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NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**THE PROGRAMME TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION WITH AFRICA
ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION**

INTRODUCTION

1. The Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Africa Programme”) was instituted by the Director-General in 2007 (EC-50/DG.17, dated 26 September 2007) to give strategic direction to the engagement of the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) with African States Parties as regards implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”).
2. The Africa Programme was initially intended to last three years, from 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2010. Since then, the Programme has been extended four times, each for a three-year period: from 2011 to 2013 (EC-64/DG.5, dated 6 April 2011), from 2014 to 2016 (EC-75/DG.5, dated 17 February 2014), from 2017 to 2019 (EC-84/DG.18, dated 17 February 2017), and from 2020 to 2022 (EC-93/DG.9, dated 18 February 2020).
3. Since the establishment of the Africa Programme, the Director-General has regularly apprised the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) at all of its annual sessions of the progress of programme implementation and of the results achieved.
4. This Note reports on the progress of implementation of the Africa Programme in 2020 and provides an overview of the key developments, activities, and results achieved within its framework.
5. Since the last annual status report summarising the key activities and results achieved during the implementation of the Africa Programme (EC-92/DG.13 C-24/DG.11, dated 9 September 2019), the fourth phase of the Programme has been successfully completed, and the fifth phase has been designed and initiated for the period from 2020 to 2022.



COMPLETION OF THE FOURTH PHASE OF THE AFRICA PROGRAMME

6. The above-mentioned Note by the Director-General (EC-92/DG.13 C-24/DG.11) was considered and noted by the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) at its Ninety-Second Session and subsequently noted by the Conference at its Twenty-Fourth Session.
7. Throughout the fourth quarter of 2019, the Secretariat continued the diligent delivery on the seven objectives assigned to the fourth phase of the Africa Programme. In this context, specific activities and events were provided by the Secretariat exclusively to the Africa region. In addition, participants from diverse African States Parties were involved in relevant global activities. Annex 1 of this Note provides an overview of all activities and events conducted in the fourth quarter of 2019 under the Programme, thus completing the reporting on the fourth phase by highlighting the key activities that took place during the fourth quarter of 2019.

INITIATION OF THE FIFTH PHASE OF THE AFRICA PROGRAMME

Fifth phase design and launch

8. The wide and inclusive consultations launched in early 2019 by the Secretariat with the African Member States continued in the fourth quarter of 2019, with a view to determining the objectives of the fifth phase of the Africa Programme, as well as the best ways to address the challenges and gaps observed in the fourth phase. The chronology of the consultative process since its start is described below:
 - (a) February to April 2019: a survey was conducted by the Secretariat among African States Parties to identify their needs and priorities in the context of the fifth phase of the Programme.
 - (b) 12 to 14 June 2019: the Seventeenth Annual Meeting of National Authorities in Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia) reviewed the survey’s results and, after discussions, agreed on the objectives and the areas for development for the fifth phase of the Programme.
 - (c) 1 September 2019: a coordinator for the Africa Programme was designated by the Director-General with the task of designing and initiating the fifth phase of the Programme in close consultation with the African States Parties.
 - (d) September to November 2019: consultations and an exchange of views with African Permanent Representations based in The Hague, the Netherlands and in Brussels, Belgium facilitated the development of a concept for the fifth phase that addresses the African States Parties’ needs and concerns.
 - (e) 5 to 7 November 2019: the African National Authorities reviewed and approved the proposed concept during the regional group session on the occasion of the Twenty-First Annual Global Meeting of National Authorities (The Hague).

- (f) 14 November 2019: a briefing on the agreed concept and planning for the fifth phase of the Programme was provided to Brussels-based African Permanent Representations (Brussels).
9. Subsequently, the concept and planning of the fifth phase of the Programme were reflected in a Note by the Director-General (EC-93/DG.9) submitted to the Council at its Ninety-Third Session, in March 2020. The Council noted the Note, thus formalising the fifth phase of the Africa Programme.
10. The design of the new phase is based on a robust results-based approach and has the following eight objectives:
- (a) Objective 1: Advance national implementation of the Convention in Africa;
 - (b) Objective 2: Enhance the effectiveness of the African National Authorities;
 - (c) Objective 3: Strengthen controls over cross-border transfers of toxic chemicals to prevent access to such chemicals, including by non-State actors, for purposes prohibited under the Convention;
 - (d) Objective 4: Enhance protection and response capabilities against chemical incidents and attacks;
 - (e) Objective 5: Advance chemical safety and security culture, standards, and practices in Africa;
 - (f) Objective 6: Strengthen the capabilities of chemical laboratories in Africa;
 - (g) Objective 7: Promote knowledge of peaceful chemistry and its exchange in Africa; and
 - (h) Objective 8: Foster Programme visibility, stakeholder engagement, and partnerships.
11. The fifth phase was successfully launched and measures have been taken by the Secretariat to ensure the concurrent delivery on the objectives listed above. Since January 2020, all capacity-building events and targets foreseen under the Programme for 2020 have been embedded in the yearly work plan of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division (ICA) of the Secretariat. Contacts have been initiated to identify partners and host countries in Africa, to coordinate planned events, and to ensure that targets are met in accordance with the Programme guidelines. Consultations have been conducted with various Programme stakeholders and partners in the framework of exploration and planning of joint projects under the Programme. Invitation notes and calls for nominations have been regularly issued for events and meetings planned for 2020, and the Programme implementation started with the actual conduct of capacity-building events. Annex 2 of this Note includes the in-person activities and events conducted under the Africa Programme starting in the first quarter of 2020.

12. With the COVID-19 virus starting to spread worldwide in the first quarter of 2020, the Secretariat has put in place a mechanism to closely monitor the situation. A dedicated internal Task Force on COVID-19 was established by the Director-General on 27 January 2020 and is chaired by the Deputy Director-General to monitor and assess the situation and to make recommendations to the Director-General on appropriate measures.
13. The World Health Organization (WHO) characterised the disease as a pandemic on 11 March. On 13 March, the Director-General informed the States Parties regarding the measures taken by the Secretariat in light of the guidance of the WHO and the Dutch health authorities. All capacity-building events scheduled by the ICA, including those under the Africa Programme, were temporarily suspended as the Secretariat switched to remote working. In parallel, the ICA has been engaging with hosting States Parties to explore the options for rescheduling postponed events, whenever possible.
14. From May onwards, the ICA started adjusting its operational modalities to the pandemic-imposed restrictions by converting as many of its capacity-building activities as possible into an online format, while paying due regard to the Organisation's information security and confidentiality requirements.
15. Webinars and virtual meetings were organised from the beginning of June onwards in place of the scheduled in-person training courses, where possible. For every event that could not be conducted in person, a thorough analysis was conducted and alternative modalities for holding the event were sought. In parallel, the ICA has continued to closely monitor the situation and has been maintaining its readiness to resume in-person training activities as soon as conditions allow.
16. It is important to note that the online learning opportunities are not intended to replace but to supplement and complement in-person learning activities. During the time of operational restrictions imposed by the pandemic, they have allowed the Secretariat to continue to provide its assistance and expertise to States Parties and, thereby, deliver on its mandate.
17. Accordingly, nearly 20 courses have been redesigned, and new ones have been developed, for online delivery between June and August. Annex 2 of this Note also features the list of events and activities conducted online under the Africa Programme as at the date of the issuance of this report, as well as those activities planned for the remainder of 2020.
18. The ICA has also made the best use of this period to advance strategic-level work and initiatives relevant to the Africa Programme in the second quarter of 2020. This included the development of an ICA programming approach with a profile of assistance priorities for each region, including Africa; drafting of complete project proposals for extra-budgetary funding under the fifth phase of the Programme; conduct of an Africa Programme impact assessment for 2019; revamping of the Africa Programme page on the OPCW website, and the design and launch of ICA remote learning activities.

19. The Africa Programme stakeholders have been kept apprised of the Programme developments. The Steering Committee of the Africa Programme, established under the fifth phase, received a comprehensive update from the Secretariat on the occasion of the Committee's inaugural meeting held online on 26 June 2020. The Secretariat provided an update on the progress within the Programme to African States Parties during the Eighteenth Regional Meeting of African National Authorities, held online on 4 August 2020. In addition, the Secretariat has been keeping Programme stakeholders abreast of the developments through regular updates shared with the OPCW Africa Network. This network was established as part of the implementation of the fifth phase of the Programme.

Programme funding

20. In its fifth phase, the Africa Programme continues to be funded essentially from the OPCW regular budget and receives, in addition, extra-budgetary funding from donor States Parties and the European Union. In this context, in March 2020 the Programme received fresh pledges of voluntary contributions totalling over EUR 700,000 in support of ongoing projects:
 - (a) The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has pledged GBP 300,000 for ongoing projects in Africa under Article X of the Convention, focusing on the Economic Community of West African States, the East African Community (EAC), and the Southern African Development Community subregions. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has also pledged an additional GBP 250,000 for ongoing projects under Article XI of the Convention aimed at the provision of assistance and capacity building to African laboratories in Kenya and Nigeria that are seeking OPCW designated laboratory status.
 - (b) The United States of America has pledged USD 100,000 for ongoing capacity-building activities conducted under Articles X and XI of the Convention, focusing on protection against chemical incidents and attacks and on the development of laboratory competencies in Africa.
21. In order to galvanise greater support for the Programme and to channel additional voluntary contributions to its fifth phase, the Secretariat has also developed and announced a series of eight special project proposals for extra-budgetary funding. The estimated total budget of these projects amounts to EUR 1.2 million.

Special projects for extra-budgetary funding

22. In line with the planning of the fifth phase, in the second quarter of 2020, the Secretariat developed the above-mentioned series of eight special projects for voluntary funding for the benefit of the Africa region. Overall, these projects aim at further promoting the achievement of the goals of the fifth phase and at mobilising additional resources and support for the Programme.
23. The special projects address the three overarching areas of need identified for the fifth phase, namely, chemical safety and security, laboratory development, and national implementation of the Convention. The total estimated budget of the eight proposed

projects amounts to EUR 1.2 million. The projects were announced to all States Parties in a video presentation on 1 July 2020, and the detailed project proposals were made available on the OPCW extranet (<http://data.opcw.org/external/homepage.nsf>), under Informal Paper/2020/Technical Secretariat/OPCW Programme for Africa. A resource mobilisation strategy is envisaged to seek and identify donors for these projects. An overview of these projects is provided in the table below.

SPECIAL PROJECTS FOR EXTRA-BUDGETARY FUNDING

Project	Total Estimated Budget (EUR)
Africa CHEMEX: emergency response and coordination exercise	405,900
Conference on the transfer of toxic chemicals	165,000
Specialised course for customs laboratories	81,400
Peer-to-peer training for African customs training institutions	216,700
Specialised course on maintenance of laboratory equipment	66,700
Influential visitors programme for the Pan-African Parliament	71,500
Legal workshop for African parliamentary institutions	41,800
Enhancing south-south cooperation through the Mentorship/Partnership Programme	154,000
Total	1,203,000

Africa Programme Steering Committee

24. The Steering Committee was successfully constituted under the fifth phase to provide support, advice, and guidance for the implementation of the Programme. As foreseen in the concept for the fifth phase, the Committee is composed of 10 African States Parties designated by the African Group of States Parties on an annual rotational basis. For 2020, the nominated Committee members are as follows: Algeria, Angola, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, and the Sudan. The Sudan has assumed the chairmanship of the Committee for 2020.
25. The Czech Republic, Germany, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and the European Union were invited to join the Committee as observers, as they contribute financially to the Programme.
26. Two ordinary meetings are planned annually for the Steering Committee, on the occasion of the regional and global meetings of National Authorities. The Committee held its inaugural meeting successfully online on 26 June 2020 with the participation of representatives of Algeria, Angola, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Rwanda, South Africa, and the Sudan, in addition to Steering Committee observers.
27. The inaugural meeting allowed the Secretariat to update the Committee on the implementation of the fifth phase of the Programme. In addition to an overview of ongoing capacity-building support, including via remote means, the Secretariat presented the project proposals for extra-budgetary funding, as well as the initial findings of the impact assessment of capacity-building activities delivered under the Africa Programme in 2019.

The OPCW Africa Network

28. The network was successfully established in the fifth phase using a Facebook group page entitled “OPCW Africa Network” and has been regularly updated. Outreach efforts on the part of the Secretariat have continued to attract relevant stakeholders among African chemistry professionals and other Africa Programme stakeholders within the region’s governments, industries, academia, laboratories, research institutions, and so on. As at the date of this report, the network counted over 500 active members.
29. The network is well regarded and is being effectively used as a platform for expertise and information sharing, in particular on chemistry-related developments, OPCW capacity-building events, sponsorships, and employment opportunities.

Partnership and cooperation

30. Enhancing and diversifying partnerships and cooperation ties with various relevant stakeholders is a key enabler of the success of the Africa Programme. The concept and plan of the fifth phase incorporate additional efforts in this regard in comparison to the four previous generations of the Programme. Since the start of the fifth phase in January 2020, the Secretariat has engaged with a variety of relevant stakeholders to deliver on planned projects and activities and to explore new and effective partnerships. Stakeholders include national, regional, and global organisations that are relevant to the Programme implementation and development, such as the World Customs Organization (WCO), the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, the 1540 Committee Group of Experts, the African Union, African Regional Economic Communities, chemical emergency response agencies, customs authorities, academia, laboratories, and research institutions.
31. The Secretariat has also developed an action plan aiming at streamlining the partnership and bilateral cooperation between the OPCW and the African Union Commission for the effective delivery of the Programme. The plan foresees the conduct of bilateral consultations and the exchange of high-level visits by senior officials of the two organisations. The implementation of the action plan is envisaged to take place once the COVID-19-related circumstances allow.

Impact assessment framework

32. As outlined in the Note pertaining to the fifth phase of the Africa Programme (EC-93/DG.9), the Secretariat reviewed the Programme impact assessment approach and, as a result, a more structured framework has been developed and rolled out. The framework is based on a system of mandatory post-training action plans to be implemented by the African participants in the context of the various activities under the Programme.
33. The reconfiguration and enhancement of Eventus, the OPCW’s event management system, has been in progress to enable the post-training action plans to be sent out automatically to African participants, with copies to the respective Permanent Representations and National Authorities.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT SURVEY 2019

Background

34. Throughout the first half of 2020, the Secretariat engaged in an assessment of the impact of the Africa Programme. The survey designed and distributed as part of this assessment focused on the outcome of the capacity-building activities offered by the Secretariat to African States Parties in 2019.
35. A total of 391 African participants were registered in the OPCW capacity-building events held in 2019. Individual letters were addressed by the Secretariat to each of these participants on 6 January 2020, conveying an impact assessment survey and setting 30 May 2020 as the deadline for receiving responses. Reminders were addressed to the participants on 6 and 22 May.
36. The Secretariat registered a response rate of 54% (211 surveys filled out and returned). Importantly, hundreds of constructive comments were provided by responding participants, giving unique insights into how ICA capacity-building activities had been followed up on by African alumni, including first-hand accounts of success stories and existing challenges.

Major findings

37. Nearly all responding participants (96.6%) reported that, in the follow-up to their participation in ICA capacity-building events in 2019, they had since engaged in diverse awareness-raising and knowledge-sharing activities in their countries in relation to the Convention and the OPCW, as well as to the specific areas of the training they had received. Examples provided included the delivery of lectures and presentations, and the active participation in relevant meetings and events.
38. Moreover, 69.8% of the responding participants reported that they had taken part in and/or organised relevant specific capacity-building activities in their home countries. In addition, 86.6% reported that they had kept in contact with their National Authorities, including the various government agencies in their respective countries.
39. In response to the question “What is needed to advance further the follow-up activities, especially at national level, regardless of the restrictions currently imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic?”, responding participants shared insightful elements ranking in the order of priority as listed below:
 - (a) **Networking and coordination:** Responding participants highlighted in the first place their need to establish and maintain contacts and collaboration with other Convention stakeholders (such as industry, academia, laboratories, and research institutions), as well as with other former participants in OPCW capacity-building events in their respective countries.
 - (b) **Resources:** Understandably, responding participants highlighted dedicated funding, logistics, and equipment as prerequisites for the organisation and conduct of comprehensive outreach and knowledge-sharing activities in their countries.

- (c) Support by employer and/or National Authority: A significant number of responding participants highlighted the need to have the full support of their employers in order to be able to conduct follow-up activities, for instance in the form of permission to deliver talks or organise events.
- (d) Additional or continued training: Many responding participants indicated that they would feel more confident in engaging in comprehensive knowledge sharing and transfer—as well as capacity building—in their countries should they receive complementary training, especially in highly technical areas such as advanced laboratory courses, and assistance and protection against chemical incidents and attacks.

Analysis of post-training activities reported by African participants in OPCW capacity-building events held in 2019

40. The feedback received from responding participants highlighted several types of initiatives and activities that had been undertaken in follow-up to their participation in OPCW capacity-building events in 2019. This section describes and analyses these activities as reported in the five major areas examined, namely, assistance and protection against chemical incidents and attacks, laboratory capacity development, chemical safety and security, chemical knowledge promotion and exchange, and the national implementation of the Convention.

Assistance and protection

41. In this area, the post-training activities reported by responding participants are categorised as follows:
- (a) Sharing knowledge during technical meetings and/or on the occasion of dedicated training courses, including simulation exercises: The events reported in this context involved the conduct of diverse assistance and protection training activities covering, inter alia, decontamination, evacuation of victims of chemical incidents, hospital preparedness, and management of casualties of chemical incidents and/or attacks. Activities organised in this context were reported by former African participants in relevant OPCW events from Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, and the United Republic of Tanzania.
 - (b) Awareness-raising: Initiatives reported in this regard included the development of a sensitisation strategy covering various national stakeholders, including first responders, the International Committee of the Red Cross, volunteers, and industries, as well as the set-up of an occupational health and safety committee to raise awareness and organise national capacity building. Relevant examples in this connection were reported by former participants from Burundi, Kenya, Morocco, and Togo.

- (c) Effective professional networking and technical cooperation: In numerous instances, participants in the survey reported the set-up and/or use of various online platforms at the regional or national levels for cooperation and exchange of information; advice and best practices in areas of assistance and protection against incidents and attacks involving toxic chemicals; chemical emergency scene management; and sampling and analysis in contaminated environments. Networking platforms included WhatsApp groups and the recently established OPCW Africa Network. Such initiatives were reported by OPCW course alumni from Algeria, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa, Togo, and Tunisia.
- (d) Improved coordination among assistance and protection stakeholders at the national level across relevant government agencies, industries, academia, laboratories, and civil protection, police, and customs authorities: Improvements in coordination were reported by participants from Angola, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Morocco, Rwanda, Tunisia, and Uganda.
- (e) Review and development of operational rules used in assistance and protection: These included standard operating procedures on safety in laboratories (Kenya and Madagascar), guidelines for hospitals treating victims of toxic chemical agents (Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania), a chemical response guide (Morocco), and standard operating procedures on on-site behaviour and safety measures for customs authorities (Côte d'Ivoire).
- (f) Increased effectiveness of interventions in response to chemical emergencies: Illustrative examples in this context included the set-up of an early warning system for stakeholders in case of chemical emergency (Benin and Burundi), the review of national legislation on CBRN¹ risk mitigation and capacity building and the establishment of a national action plan on CBRN (Burundi), and the set-up of a national action plan on chemical and radiation emergencies (the Gambia).
- (g) Lobbying resulting in an improved state of protection and response against chemical threats: Relevant examples included the purchase of personal protective equipment for first responders (Togo); the set-up of specialised national chemical emergency response teams, and the inclusion and development of a chemical emergency component in hospital disaster preparedness plans (Rwanda); the conduct of regular training exercises and the installation of a chemical decontamination area in hospital emergency wards (Uganda) and in multiple-country entry points (Nigeria); the set-up of a triage system for victims of toxic chemicals, and the installation of staff and patients' decontamination booths, as well as donning and doffing areas for hazmat suits (Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Lesotho, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Togo, and Uganda).

¹ CBRN = chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear.

- (h) Conducting a hazard vulnerability analysis: This analysis served to identify and subsequently mitigate risks at hospitals treating victims of chemical incidents (Kenya).
- (i) Evaluation of national needs: This evaluation served to assess national needs in the field of countering chemical terrorism or CBRN threats followed by a review and subsequent improvement of the training and response plans and risk management procedures at the national level (the Niger, Nigeria, Togo, and Tunisia).
- (j) Inclusion of former participants on the list of national experts: After inclusion on the list of national experts, these former participants provided technical assistance to National Authorities (Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, the Gambia, Kenya, Senegal, and the Sudan).
- (k) Relevant expertise was provided at the regional level through training courses and regional cooperation (Algeria, Kenya, Morocco, South Africa, Tunisia, and Uganda).
- (l) Best practices learned in managing hospital preparedness in the context of COVID-19 were put to use (set-up of special COVID-19 wards, development and implementation of relevant decontamination protocols, set-up of separate entry points for staff and patients, and donning and doffing of personal protective equipment) (the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea Bissau, and Kenya).

Laboratory capacity development

42. In this area, the post-training activities reported by responding participants are categorised as follows:
- (a) transfer of knowledge and provision of training to other laboratory analysts and technicians on the use of sophisticated laboratory equipment, including gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS), liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (LC-MS), and nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) instruments (Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zimbabwe);
 - (b) increased effectiveness and confidence in using chemical analysis equipment and production of sound results, including in sample preparation and analysis, result interpretation, and adoption of good laboratory practices (Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa, the Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zimbabwe);

- (c) resolution of technical problems and provision of technical advice in relation to instrumentation, standards preparation, sample preparation techniques, analysis by instruments (GC-MS, LC-MS, and NMR) leading to an improvement in the quality of chemical analysis (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa, the Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zimbabwe);
- (d) provision of training and technical advice to industries, farmers, associations of chemicals importers, exporters, and traders to improve the safety and security in the supply chain of chemicals and to reduce environmental pollution and safeguard human health (Burkina Faso, Nigeria, and Uganda);
- (e) update of laboratory technical documents, including standard operating procedures, and improving laboratory performance in line with ISO 17025 (Cameroon, Madagascar, and Malawi);
- (f) increased confidence to enrol in or take the OPCW proficiency tests (South Africa and Uganda);
- (g) performance of basic maintenance of laboratory equipment (the Sudan);
- (h) advancement of research and development in chemical laboratories in relation to agriculture and farming (Madagascar);
- (i) conduct of in-house awareness-raising activities and training on safety handling of Convention-related samples, including decontamination and disposal of chemicals after analysis (South Africa);
- (j) review and improvement of safety practices in chemical laboratories, examples of which included establishing dedicated safety teams and/or the drafting and implementation of chemical management and safety action plans (Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa, the Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zimbabwe); and
- (k) networking and technical cooperation among alumni of OPCW courses within and outside Africa, with a view to sharing best laboratory practices and conducting joint research projects (Algeria, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa, the Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zimbabwe).

Chemical safety and security

43. In this area, the post-training activities reported by responding participants are categorised as follows:
- (a) conduct of relevant activities aiming at awareness raising and dissemination of knowledge, including seminars and technical workshops for chemical manufacturers, distributors, marketers and retailers, in addition to academia,

chemical associations, and defence and customs authorities. Areas of focus in these activities included industrial chemicals risk management, environmental safety, and public health (Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zambia);

- (b) networking among institutions dealing with chemical risk mitigation and disaster management in Africa with training institutions in Europe (Ghana and Zambia) and among alumni of OPCW chemical safety and security events, with a view to sharing relevant expertise and best practices (Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Gambia, Ghana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, the Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, and Zambia);
- (c) set-up of non-governmental organisations with the objective of developing chemical safety culture and educating chemicals users on basic chemical safety rules and procedures, including those for chemicals storage and handling. Examples in this connection included “Burundi Women in Chemistry” (Burundi) and the “Safety Awareness on Chemical and Environmental Protection Initiative” (Nigeria);
- (d) development of research in the field of destruction of harmful chemicals in air and water environments as well as in chemicals import, supply, distribution, and end-use (Ghana); development of research proposals for funding aimed at collecting baseline data on chemicals management and security, and mapping facilities handling relevant chemicals, to be updated on an annual basis (Malawi);
- (e) the launch of a national initiative to train laboratory personnel on chemical safety for laboratories, procurement of personal protective equipment for all laboratory researchers, strengthening the “no personal protective equipment = no laboratory work” policy, and formulation of a training manual on safety and security for petroleum companies (Malawi); formulation of a manual for first responders to chemical incidents (Zambia); establishing an inventory of industries using chemicals, with a view to sensitising them on the implementation of Convention (Burundi); leading the team responsible for the action plan on chemical events and radiation emergencies (the Gambia); improving safety and awareness in a laboratory through the introduction of new monitoring forms (National Institute of Occupational Health, South Africa); mentorship and coaching of small and middle-scale enterprises on chemical safety and security (Burkina Faso); and use of the expertise acquired in chemical safety and security management to guide new developments and operational projects in industry (South Africa);
- (f) improvement of the state of protection and response against chemical threats in the chemical industry (South Africa and Zambia); adoption of concepts and check-up tools (failure mode and effects analysis, human factor, perception process engineering, and safety culture) to identify chemical risks and devise mitigation solutions in the workplace (the United Republic of Tanzania);

- (g) improvement of the effectiveness of visits to and inspections of chemical industries (Burkina Faso and Nigeria); and
- (h) incorporation of topics related to chemical safety and security in academic curricula and establishment of a chemicals management system at universities, including a database of chemicals in use; use of expertise acquired in OPCW training activities in drafting relevant proposals, reviewing policy documents, and enhancing routine inspections in chemical industries that import and/or use chemicals scheduled under the Convention (Nigeria).

Chemical knowledge promotion and exchange

44. In this area, the post-training activities reported by responding participants are categorised as follows:

- (a) undertaking of initiatives aiming at awareness-raising, knowledge sharing, and educating others on various aspects relevant to peaceful applications of chemistry and the Convention, including chemical sciences and technologies, chemical safety and security, sustainable chemistry, chemical laboratory management, and chemical research and development. Activities conducted by African alumni of the relevant 2019 OPCW capacity-building events (such as the Conference Support Programme, the Programme for Support of Research Projects, and the workshop on policy and diplomacy for scientists) included delivering lectures in connection with the aforementioned areas, reviewing and updating chemistry educational curricula in schools and universities, and the use of various media such as television channels and social media platforms for education. Illustrative instances in this context were reported by alumni from Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, the Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zimbabwe;
- (b) networking between and among laboratory managers, university professors, and alumni of OPCW programmes for exchange of expertise on chemicals and chemical sciences (Eswatini, Ghana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, the Niger, the Sudan, and Uganda);
- (c) research and development, with initiatives including developing green chemistry methods at universities to reduce the damage of chemical waste disposal to the environment (Kenya and Namibia), reviewing national policies on persistent organic pollutants (Ghana), and formulating a paper for the National Authority on promoting chemical safety and security (Zimbabwe);
- (d) activities aimed at upgrading laboratory chemical safety, including the set-up of a dedicated laboratory safety unit (Mozambique), reinforcing the safety committee at the University of Johannesburg (South Africa), significant efforts to establish a chemical safety programme at the Federal University of Technology in Akure (Nigeria), and the set-up of a dedicated committee to ensure that chemicals in use follow green chemistry principles (Namibia); and

- (e) provision of consultancy services to National Authorities to undertake relevant needs assessments (Uganda) and to contribute to a chemical safety and security project in the Central and Eastern Africa subregion (Kenya).

National implementation of the Convention

45. In this area, the post-training activities reported by responding participants are categorised as follows:
- (a) sensitisation, knowledge sharing, and training of peers and other relevant stakeholders in areas of drafting, enacting, and successfully implementing and/or developing national legislation on the Convention (Angola, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Togo, Tunisia, and the United Republic of Tanzania);
 - (b) facilitation of the adoption of national legislation implementing the Convention through specific initiatives such as the development and submission of a guiding paper and a road map for the enactment of national implementing legislation (Sierra Leone); the provision of advice on legal aspects related to the process of drafting national legislation (Kenya); and the review of the draft national bill before submission to parliament (Ghana);
 - (c) improvement of the performance of National Authorities in the field of preparation and submission of Convention-related annual declarations, including through the sharing of best practices (Nigeria and South Africa);
 - (d) streamlining of the cooperation and knowledge sharing with national stakeholders of the Convention (such as industry, customs, and chemical supply chain components) for a more effective implementation of the Convention at the national level, including by improving the quality of Convention-related annual declarations (Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Nigeria);
 - (e) development of sectoral policies in line with the relevant provisions of the Convention, such as for petrochemicals (Nigeria);
 - (f) improvement of the readiness to receive and escort OPCW inspection teams (South Africa); and
 - (g) building on experiences shared during the Mentorship/Partnership Programme to lobby for improvements in the national implementation of the Convention (for example, the purchase of relevant equipment, and upgrading relevant policies and practices) (Togo/Morocco).

CONCLUSION

46. Since its last report on the Africa Programme (EC-92/DG.13 C-24/DG.11), and in close coordination and cooperation with the various Programme stakeholders, the Secretariat has successfully concluded the fourth phase of the Africa Programme (2017 to 2019) and has launched the fifth phase of the Programme effectively, despite the challenging situation witnessed worldwide due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
47. Notwithstanding the pandemic, the Secretariat has continued to deliver its capacity-building support to States Parties, adjusting its operational modalities to the restrictions and conducting as many of its training courses as possible, including those under the Africa Programme, in an online format, while paying due regard to the Organisation's information security and confidentiality requirements.
48. Additionally, the Secretariat has made the best use of this period to advance strategic-level work on various Programme-related initiatives, such as the formulation of the ICA's programming approach, the design of special projects for extra-budgetary funding under the fifth phase of Programme, the conduct of an Africa Programme impact assessment, and the revamping of the Africa Programme page on the OPCW public website.
49. For the first time in the history of the Africa Programme, since its inception 13 years ago, a targeted impact assessment has been conducted by the Secretariat to gauge the impact of the Programme at the outcome level. The feedback received confirmed the effectiveness of the Programme and the positive results it yields in terms of addressing the needs and priorities of African States Parties in relation to the Convention. The role played by National Authorities in terms of follow-up by the alumni of OPCW capacity-building events from their respective Member States and the coordination of their post-training activities is essential for further capitalisation on the results of the Programme, in line with the objectives assigned to it.

Annexes (English only):

- Annex 1: Overview of Key Activities Organised in the Framework of the Fourth Phase of the OPCW Africa Programme in the Reporting Period up to the Completion of the Phase (September to December 2019)
- Annex 2: Overview of Key Activities Conducted in and Planned for the Remainder of 2020 in the Framework of the Fifth Phase of the OPCW Africa Programme

Annex 1

OVERVIEW OF KEY ACTIVITIES ORGANISED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE FOURTH PHASE OF THE OPCW AFRICA PROGRAMME IN THE REPORTING PERIOD UP TO THE COMPLETION OF THE PHASE (SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2019)

OBJECTIVE 1: ENSURE THAT A GREATER NUMBER OF AFRICAN STATES PARTIES HAVE COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL CONVENTION IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION

Training course on fulfilling declaration and inspection obligations under Article VI of the Chemical Weapons Convention, The Hague, the Netherlands, 2 to 6 September 2019

1. The training course was organised with the aim of enhancing the practical knowledge and skills of the National Authorities and other stakeholders to implement specific obligations under Article VI of the Convention related to declarations and inspections. Participants appreciated, in particular, the introduction to the new electronic declaration tool—the electronic declaration information system (EDIS)—through declaration exercises in the form of role plays. The Netherlands continued to contribute to the training course by offering sessions on national implementation practices and making a chemical plant site available for a mock inspection exercise. A total of 37 participants from 35 States Parties participated in the training, including four participants representing the chemical industry. Representatives of the following African States Parties participated in the event: Algeria, Burundi, the Gambia, Kenya, Malawi, South Africa, the Sudan, and Togo.

Twenty-First Annual Meeting of National Authorities, OPCW Headquarters, The Hague, the Netherlands, 5 to 7 November 2019

2. The Annual Meeting of the National Authorities is an important event that provides a platform for National Authorities of all regions to highlight and work through relevant issues in order to enhance their capacity to comply with their Convention obligations. It also provides an opportunity for the Secretariat and States Parties to interact and discuss ways for the effective provision of capacity-building support in an integrated and comprehensive manner.
3. The meeting included information and deliberation segments that addressed different developments and aspects related to Convention implementation. The proceedings entailed presentations and discussions in plenary as well as break-out groups, which provided the participants with opportunities for effective deliberation and interaction. The meeting promoted cooperation among National Authorities in order to further the implementation of the Convention at the national, subregional, and regional levels.

4. During a special breakdown session organised for the Africa region, African National Authorities examined and approved the concept and planning of the fifth phase of the OPCW Africa Programme (2020 to 2022).

Briefing on the Convention for Non-Hague-Based Permanent Representations, Brussels, Belgium, 14 November 2019

5. This event is conducted annually, with the aim of providing a briefing on the Convention and enhancing the understanding and awareness of different OPCW capacity-building activities and programmes aiming at supporting national implementation of the Convention, including the Africa Programme. Representatives from 24 States Parties attended, including African Permanent Representations based in Brussels. The Director-General, the Deputy Director-General, and the Director of the ICA were also in attendance.

Mentorship/Partnership Programme for representatives of National Authorities, 2 to 6 December 2019

6. Under the Mentorship/Partnership Programme, representatives of the National Authority of Côte d'Ivoire visited France from 2 to 6 December 2019. The visit provided the participants with diverse insights into the national Convention implementation process, as well as an opportunity to share experiences and good practices. The representatives of the National Authority of France planned a return visit to Côte d'Ivoire in 2020.

Global stakeholders forum on the adoption of national implementing legislation on the Chemical Weapons Convention, OPCW Headquarters, The Hague, the Netherlands, 3 to 5 December 2019

7. The forum was a follow-up to the four regional and subregional stakeholder forums organised by the Secretariat in 2016 and 2017 to assist States Parties in advancing the status of adoption of national implementing legislation. It was aimed at enhancing the understanding of key stakeholders of the obligations and their respective roles in the legislative adoption process, and to update national road maps on the national implementing legislation adoption process. The programme entailed presentations, break-out group discussions, and a scenario-based exercise, which facilitated the substantial exchange of information and ideas. At the end of the event, participants committed to undertake specific actions to move the legislative adoption process forward, and developed key messages to convey to high-level decision makers on the importance of national implementation of the Convention.
8. Forty participants from 12 States Parties participated in the event including from the Africa region: Angola, Kenya, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and Uganda. A representative from the 1540 Committee Group of Experts was also in attendance to discuss the link between the obligations under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) and the Convention.

OBJECTIVE 2: STRENGTHEN NATIONAL CAPACITY FOR CONTROL OF TRANSFERS OF SCHEDULED CHEMICALS IN ORDER TO PREVENT NON-STATE ACTORS FROM ACCESSING SUCH CHEMICALS

Sixth annual meeting of representatives of chemical industry and National Authorities of States Parties to the Convention, Doha, Qatar, 15 to 17 October 2019

9. This annual event provided an opportunity for States Parties to enhance the engagement of the chemical industry in the national implementation of the Convention through effective collaboration between chemical industry and the National Authorities. The meeting, supported by a voluntary contribution from the Government of Qatar, sought to consolidate the views of these two key national stakeholders to improve the effective and efficient industry verification mechanism, which should keep pace with advancements in science and technology, while taking into account emerging issues. The annual meeting continued to be highly valued as a unique opportunity for direct interaction between the National Authorities and the chemical industry. A total of 74 participants from 25 States Parties attended this event including from Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Namibia, Nigeria, and Togo.

OBJECTIVES 3 AND 4: SUPPORT AFRICAN STATES PARTIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF PROTECTIVE MEASURES AGAINST CHEMICAL ATTACKS AND THREATS; AND FOSTER NATIONAL AND REGIONAL CAPACITY TO RESPOND TO CHEMICAL ATTACKS

Operational training on chemical emergency response, planning, and management for Member States of the East African Community, Jinja, Uganda, 30 September to 10 October 2019

10. The fourth edition of this training was organised jointly with the Ugandan National Authority in coordination with the Ugandan Ministry of Defence as a part of the OPCW initiative on "Strengthening chemical emergency response, planning and management for the EAC Partner States", which was launched in 2015 under the Africa Programme. For the first time, the operational training curriculum was delivered by an instructor team composed entirely of OPCW-trained experts from East Africa, with facilitation by a team of instructors from the Population Protection Institute of the Czech Republic.
11. The course, which was funded from the regular budget and a voluntary contribution from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was attended by 21 participants and instructors from Burundi, Kenya, Uganda, and the United Republic of Tanzania, and a representative from the Republic of Korea attended under the OPCW's Assistance and Protection Instructor Exchange Programme.

Specialised training course on sampling and analysis in highly contaminated environments, Algiers, Algeria, 6 to 9 October 2019

12. This specialised training was offered by the Secretariat for the first time to French-speaking States Parties in the Africa region, and was jointly organised with the Algerian National Authority in coordination with the National Institute of Forensic Science and Criminology of the National Gendarmerie in Algiers.
13. The 30 attendees of the course represented the following African States Parties: Algeria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Morocco, Togo, and Tunisia. They received full theoretical and intensive practical training in sampling and analysis of toxic chemical substances. The training course was funded through a voluntary contribution from Germany.

Chemical incident preparedness for hospitals national training: Serdang Hospital, Selangor, Malaysia, 9 to 11 October 2019

14. This national training course for Malaysia was organised under the chemical incident preparedness for hospitals (HOSPREP) programme and in coordination with the Ministry of Health of Malaysia. Fifty-eight participants representing medical institutions in Malaysia attended the training, along with representatives from participating HOSPREP facilities, including from Kenya.
15. Jointly funded through a voluntary contribution from the United States of America and from the regular budget, the course featured diverse themes, including hazard vulnerability analysis, needs assessment, and hospital emergency planning for chemical incidents.

International course on medical aspects of assistance and protection against chemical weapons, Xi'an, China, 14 to 18 October 2019

16. This international training course was jointly organised by the Secretariat and the Chinese National Authority, with the support of the Air Force Medical University in the city of Xi'an. The course was designed to train medical responders in the field of emergency response to chemical incidents, and targeted medical practitioners, emergency physicians, and other medical professionals who are involved in providing hospital care for chemical casualties. It was attended by 28 medical professionals including from Kenya and Morocco.

Swiss Laboratory Course VIII, Spiez, Switzerland, 28 October to 1 November 2019

17. This specialised laboratory course targeted chemists and scientific experts who may be tasked with analysing samples from a suspected chemical weapon or toxic industrial chemical scene.

18. The course was held at the Spiez Laboratory of the Swiss Federal Institute for Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Protection. It attracted 10 participants from different geographical regions including, as regards Africa, from Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

Advanced laboratory skills training course, Zemianske Kostol'any, Slovakia, 4 to 14 November 2019

19. This specialised training course, jointly organised by the Secretariat and the Slovak National Authority, was conducted at the Reference Chemical Laboratory and Technical Training Centre in Zemianske Kostol'any, Slovakia. The course was targeted at laboratory professionals from States Parties who may be called upon to conduct analysis of scheduled chemicals as a function of their official duties. The training conveyed state-of-the-art methods and techniques relating to sample preparation and detection, analysis, and decontamination of chemical warfare agents as well as toxic industrial chemicals. African participants hailed from Burundi, Ghana, Kenya, and Tunisia.

Chemical incident preparedness for hospitals: workshop for the East African Community, Mombasa, Kenya, 18 to 22 November 2019

20. This regional HOSPREP workshop for EAC Member States was organised by the Secretariat in coordination with the Kenyan National Authority and the EAC Secretariat. The event served as a hybrid workshop-training course, delivering a combination of practical instruction and administrative policy-focused content along HOSPREP themes.
21. Thirty-four clinical staff members and administrators of medical facilities from Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, and the United Republic of Tanzania attended the event, along with five HOSPREP programme representatives from Malaysia and Nigeria.
22. The workshop was nested within the OPCW initiative on "Strengthening chemical emergency response, planning and management for the EAC Partner States" and the fourth phase of the Africa Programme, and was funded through a voluntary contribution by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

OBJECTIVE 5: SUPPORT AFRICAN STATES PARTIES TO STRENGTHEN INTEGRATED CHEMICALS MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING CHEMICAL SAFETY, SECURITY, AND SUSTAINABILITY

Associate Programme 2019 (the Netherlands, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and elsewhere), 26 July to 27 September 2019

23. The nine-week capacity-building programme has continued to add value to global efforts to ensure that chemical weapons never again re-emerge, and that chemistry is applied exclusively for the benefit of humankind. The twentieth edition of the programme equipped 32 scientists, chemical engineers, and technological specialists

from 32 States Parties with enhanced knowledge of the Convention, practical aspects of its implementation, and best practices specific to modern chemical industry. The programme included three weeks of exercises and lectures at OPCW Headquarters, a three-week chemical engineering course at the University of Surrey in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and three weeks of practical training at one of 17 industrial plant facilities located in 12 OPCW Member States in Europe, Asia, and Latin America. The following African States Parties were represented in the 2019 edition of the programme: Algeria, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Togo, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

Third edition of the executive programme on integrated chemicals management, Bangkok, Thailand, 3 to 6 September 2019

24. The programme was intended for chemists, chemical engineers, and other relevant professionals from States Parties who assume managerial and leadership responsibilities related to the implementation of the Convention. It continued to support the States Parties to build and further enhance their capacity to develop in-depth knowledge and leadership skills in integrated chemicals management, including in the areas of chemical safety, security, and sustainability. Thirty-three participants from 20 States Parties attended the programme.
25. The training programme was organised with the support of the National Authority of Thailand. The following OPCW African Member States participated in this event: Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, the Sudan, and Tunisia.

Workshop on policy and diplomacy for scientists: "Introduction to Responsible Research Practices in Chemical and Biochemical Sciences", Trieste, Italy, 9 to 13 September 2019

26. The workshop, organised for the third time since 2016, aimed at raising the awareness of young scientists holding a PhD in natural sciences and working in institutions in the States Parties in the fields of applied chemical, biochemical, or related sciences (research, academia, or industry). The programme covered policy and diplomacy aspects that are related to the use of chemicals in various scientific disciplines, including chemistry, biochemistry, biotechnology, and other related fields. In particular, scientists were updated on the Convention and other international treaties and regulatory tools governing the transfer and use of chemicals. Aspects related to sustainability, ethics, and responsibility in research practices, as well as safety and security norms and standards in science, were also addressed. The workshop was co-organised by the OPCW, The World Academy of Sciences, and the Inter Academy Partnership.
27. In addition to a number of international experts lecturing at the workshop, the event was attended by 18 participants from 17 States Parties, including from Africa: Cameroon, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, the Sudan, and Zimbabwe.

Wuppertal annual course on loss prevention and safety promotion in the chemical process industries, Wuppertal, Germany, 23 to 27 September 2019

28. The year 2019 marked the tenth anniversary of the Wuppertal course, which continues to be organised jointly by the OPCW, the German Federal Foreign Office, and the University of Wuppertal, with a view to fulfilling the overall goal of the International Cooperation Branch under Article XI of the Convention, namely, to contribute to economic and technological development through the peaceful application of chemistry. The tenth edition of the annual course included 24 participants from previous editions, who had distinguished themselves as ambassadors of safety through their special performance during and after such courses. The participants learned about the role of human factors and were introduced to risk analysis methods using the example of failure mode and effects analysis. The course focused on process control engineering, handling of protection devices, and safety management, as well as emergency planning, risk and disaster communication, and risks associated with human factors. Furthermore, a visit to the Evonik chemical company was organised. The following African States Parties were represented: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritius, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Training seminar on the Chemical Weapons Convention, and port and maritime chemical safety and security management, Doha, Qatar, 30 September to 2 October 2019

29. The training provided a platform for attendees to share their views on new approaches to building strong ports and maritime security systems to transfer hazardous chemicals in a more secure manner. The training was attended by 60 representatives of port authorities, coast guards, and maritime security authorities from 12 States Parties, including Kenya.

Fourth edition of the “Forum on the Peaceful Uses of Chemistry: Bridging the Gap: Chemical Security Knowledge Transfer and Capacity Building for the Next Generation”, Casablanca, Morocco, 12 to 14 November 2019

30. The main purpose of this forum was to create a platform for sharing lessons learned and best practices in chemical security management, in addition to learning about the policies adopted by OPCW Member States to foster international cooperation for chemical security management. The discussions during the forum provided an insightful overview of various initiatives, approaches, and perspectives within academia, industry associations, and international organisations. Participants had an opportunity to discuss chemical accident and incident scenarios, and policies on chemical security capacity-building programmes for relevant stakeholders and future generations. Participants also had an opportunity to visit the OCP Group industrial facility and learned about best practices adopted by the chemical industry in the area of security management. Forty representatives from 23 States Parties comprising international and regional organisations, government agencies, chemical industries, academia, and relevant stakeholders participated in this forum, including from Africa: Algeria, Burundi, Cameroon, Lesotho, Malawi, Nigeria, South Africa, the Sudan, and Tunisia.

Second edition of the workshop on developing tools in chemical safety and security management, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 2 to 6 December 2019

31. The workshop provided a platform for cross-sector partnership in chemical safety and security management for the chemical industry. Participants drafted standards on chemical safety and security included in a set of non-binding guidelines. Over 21 experts were in attendance including from the following African States Parties: Algeria, Kenya, and the Niger. Representatives of the International Council of Chemical Associations and the United Nations Environment Programme also attended the event.

OBJECTIVE 6: SUPPORT THE ENHANCEMENT OF LABORATORY CAPABILITIES

Two courses on the enhancement of laboratory skills at the Finnish Institute for Verification of the Chemical Weapons Convention (VERIFIN), Helsinki, Finland, 9 to 20 September 2019

32. The two courses were aimed at enhancing the laboratory skills of participating States Parties on chemical weapons-related quantitative mass spectrometry and NMR spectroscopy. Ten analytical chemists from States Parties whose economies are developing or in transition attended the courses including from Africa: Botswana, Mauritius, South Africa, and Uganda.

Advanced proficiency test training for African Member States, Rijswijk, the Netherlands, 11 to 15 November 2019

33. This training was the first advanced proficiency test training organised by the OPCW for Member States from the Africa region. The participants from Nigeria and Uganda increased their knowledge and skills on the key provisions of the Convention, and the OPCW's mission and activities, with special focus on verification. The practical segment included training in GC and GC-MS for the analysis of chemicals relevant to the Convention. Sample preparation and the application of the OPCW Central Analytical Database in compound identification were also covered.

Course on analytical skills development, the Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad, India, 25 November to 6 December 2019

34. The course equipped the participants with knowledge and skills in this area using GC-MS, and in equipment maintenance and sample collection and storage. The course was attended by 20 participants from 19 States Parties including, as regards Africa: Algeria, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Madagascar, Morocco, the Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zimbabwe.

Equipment Exchange Programme

35. Under the Equipment Exchange Programme, the Secretariat facilitated one equipment transfer and donation during the fourth quarter of 2019 from Germany to the United Republic of Tanzania. The project started at the beginning of 2019 and was finalised with a training provided during the fourth quarter of the year.

OBJECTIVE 7: CONTRIBUTE TO THE ENHANCEMENT OF PEACEFUL USES OF CHEMISTRY

36. Under the Fellowship Programme, one African fellowship was sponsored by the OPCW in the fourth quarter of 2019 (Nigeria to South Africa). In addition, four other OPCW-sponsored fellowships for African States Parties started in 2019 and were completed in 2020, namely: Algeria (two) to Finland; Cameroon to Switzerland; and Uganda to the United States of America.
37. Under the Programme for Support of Research Projects, and in addition to co-sponsoring with the International Foundation for Science research projects by African scientists from Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Nigeria (two), and Tunisia earlier in 2019, two research projects from Kenya and South Africa benefited from direct OPCW sponsorship in the fourth quarter of 2019 and have been running through 2020.

Annex 2

OVERVIEW OF KEY ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN AND PLANNED FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2020 IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE FIFTH PHASE OF THE OPCW AFRICA PROGRAMME

OBJECTIVE 1: ADVANCE NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION IN AFRICA

Lessons learned workshop on the Mentorship/Partnership Programme, The Hague, the Netherlands, 30 and 31 January 2020

1. This workshop addressed the cumulative lessons learned by the States Parties that participated in the Mentorship/Partnership Programme and demonstrated evidence of the Programme's effectiveness. The workshop comprised presentations by participants and breakout group discussions.
2. One outcome of the workshop was the compilation of a list of Programme results and recommendations in six categories, as well as recommendations. These categories are: the structure of the National Authority and how it functions; national legislation supporting the implementation of the Convention and related laws; education and outreach; implementation of industry-related obligations; cooperation with customs agencies; and the development of protective measures and response capacity.
3. The event was attended by 19 participants representing National Authorities from 16 OPCW Member States, including from Africa: Algeria, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Malawi, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, the Sudan, and Togo. The workshop reached its objectives, as participants identified specific results achieved and best practices for forming effective partnerships, as well as for organising visits within the Programme. They also provided recommendations on how to enhance the Programme's effectiveness.

Study visit by a Moroccan parliamentary delegation to the OPCW Headquarters, 17 February 2020

4. In collaboration with Parliamentarians Global Action,² a study visit to the OPCW was organised for a delegation of Moroccan parliamentarians on 17 February 2020. The delegation was provided with presentations on the OPCW, national implementation of the Convention, and the OPCW Africa Programme. Modalities of further cooperation between the OPCW and Morocco in the area of national implementation of the Convention were explored and discussed.

2 An international non-profit organisation founded by parliamentarians to promote and advocate for sound international policies (www.pgaction.org).

5. The organisation of a similar study visit for a parliamentary delegation from Zimbabwe had been planned for March 2020 but had to be postponed due to the situation imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

OBJECTIVE 2: ENHANCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL AUTHORITIES

Inaugural meeting of the Steering Committee of the OPCW Africa Programme, 26 June 2020

6. The Steering Committee of the Africa Programme was established under the fifth phase of the Programme, with a view to further enhancing its effectiveness and the engagement of the African National Authorities. The Committee convened an inaugural meeting online on 26 June 2020, under the chairmanship of H.E. Ambassador Kamal Bashir Ahmed Mohamed Khair, Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the OPCW.
7. The meeting allowed the Secretariat to update the Committee on the implementation of the fifth phase of the Africa Programme. In addition to ongoing capacity-building support, including via remote means, the Secretariat presented the series of project proposals for extra-budgetary funding. It also shared with the Committee the initial findings of the impact assessment of capacity-building activities organised under the Africa Programme in 2019.
8. This meeting was attended by representatives of Algeria, Angola, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Rwanda, South Africa, and the Sudan. It was also joined by the following observers, which currently contribute to the Programme: the Czech Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and the European Union.

Presentation of special projects for extra-budgetary funding under the fifth phase of the OPCW Africa Programme, 1 July 2020

9. In order to enhance the impact of the Africa Programme and the effectiveness of the African National Authorities in the implementation of the Convention, the Secretariat devised eight proposals for special projects for extra-budgetary funding under the fifth phase of the Africa Programme. These projects were announced by the Secretariat to all States Parties in a video presentation³ on 1 July 2020 and the detailed project proposals were made available in the OPCW extranet.

Eighteenth Regional Meeting of African National Authorities, 4 August 2020

10. Thirty-two representatives from 21 Member States from the Africa region met online on 4 August for the Eighteenth Regional Meeting of African National Authorities. Representatives of National Authorities were briefed on the implementation of the

3 <https://www.opcw.org/media-centre/news/2020/07/opcw-announces-africa-programme-special-projects-voluntary-funding>.

fifth phase of the Africa Programme, which focuses on the particular needs of African Member States, including the promotion of peaceful uses of chemistry for a developed, safe, and secure Africa. Participants were also updated on how Member States have adopted the Convention at a national level, in addition to receiving guidance on giving legal effect to the amendment to the Annex on Chemicals to the Convention. Experts from the Secretariat dedicated the final session of the meeting to answering questions from participants.

11. Representatives of the following Member States participated: Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Burkina Faso, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Online general training course on the Chemical Weapons Convention for the personnel of National Authorities and relevant stakeholders in French-speaking States Parties of Central and West Africa, 7 to 9 September 2020

12. The purpose of the course is to assist States Parties in complying with their obligations under the Convention by enhancing the knowledge and skills of the personnel of National Authorities and relevant stakeholders. The specific objective of the course is to fulfil the aims set out in the action plan for the implementation of obligations under Article VII of the Convention.
13. The general training course is intended primarily for the personnel of National Authorities and their relevant stakeholders who are responsible for the specific tasks involved in implementation of the Convention at the national level, but who have little or limited knowledge in this area.

Online Twenty-Second Annual Meeting of National Authorities, 3 to 5 November 2020 (tentative dates)

14. The annual global meeting of National Authorities is designed to establish an interactive communication and cooperation mechanism among the National Authorities, and between them and the OPCW. This meeting involves the African National Authorities and has the following objectives:
 - (a) to provide an occasion for National Authorities to highlight and work through relevant issues in order to enhance their capacity to comply with their Convention obligations;
 - (b) to provide an occasion for the Secretariat and States Parties to interact and discuss ways for effective provision of capacity-building support in an integrated and comprehensive manner;
 - (c) to promote cooperation among National Authorities in order to further the implementation of the Convention at the national and regional levels; and

- (d) to provide the opportunity for interaction between the States Parties and the Secretariat addressing outstanding issues as efforts to enhance the implementation of the Convention.

OBJECTIVE 3: STRENGTHEN CONTROLS OVER CROSS-BORDER TRANSFERS OF TOXIC CHEMICALS TO PREVENT ACCESS TO SUCH CHEMICALS, INCLUDING BY NON-STATE ACTORS, FOR PURPOSES PROHIBITED UNDER THE CONVENTION

Online training course on the Chemical Weapons Convention's transfers regime of scheduled chemicals for customs officials, 14 to 18 September 2020

15. This training course for customs officers will be offered online in English to all States Parties, including from the Africa region. It includes 10 e-learning modules on the Convention, located on the WCO training platform, "CLIKC!", in addition to live sessions with experts from both the Secretariat and the WCO.
16. The course covers modules related to several relevant training topics, including scheduled chemicals and their principal uses; transfer provisions of the Convention; tools for identification of scheduled chemicals (including the WCO Harmonized System); procedures to confirm the presence of suspected scheduled chemicals; problems in reporting import and export of scheduled chemicals; and practical issues in controlling the international trade in chemicals. The live session of this course will be organised for participants from different time zones within the course period.

OBJECTIVE 4: ENHANCE PROTECTION AND RESPONSE CAPABILITIES AGAINST CHEMICAL INCIDENTS AND ATTACKS

International course on pre-hospital medical care for chemical casualties, Doha, Qatar, 17 to 20 February 2020

17. This course was jointly organised by the Secretariat and Qatar's National Committee for Prohibition of Weapons. It was designed primarily for medical responders, including physicians, specialised paramedics and nurses, representatives of emergency services, and scene officers involved in both the provision of pre-hospital medical care for chemical casualties and mitigation of the consequences of chemical incidents.
18. The course was aimed at strengthening the capacities of the emergency response systems of participating States Parties, particularly in preparedness for and response to chemical incidents. Focus was placed on improvements to pre-hospital medical care for chemical casualties through enhanced skill levels, improved performance, shortened rescue, first aid, and treatment procedure times, and reduced error rates. The course included theoretical training, a table-top exercise, practical training, and a field exercise.

19. A total of 45 experts attended the course from 19 States Parties representing all geographical regions, including from Africa: Algeria, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, and Uganda.

National basic training course on assistance and protection against chemical weapons for Rwanda's airport, border, and police personnel, Kigali, Rwanda, 2 to 6 March 2020

20. At the request of the Government of Rwanda, a national basic training course on assistance and protection against chemical weapons for Rwanda's airport, border, and police personnel was jointly organised and conducted by the Secretariat and the Rwanda Directorate-General of Immigration and Emigration. The course successfully addressed core theoretical foundations and provided an opportunity for practical training on chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals, which covered the use of protective equipment, as well as monitoring, detection, and decontamination techniques.
21. The course was delivered by Secretariat experts and East Africa Community instructors, and was attended by 22 participants from Rwanda's airport, border, and police personnel. Four representatives from Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania took part under the Instructor Development and Exchange Programme run by the Assistance and Protection Branch.

Online basic training on the use of the Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders and the Emergency Response Guidebook for first responders in the East Africa Community, 6 and 7 October 2020

22. The main focus of this training is to build the capacity of first responders in EAC States Parties to quickly and accurately characterise and contain incidents involving hazardous chemicals during the initial response phase, as well as to acquire basic knowledge and skills on the use of the Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders (WISER) and the Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG). Its objective is to demonstrate how WISER/ERG could provide a wide range of information on hazardous substances, including hazard identification, protective distance plotting, and containment.
23. The online basic training on WISER/ERG is an integral part of the capacity-building programme in assistance and protection for the Member States of the EAC. The Population Protection Institute of the Czech Republic will provide technical support and co-facilitate the course with the Secretariat.

Online basic course on assistance and protection for African States Parties that are members of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development, 12 to 14 October 2020 (tentative dates)

24. The course aims at strengthening capacities of the first responders from States Parties that are members of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development, in terms of preparedness and response to chemical incidents.

Advanced course for Arabic-speaking States Parties on assistance and protection against chemical weapons, Tunisia, 26 to 30 October 2020 (tentative dates)

25. This advanced course aims at strengthening capacities of the first responders of the Arabic-speaking States Parties to the Convention, including from Africa, in terms of preparedness and response to chemical incidents. The course will tackle several aspects of chemical emergency response, including operating in individual protective equipment, reconnaissance, detection, sampling and analysis, rescue and first aid procedures, and reporting to a command and control centre.

Online refresher course: operational training for the instructors and experts from States Parties in the East African Community on chemical emergency response, planning and management, November 2020 (dates to be confirmed)

26. The primary objective of the training is to increase the pool of first responders capable of providing an effective emergency response in case of a chemical attack or incident in the EAC region.

Online basic course on assistance and protection for North Africa and Sahel, fourth quarter of 2020 (dates to be confirmed)

27. The course aims at strengthening capacities of the first responders from States Parties in the North Africa and the Sahel subregion, in terms of preparedness and response to chemical incidents.

OBJECTIVE 5: ADVANCE CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY CULTURE, STANDARDS, AND PRACTICES IN AFRICA

Online advanced course on chemical safety and security management, 25 June 2020

28. Organised online, the training course focused on chemical plant safety and security, including scenario-based audits and human reliability assessments of chemical processes. It was mainly offered to South Asian Member States and included also participants from Kenya and Nigeria. Participants benefitted from online lectures delivered by OPCW experts and took part in an exercise that put their knowledge into practice. They also shared their views on new approaches to various aspects of chemical safety and security, discussed how to evaluate chemical safety and security performance in chemical facilities and identified resources, tools, and further training to promote safety standards.

Online training course on chemical safety and security management for African Member States, 12 August 2020

29. The training course focused on promoting and disseminating chemical safety and security management culture, through the sharing of policies and best practices among national stakeholders, so as to enhance capacities and improve cooperation. The course comprised online lectures delivered by Secretariat staff. Participants shared

their views on new approaches related to various aspects of chemical safety and security, as well as methods to evaluate chemical safety and security performance in chemical processes. Resources, tools, and further training were also identified to promote and disseminate safety standards in the region. The training course ended with a virtual exercise, during which participants put their newly acquired knowledge into practice.

30. The course was attended by 42 participants representing National Authorities, the chemical industry, industry associations, government departments, and academics from 12 African Member States: Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, the Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. Coordinators from CRDF Global also attended as observers.

Online executive programme on integrated chemicals management, 19 August 2020

31. The original plan was to organise the event in Port Louis, Mauritius, from 14 to 17 April 2020. Due to the pandemic situation, an online programme was scheduled for the in-person training that had been postponed to 2021. The overall objective of the executive programme was to help the relevant Member States build capacity and develop in-depth knowledge and leadership skills in integrated chemicals management, including in the areas of chemical safety, security and sustainability. Fifteen experts from African States Parties, namely, Burundi, the Congo, Djibouti, Kenya, Mauritius, Nigeria, and Zimbabwe were included in this online programme.

Online training course on chemical safety and security management for African Member States, 19 August 2020

32. The programme focused on the development of an effective action plan by using SWOT⁴ analysis and a scenario-based audit mechanism to mitigate chemical safety and security threats towards the sustainable industrial development.
33. This course was organised in place of the European Union-funded project on chemical safety and security management which was postponed due to the current pandemic situation. It was attended by 11 participants from Botswana, the Congo, Djibouti, Guinea, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, the Sudan, and Zimbabwe.

Twenty-first edition of the OPCW Associate Programme

34. The classic Associate Programme is a nine-week training curriculum on the Convention and the chemical process industry, with a focus on chemical safety and security. In view of the COVID-19 pandemic and to ensure the safety of the participants throughout the programme, the Secretariat envisages offering the participants a combination of online training from 21 September to 2 October 2020 and recalibrated in-person training in 2021.

⁴ SWOT = Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats.

35. The 26 selected participants include 12 from African Member States: Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, the Niger, Sierra Leone, Somalia, and Zambia.

Online training course for African Member States: “Wuppertal Online Course – Explosion Protection and Error Management 2020”, 7 to 30 September 2020

36. This course was designed to accommodate restrictions imposed by COVID-19, and as an addition to the comprehensive classic Wuppertal course scheduled for 2021. Scheduled to take place online from 7 to 30 September 2020, the course focuses on the topics of explosion protection and error management. As is the comprehensive course, this training programme is a combined venture between the Government of Germany, the Bergische University of Wuppertal, and the Secretariat.
37. The course is offered to 12 participants from the following 11 African Member States: Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, the Gambia, Kenya, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.

OBJECTIVE 6: STRENGTHEN THE CAPABILITIES OF CHEMICAL LABORATORIES IN AFRICA

Training course on the analysis of Chemical Weapons Convention-related chemicals and preparation for OPCW proficiency testing under the project to assess and enhance the capacity of analytical laboratories in Member States from Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean, Helsinki, Finland, 10 to 14 February 2020

38. This programme was offered to two laboratories—one in Kenya (the Government Chemist’s Department) and one in Nigeria (the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control)—as part of the project aimed at assessing and enhancing the capacity of analytical laboratories in Member States from Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC), funded by a voluntary contribution from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
39. The participants gained theoretical knowledge and basic practical skills in the areas of chemical analysis under the Convention, specifically focusing on techniques and procedures required to perform successfully in OPCW proficiency testing and chemical analysis competency testing. The programme was offered by VERIFIN, an OPCW designated laboratory in Finland. Six laboratory personnel—three from each laboratory—benefited from the programme.

Online workshop on “Assessing and Enhancing Capacity of Analytical Laboratories from African and GRULAC Member States: Toward OPCW Designation”, 2 and 3 June 2020

40. This workshop is part of the ongoing project funded by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and aimed at identifying and assisting candidate laboratories from African and GRULAC Member States that aspire to achieve

OPCW designated laboratory status. The workshop participants discussed project progress and reviewed work plans for 2020 to 2021. Participants made presentations summarising their experience in the first project phase and expressed specific needs and suggestions for the future. Twenty-seven participants in total included analytical chemists and representatives of respective Member States' National Authorities, including two representatives from Kenya and two from Nigeria, as well as officials from the Secretariat.

Two-phase online courses in collaboration with VERIFIN on enhancement of laboratory skills, 7 to 11 September 2020

41. The first course aimed at improving the participants' practical skills in analysing chemicals related to the Convention through LC-MS. The second course aimed at upgrading the participants' expertise in the area of laboratory quality management. Five participants from Morocco, Nigeria, Tunisia, Uganda, and the United Republic of Tanzania took part in both online training courses.

Equipment Exchange Programme

42. Under the Equipment Exchange Programme, and at the time of the issuance of this report, the Secretariat has been processing the transfer of one item of GC-MS equipment obtained from Germany to the Sudan. In addition, a request was received to support the transfer of several items of equipment donated by a German company to a university in the United Republic of Tanzania. This project is expected to be finalised in the fourth quarter of 2020.

OBJECTIVE 7: PROMOTE KNOWLEDGE OF PEACEFUL CHEMISTRY AND ITS EXCHANGE IN AFRICA

43. Under the Fellowship Programme, one fellowship (from Cameroon to Belgium) was sponsored by the OPCW in 2020. Four other OPCW-sponsored African fellowships that started in 2019 have been completed in 2020, namely, Cameroon to Switzerland, Algeria (two) to Finland, and Uganda to the United States of America.
44. Under the Conference Support Programme, two events involving African participants had been sponsored in 2020 as at the date of the issuance of this report:
 - (a) Green Chemistry Postgraduate Summer School 2020 (online event), Venice, Italy, 16 to 20 July 2020: 90 participants in total were sponsored, including 40 participants from Africa; and
 - (b) a virtual conference on chemistry and its applications, "Research and Innovations in Chemical Sciences: Paving the Way Forward", Réduit, Mauritius, 1 to 31 August 2020: 70 participants in total were sponsored, including 50 participants from Africa.

45. Under the Programme for Support of Research Projects in 2020, as at the time of this report the Secretariat had received applications for project sponsorship from four African States Parties, namely, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, and South Africa. The Research Projects Review Committee is to be convened in the fourth quarter of 2020 to examine and decide on sponsorship for these projects, in addition to any other applications received in the meantime. The results will be reported to States Parties in due course.

OBJECTIVE 8: FOSTER PROGRAMME VISIBILITY, STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT, AND PARTNERSHIPS

46. With a view to increasing the Africa Programme's visibility and stakeholder engagement, the Secretariat set up, upon launching the fifth phase of the Programme, the OPCW Africa Network online, using a Facebook group page. The regular maintenance of the network and the outreach efforts deployed by the Secretariat have been instrumental in continuously attracting new members among, inter alia, chemistry professionals from governments, academia, industry, and laboratories from diverse African States Parties. As at the reporting date, the network counted over 500 active members. In addition to the network, the Secretariat plans to enhance Programme visibility by publishing an information bulletin on the Africa Programme in the fourth quarter of 2020 that will be shared with all stakeholders.
47. The Secretariat has also been establishing and/or maintaining databases of relevant Africa Programme stakeholders, and has been using these databases for direct, rapid, and sustainable contacts and collaboration (including the database of African Permanent Representations to the OPCW and the database of African alumni of OPCW capacity-building activities in 2019).
48. The engagement of African participants in OPCW capacity-building activities has also been streamlined in 2020 through the establishment and follow-up by the Secretariat of individual post-training plans for all African participants in all training activities organised under the Africa Programme. To galvanise more support for and engagement in the Programme on the part of the States Parties, the Africa Programme Steering Committee was established in the fifth phase of the Programme and held its first meeting on 26 June 2020. In addition, the Eighteenth Regional Meeting of African National Authorities, held online on 4 August 2020, was partially dedicated to the examination of the progress made with the implementation of the fifth phase of the Programme.
49. Since the start of the fifth phase of the Africa Programme in January 2020, the Secretariat has been engaging with a variety of relevant stakeholders to deliver on planned projects and activities and to explore new effective partnerships. Stakeholders include national, regional, and global organisations that are relevant to the Programme implementation and development, such as the WCO, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, the 1540 Committee Group of Experts, the African Union and its Regional Economic Communities, chemical emergency response agencies, customs authorities, academia, laboratories, and research institutions.

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Annex 2

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50. In order to galvanise more support for the Programme, the Secretariat has also developed special projects for extra-budgetary funding under the fifth phase of the Programme and has presented these proposals in a video presentation shared with all States Parties on 1 July 2020.

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