



S/1728/2019  
26 February 2019  
ENGLISH only

**NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE SEVENTEENTH REGIONAL  
MEETING OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES IN ASIA  
ULAANBAATAR, MONGOLIA  
25 – 27 JUNE 2019**

1. On behalf of the Government of Mongolia and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General wishes to invite National Authorities to nominate representatives to attend the Seventeenth Regional Meeting of National Authorities of States Parties in Asia, which will be held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, from 25 to 27 June 2019.
2. At its Eighth Session, the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) adopted a plan of action regarding the implementation of obligations under Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) (C-8/DEC.16, dated 24 October 2003). On many occasions, States Parties have highlighted the value of a comprehensive and integrated approach to national implementation that is in line with each State Party’s constitutional requirements, and is aimed at filling gaps in national implementation and ensuring that national implementation measures address the specific needs of each State Party, consistent with the provisions of the Convention.
3. This regional meeting will serve as a forum in which States Parties in the region can address various national implementation issues, the initiatives, capacity-building programmes and activities organised by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”), as well as other issues relating to the Convention. National Authorities will also share good practices and challenges in fulfilling their duties as focal points for effective liaison with the OPCW for national implementation of the Convention.
4. The main purpose of the meeting is to enable National Authorities and relevant stakeholders in the Asia region to:
  - (a) discuss updates and trends in the national implementation of the Convention;
  - (b) share and discuss practices and challenges facing States Parties in the national implementation of the Convention, and explore potential mutual cooperation and support among States Parties in Asia;



- (c) discuss approaches and means to further improve capacity-building programmes of the Secretariat that meet the specific needs of the States Parties in Asia;
  - (d) discuss the ways and means to support the National Authorities and other stakeholders, such as facilitating the effective implementation of the National Implementation Framework; and
  - (e) hold bilateral meetings between the representatives of National Authorities and with the Secretariat staff on issues pertaining to national implementation, including progress on the adoption of national legislation and the implementation of Article VI requirements.
5. The expected results of the meeting include:
- (a) increased awareness of the status of Convention implementation, and a shared understanding and enhanced sense of ownership by the National Authorities of the national implementation challenges; and
  - (b) the collection of feedback both on the ways and means to further improve capacity-building activities for the region and on the tools to improve national implementation, including the National Implementation Framework.
6. The provisional programme for the regional meeting is attached as Annex 1 to this Note. Participants in the meeting will be expected to contribute to the proceedings and discussions, by making presentations, providing inputs in discussions, and acting as facilitators during the sessions.
7. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor one participant from each State Party in the region. The nominee should be a representative of the National Authority directly responsible for or involved in Convention implementation. The nomination should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of the nominee's participation.
8. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, hotel accommodation, meals, and medical insurance, in addition to a limited subsistence allowance to cover terminal and sundry expenses. Sponsored participants who do not intend to use the accommodation arranged by the Secretariat are requested to indicate this no later than four weeks prior to the event, in order 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.
9. Participants should also be fit to travel. All participants taking prescribed medication should arrive with supplies sufficient for the duration of the event.
10. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. The Secretariat will purchase tickets and send them directly to the participants. Participants will be allowed to purchase tickets locally only if this leads to further savings for the Secretariat. 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 are expected to arrive **no earlier than Monday, 24 June 2019** and to depart **no later**

**than Friday, 28 June 2019.** The Secretariat's agreement is required for any changes to these arrival and departure dates. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the meeting or that result from changes in travel arrangements that it has not authorised. Sponsored participants must bear all costs resulting from changes they make, including cancellations, once the Secretariat has purchased tickets.

11. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to Mongolia. When applying for any required entry visa, they should present the Embassy or Consulate of Mongolia with a copy of the acceptance letter from the OPCW.
12. The meetings will be conducted in English. All participants are therefore expected to have a good oral and written command of English.
13. Interested National Authorities are invited to register their nominations online **no later than 12 April 2019** through Eventus—the OPCW event management system (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus/Home/EventDetail/87>). Interested applicants should first create an account and then register for the event. Please note that all questions marked with an asterisk (\*) in the online registration form must be answered in order for the nomination to be received and for the candidate to be considered for this event. The endorsement form, which is attached as Annex 2 to this Note, must be scanned and uploaded during the online registration process. Nominations without an endorsement by the Head or Chief Coordinator of the National Authority will not be considered. Interested applicants who for technical reasons are unable to submit an application online are requested to send the endorsement form via email to Ms Olukemi Adenuga ([olukemi.adenuga@opcw.org](mailto:olukemi.adenuga@opcw.org)) with “Regional Meeting for Asia in Mongolia” indicated in the subject line of the message.
14. National Authorities are kindly requested to note that the Secretariat will not accept any nominations after the final nomination submission deadline.
15. Additional information about the meeting may be obtained from the Implementation Support Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the Secretariat. The contact persons are Ms Chizu Matsushita (Tel: +31 (0)70 416 3428, Email: [chizu.matsushita@opcw.org](mailto:chizu.matsushita@opcw.org)) and Ms Olukemi Adenuga (Tel: +31 (0)70 416 3923; Email: [Olukemi.adenuga@opcw.org](mailto:Olukemi.adenuga@opcw.org)).

Annexes:

- Annex 1: Provisional Programme  
Annex 2: National Authority Endorsement Form

**Annex 1**

**SEVENTEENTH REGIONAL MEETING  
OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES IN ASIA  
ULAANBAATAR, MONGOLIA  
25 – 27 JUNE 2019  
PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
<b><i>Tuesday, 25 June 2019</i></b>	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration of participants
09:00 – 09:30	Welcome/opening remarks
09:30 – 09:45	Group photograph and introduction of participants
09:45 – 10:00	Objectives and structure of the meeting
10:00 – 11:00	Update on implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Programme activities in Asia</li> <li>- Status of national implementation</li> </ul>
<i>11:00 – 11:30</i>	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:30 – 12:00	Report of the Regional Group Chairperson and report on major activities in Asia
12:00 – 13:00	Development of national legislation in Asia: Experience and practice of States Parties
<i>13:00 – 14:30</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 15:30	Establishment and the functioning of the National Authorities in Asia: Experience and practice of States Parties
<i>15:30 – 16:00</i>	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:00 – 17:00	Discussion
<b><i>Wednesday, 26 June 2019</i></b>	
09:00 – 09:30	Update on the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention: Verification issues (Article VI)
09:30 – 11:00	Implementation of the verification regime: Experience and practice of States Parties
<i>11:00 – 11:30</i>	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:30 – 12:00	Implementation of the Assistance and Protection and International Cooperation Programmes (Articles X and XI): Experience and practice of States Parties
12:00 – 13:00	Discussion
<i>13:00 – 14:30</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 15:30	Status of agreements on privileges and immunities
<i>15:30 – 16:00</i>	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:00 – 17:30	Bilateral discussions
<b><i>Thursday, 27 June 2019</i></b>	
09:00 – 09:30	Update on the National Implementation Framework
09:30 – 10:00	Discussion to enhance regional cooperation for effective Chemical Weapons Convention implementation
10:00 – 10:30	Discussion to review and improve regional meeting objectives and modalities

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
10:30 – 11:00	Discussion
<i>11:00 – 11:30</i>	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:30 – 12:00	Programme plan of the Technical Secretariat for the rest of 2019
12:00 – 13:00	Discussion
<i>13:00 – 14:30</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 15:30	Discussion on the report of the meeting
<i>15:30 – 16:00</i>	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:00 – 16:30	Presentation of the report of the meeting
16:30 – 17:00	Closing ceremony

**Annex 2**

**SEVENTEENTH REGIONAL MEETING  
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ULAANBAATAR, MONGOLIA  
25 – 27 JUNE 2019**

**ENDORSEMENT BY THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY**

This form must be signed, duly sealed, and uploaded when submitting your application electronically (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus/Home/EventDetail/87>)

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 Seventeenth Regional Meeting of National Authorities of States Parties in Asia, to be held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, from 25 to 27 June 2019.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Designation: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Official seal of the National Authority: