSC discussed priority areas to be addressed by the CICG in 2019 through joint efforts and activities between the OPCW and ICCA.
6. In its decision entitled “Attendance and Participation of the Chemical Industry and Scientific Community at the Nineteenth Session of the Conference of the States Parties” (C-19/DEC.2, dated 1 December 2014), the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) decided “to introduce, at every session of the Conference, an agenda item dedicated to the chemical industry and the scientific community”. Accordingly, representatives of ICCA have been invited to attend and participate in each regular session of the Conference since the adoption of that decision. In 2017, Mr Marco Mensink, ICCA Council Secretary and Director General of the European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic), delivered a statement on behalf of ICCA to the Conference at its Twenty-Second Session.<sup>1</sup>
7. ICCA has also been participating in the preparatory process for the Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Fourth Review Conference”). On 16 May 2018, an ICCA representative presented ICCA’s views on the future priorities of the OPCW during a meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Future Priorities of the OPCW. The work of that group has contributed to States Parties’ preparations for the Fourth Review Conference, and during the meeting States Parties had an opportunity to ask questions and comment on ICCA’s presentation.
8. On 13 August 2018, ICCA submitted a position paper for the Fourth Review Conference to the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) to further elaborate its views on the future work of the OPCW. The paper, entitled “ICCA Position Paper for the Fourth Review Conference” (dated 24 July 2018), which presents ICCA’s views on topics such as verification, international cooperation, national implementation, and universality, was distributed by the Secretariat to all States Parties. An ICCA representative attended the 8 October 2018 meeting of the Industry Cluster to present the paper and engage with States Parties regarding its content.

#### **COOPERATION ACTIVITIES RELATED TO EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

9. The chemical industry associations continue to make a major contribution to OPCW capacity-building activities through their substantial involvement in the Associate Programme. In 2018, with the support of ICCA and national chemical associations,<sup>2</sup> 18 chemical plant sites from 14 Member States hosted participants of the Associate Programme for a three-week training course from 10 to 28 September 2018 (see Annex 1). As in previous years, the course allowed participants to gain exposure to modern practices in chemical industries, with a special focus on chemical safety. The induction segment of the programme also included two lectures delivered by

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<sup>1</sup>

Available at [https://www.opcw.org/sites/default/files/documents/CSP/C-22/NGO\\_Statements/ICCA\\_Statement\\_CWC\\_CSP-22\\_2017.pdf](https://www.opcw.org/sites/default/files/documents/CSP/C-22/NGO_Statements/ICCA_Statement_CWC_CSP-22_2017.pdf)

<sup>2</sup>

The German Chemical Industry Association (VCI), the Italian National Chemical Industry Federation (Federchimica), the Spanish Chemical Industry Federation (FEIQUE), the Brazilian Chemical Industry Association (Abiquim), and the Federation of Indonesian Chemical Industry (FIKI).

representatives of Cefic and the Chemical Business Association of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

10. On 16 and 17 April 2018, at the invitation of ICCA, the OPCW participated for the first time in a meeting of the Responsible Care Leadership Group (RCLG). The RCLG oversees and guides the worldwide implementation of ICCA's Responsible Care® programme, which recognises and promotes industry adherence to sound chemicals management standards and the adoption of a strong chemical safety and security culture. At the meeting, the OPCW gave an overview of its activities to raise awareness of the Organisation's work and the importance of industry's support for implementation of the Convention, and called for the endorsement of The Hague Ethical Guidelines by ICCA. Following the meeting, the RCLG recommended the endorsement of The Hague Ethical Guidelines to ICCA's Steering Committee, and ICCA officially endorsed the Guidelines on 27 April 2018.
11. In September 2018, the OPCW participated in a Responsible Care® workshop in Casablanca, Morocco that was intended to catalyse wider adoption of the programme in French-speaking Africa. The OPCW gave an overview presentation, similar to that given at the aforementioned RCLG meeting, to raise awareness of the OPCW's work and the importance of industry's support for implementation of the Convention.
12. As in 2016 and 2017, ICCA co-sponsored and contributed in October 2018 to a training workshop in Russian in Moscow, the Russian Federation on best practices to develop the Responsible Care® programme for chemical industry in Central Asia and Eastern Europe. The workshop was aimed at promoting wider adoption of the programme in these regions.
13. In addition to these contributions, ICCA and chemical industry representatives participated in the second edition of the Workshop on Green and Sustainable Chemistry in The Hague on 16 and 17 November 2017. Chemical industry representatives were also invited to present their views on a wide range of issues during the Symposium on Women in Chemistry, held in Ottawa, Canada on 25 and 26 June 2018.
14. Education and outreach activities involving chemical industry continue to be addressed during all sessions of the Advisory Board on Education and Outreach (ABEO),<sup>3</sup> as has been the case since the ABEO's First Session in April 2016. A representative of ICCA has been invited to attend all ABEO meetings as an observer, and this practice continued in 2018. In its "Report on the Role of Education and Outreach in Preventing the Re-emergence of Chemical Weapons" (ABEO-5/1, dated 12 February 2018), ABEO recommended several actions regarding education and outreach involving the chemical industry.
15. As a follow-up to the numerous communications from chemical industry associations and chemical societies condemning the use of chlorine as a weapon, on 13 April 2018 the American Chemistry Council (ACC) and the American Chemical Society (ACS) issued a further statement condemning the alleged use of chlorine as a weapon in the Syrian Arab Republic.

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See ABEO-2/1 (dated 6 October 2016); ABEO-3/1 (dated 16 March 2017); ABEO-4/1 (dated 31 August 2017); and ABEO-5/2 (dated 1 March 2018).

## **COOPERATION ACTIVITIES RELATED TO CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY**

16. Since 2009, the Secretariat, in cooperation with approximately 45 States Parties from all regions and in partnership with other international organisations, government agencies, and specialised centres, has carried out a chemical safety and security management programme, which, to date, has trained more than 1,600 experts. Seven workshops and courses have been conducted under the programme since November 2017, all involving participants from the chemical industry (see Annex 2).
17. These events included the second “Executive Programme on Integrated Chemicals Management”, held from 24 to 27 September 2018. This event was attended by the executives of many chemical industry associations and companies (listed in Annex 2), who shared insightful views on trends in the development of the chemical industry at the global, regional, and national levels. Participants also shared experiences and best practices in integrated chemicals management in their respective industries, addressing policy issues as well as industrial management, science, and engineering, with a focus on safety, security, and sustainable management throughout the chemical life cycle.
18. In addition to events implemented under the chemical safety and security management programme, since 2016 States Parties have been invited, on a voluntary basis, to communicate their specific needs in chemical safety and security management, as well as to provide information on their respective countries’ existing tools, guidance, and best practices in this area, including those related to the chemical industry and laboratories. A report on the needs and best practices in chemical safety and security management was published on 25 November 2016 and shared with the States Parties.<sup>4</sup> Following the publication of the report, the Secretariat organised a series of workshops in 2017 and 2018 to further discuss needs assessment and dissemination of relevant best practices. In 2018, these workshops were attended by chemical industry representatives (see Annex 3).

## **COOPERATION ACTIVITIES RELATED TO VERIFICATION**

19. As stated above, ICCA participated in the 8 October 2018 meeting of the Industry Cluster to present its position paper for the Fourth Review Conference. The paper touched on verification-related topics under active consideration by the Industry Cluster, such as transfer discrepancies and the relevance of biomediated processes to the Convention’s verification regime. The ICCA representative responded to questions and comments from States Parties on these issues.
20. In December 2017 and June 2018, Italian companies Eni S.p.A. and Sandoz S.p.A. provided Secretariat staff with access to their plant sites to learn more about the use of biomediated processes in the synthesis of organic chemicals. At the 9 July 2018 meeting of the Industry Cluster, French company Stepan Europe S.A.S. presented its experience with hosting an Article VI inspection for the first time. The company also delivered its presentation to the advanced Article VI training workshop for National Authorities in September 2018.

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<sup>4</sup>

Available at:

[https://www.opcw.org/sites/default/files/documents/ICA/ICB/OPCW\\_Report\\_on\\_Needs\\_and\\_Best\\_Practices\\_on\\_Chemical\\_Safety\\_and\\_Security\\_ManagementV3-2\\_1.2.pdf](https://www.opcw.org/sites/default/files/documents/ICA/ICB/OPCW_Report_on_Needs_and_Best_Practices_on_Chemical_Safety_and_Security_ManagementV3-2_1.2.pdf)

21. The chemical industry also provided technical and in-kind support to the Inspector Training Programme in 2018. In September 2018, Dutch company LyondellBasell provided a mock inspection training exercise for 38 representatives of National Authorities. This assistance was organised through the Dutch National Authority and helped to increase participants' understanding of practical details that arise during the course of Article VI inspections.
22. The Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) continues to include chemical industry representatives among its members. In the report of its Twenty-Seventh Session (SAB-27/1, dated 23 March 2018), the SAB addressed a number of verification issues related to Article VI inspections and the chemical industry. Similarly, the SAB addressed industry verification issues in the "Report of the Scientific Advisory Board on Developments in Science and Technology for the Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention" (RC-4/DG.1, dated 30 April 2018). In that report, the SAB also recommended that the Secretariat consult with the chemical industry regarding best practices and tools used by the industry that could benefit the OPCW's verification work and knowledge management activities.

#### **COOPERATION ACTIVITIES RELATED TO NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING**

23. The National Authorities of States Parties to the Convention are to "serve as the national focal point for effective liaison with the Organization and other States Parties".<sup>5</sup> Their primary function is to coordinate the activities relating to the implementation of the Convention at the national level, with all relevant stakeholders within and outside the structure of the National Authority. With the chemical industry as a key stakeholder in the implementation of the Convention, the Secretariat has engaged the national industry in the capacity-building activities in recent years.
24. During the reporting period, engagement with the chemical industry occurred through a number of events. The Nineteenth Annual Meeting of National Authorities, held in The Hague from 22 to 24 November 2017, included a half-day segment dedicated to engagement and cooperation with the chemical industry. Three panel presentations and discussions focused on engagement with the chemical industry, efforts to reduce transfer discrepancies, and the future of Article VI implementation. Each panel included a presentation by ICCA, and the subsequent interactions and deliberations were appreciated by both ICCA and National Authority representatives.
25. An ICCA representative also participated in the Subregional Stakeholders Forum on Advancing Convention National Implementation and Regional Cooperation in Southeast Asia, held in Bangkok, Thailand from 24 to 26 April 2018. The ICCA representative provided an overview of the chemical industries in this subregion, and eight representatives of national chemical industry associations were included in the 11 participating State Party delegations. Forum topics included the promotion of economic development while fulfilling obligations under the Convention, and the role national legislation plays in responding to emerging chemical weapons threats.

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Paragraph 4 of Article VII of the Convention.

26. The chemical industry was also invited to participate in the regional meetings of National Authorities that highlighted the role of customs administrations in the implementation of the Convention's transfer regime. An ICCA representative participated in the discussions in the meetings in Eastern Europe (Prague, the Czech Republic, 7 to 9 May 2018) and in Asia (Thimphu, Bhutan, 19 to 21 June 2018). At the meeting in Bhutan, ICCA was represented by the Indian Chemical Council, which provided a detailed regional outlook on the role of chemical industry associations.
27. To increase the impact of the general training course on the Convention and the training course on fulfilling declarations and inspections obligations under Article VI of the Convention, participation was expanded to include additional relevant stakeholders, including the chemical industry. Engagement with the chemical industry is increasing at events such as these, which have traditionally been attended exclusively by National Authorities, to promote the successful implementation of obligations under the Convention.
28. Since 2014, the Secretariat has organised annual meetings in Doha, Qatar, to promote cooperation between National Authorities and chemical industry and industry associations for the purpose of full and effective implementation of the Convention. A representative of ICCA has consistently provided expertise during these meetings. The fifth annual meeting took place from 2 to 4 October 2018 with the participation of over 25 States Parties from around the world. The meetings provide a unique opportunity for representatives of the chemical industry and National Authorities to interact and discuss pertinent topics. In this year's meeting, such topics included potential measures to improve implementation of the verification regime under Article VI, and the role of Article VI in efforts to counter chemical terrorism.

### **THE WAY AHEAD**

29. In accordance with C-19/DEC.2, the provisional agenda for the Twenty-Third Session of the Conference (C-23/1, dated 11 July 2018) contains an agenda item dedicated to the chemical industry and the scientific community. A draft decision allowing representatives of the global chemical industry and the scientific community to attend and participate in the Conference (C-23/DEC/CRP.13, dated 9 November 2018) will be submitted to the Conference for its approval at that same session.
30. Given the limited duration of the Twenty-Third Session of the Conference, necessary to accommodate the Fourth Review Conference, a chemical industry representative will not deliver an address at that session, as has been the case at each regular session of the Conference since 2015. Following discussions at the 26 October 2018 meeting of the JSC, it was agreed that the chemical industry would instead be invited to deliver an address at the Fourth Review Conference. A draft decision allowing representatives of the chemical industry and the scientific community to attend and participate in Fourth Review Conference (RC-4/DEC/CRP.3, dated 9 November 2018) will be submitted accordingly to States Parties for approval.
31. By giving representatives of the global chemical industry the opportunity to express their views on the implementation of the Convention, including in meetings of the policy-making organs, the engagement of the chemical industry will be sustained and become increasingly practical in nature. In parallel, the Secretariat will continue its efforts to increase engagement and cooperation with the chemical industry with the goal of strengthening implementation of the Convention.

Annexes:

- Annex 1: Chemical Companies Hosting the Industry Segment of the Associate Programme in 2018
- Annex 2: Events Organised Under the Chemical Safety and Security Management Programme and Attended by Chemical Industry Representatives Since November 2017
- Annex 3: Workshops on Needs Assessment and Best Practices in Chemical Safety and Security Management Attended by Chemical Industry Representatives Since November 2017

**Annex 1****CHEMICAL COMPANIES HOSTING THE  
INDUSTRY SEGMENT OF THE ASSOCIATE PROGRAMME IN 2018**

	<b>Company</b>	<b>Country</b>
1.	Infrapark Baselland AG	Switzerland
2.	SABIC	Saudi Arabia
3.	Dupont	Denmark
4.	Oxiteno	Brazil
5.	Suatrans Emergência S.A.	Brazil
6.	DOW Italy	Italy
7.	Isagro S.p.A.	Italy
8.	Camso Loadstar	Sri Lanka
9.	Stachema CZ s.r.o.	Czech Republic
10.	PT. Nippon Shokubai	Indonesia
11.	Shanghai Lianheng Isocytane Company Limited	China
12.	Shanghai Fujia Fine Chemicals	China
13.	Grupa Azoty Zaklady Azotowe	Poland
14.	Qatar Petrochemical (QAPCO)	Qatar
15.	ERCROS	Spain
16.	Monsanto (M) Sdn.Bhd.	Malaysia
17.	Showa Denko K. K.	Japan
18.	Ube Industries Ltd	Japan



## Annex 2

**EVENTS ORGANISED UNDER THE CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY  
MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME AND ATTENDED BY CHEMICAL INDUSTRY  
REPRESENTATIVES SINCE NOVEMBER 2017**

<b>Programme</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Participating Industry Associations and Companies</b>
Seoul Workshop on the Peaceful Development and Use Of Chemistry	Seoul, Republic of Korea	1–3 November 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Indofil Industries, India</li> <li>– PT Agricon, Indonesia</li> <li>– Dial Textile Industries, Sri Lanka</li> </ul>
Workshop on best practices to develop the Responsible Care® programme for the chemical industry	Moscow, Russian Federation	13–17 November 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– CEFIC</li> <li>– BASF</li> <li>– Russian Chemists Union</li> <li>– Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs</li> <li>– SRO SpetsTyazhTrans, Russian Federation</li> <li>– Environment Protection at “Kazphosphate” LLC, Kazakhstan</li> <li>– “Uzkimyosanoat” JSC, Uzbekistan</li> <li>– JSC “Chemical Company”, Tajikistan</li> </ul>
Chemical Safety and Security Management for Asian Member States of the OPCW	Doha, Qatar	26–28 February 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Qatar Petroleum, Qatar</li> <li>– Eskayef Pharmaceuticals, Bangladesh</li> <li>– Association of Lebanese Industries, Lebanon</li> </ul>
Chemical Safety and Security Management for Asian Member States of the OPCW	Siem Reap, Cambodia	7–9 May 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– UPL Limited, India</li> <li>– Chemical Manufacturers Association, Pakistan</li> <li>– NCH Philippines Inc, Philippines</li> <li>– SCG Chemical Company Ltd., Thailand</li> </ul>

<b>Programme</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Participating Industry Associations and Companies</b>
Loss Prevention and Safety Promotion in the Chemical Process Industries (two parallel courses for Member States in Africa and in Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean, respectively)	Wuppertal, Germany	24–28 September 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– N’Djamena Refinery Company LTD, Chad</li> <li>– CNPC Niger Petroleum S.A., Niger</li> <li>– Indian Chemical Council</li> </ul>
Executive Programme on Integrated Chemicals Management	London, United Kingdom	24–27 September 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– ASIQUM A.G., Chile</li> <li>– Montana S.A., Peru</li> </ul>
Workshop on best practices to develop the Responsible Care® programme for the chemical industry	Moscow, Russian Federation	15–19 October 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– CEFIC</li> <li>– BASF Russia</li> <li>– Russian Chemists Union</li> <li>– EcoChem Koltech Group, Russian Federation</li> <li>– Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs</li> <li>– SRO SpetsTyazhTrans, Russian Federation</li> <li>– Socar Polymer Ltd, Azerbaijan</li> <li>– Belarusian State Concern for Oil and Chemistry</li> <li>– LLC TALKO Chemicals, Tajikistan</li> <li>– “Uzkimyosanoat” JSC, Uzbekistan</li> </ul>

**Annex 3**

**WORKSHOPS ON NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND BEST PRACTICES IN CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT ATTENDED BY CHEMICAL INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES SINCE NOVEMBER 2017**

<b>Programme</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Participating Industry Associations and Companies</b>
Workshop for States Parties in Asia on Needs Assessment and Best Practices in Chemical Safety and Security Management	Ho Chi Minh, Viet Nam	10–12 April 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The Northwest Research Institute of Chemical Industry Co., LTD</li> <li>– Lanka Mineral Sands Limited</li> <li>– Paranthan Chemicals Company LTD</li> <li>– SABIC Company, Saudi Arabia</li> </ul>
Workshop for States Parties in Latin America and the Caribbean on Needs Assessment and Best Practices in Chemical Safety and Security Management	Santiago, Chile	3–5 July 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– National Society of Industries, Chile</li> </ul>