



S/1951/2021*

19 April 2021

ENGLISH and SPANISH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE TWENTY-SECOND REGIONAL MEETING
OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
(ONLINE)
8 – 10 JUNE 2021**

1. On behalf of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General wishes to invite National Authorities to nominate representatives to attend the Twenty-Second Regional Meeting of National Authorities of States Parties in Latin America and the Caribbean, which will be held online from 8 to 10 June 2021.
2. The regional meeting will serve as a forum at which States Parties will discuss needs, priorities, actions taken, and best practices in relation to the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) at the national, subregional, and regional levels, as well as the capacity-building support provided by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”). National Authorities will also discuss other issues and challenges they have encountered in acting as focal points for effective liaison with the OPCW for national implementation of the Convention.
3. The purpose of the meeting is to facilitate discussions of:
 - (a) updates on capacity-building activities;
 - (b) issues concerning the implementation of Article VI of the Convention, including transfer discrepancies;
 - (c) the status of implementation of the Article VII of the Convention, specifically the adoption of national implementing legislation;
 - (d) issues relating to chemical safety and security;
 - (e) the use of the Protection and Assistance Databank;
 - (f) enhancing the capabilities of chemical laboratories;
 - (g) ways to enhance education and outreach on Convention-related issues at the national level; and

* Reissued in English for technical reasons.



- (h) updates on the OPCW Centre for Chemistry and Technology (ChemTech Centre) project.
4. The expected results of the meeting include:
 - (a) enhanced understanding of specific issues related to Articles VI, VII, X, and XI of the Convention, and the respective support provided by the Secretariat;
 - (b) enhanced understanding of follow-up actions and best practices of States Parties in relation to the implementation of the Convention; and
 - (c) provision of updated information on the status of the implementation of the Convention in the region, in support of the Secretariat's development of its future assistance and cooperation activities for States Parties.
 5. The provisional programme for the regional meeting is attached as Annex 1 to this Note.
 6. The National Authority of each State Party is requested to nominate up to five delegates for participation in the regional meeting. The National Authority may nominate other relevant stakeholders, in consultation with the Secretariat.
 7. The meetings will be conducted in English and Spanish, and interpretation services will be provided between these two languages.
 8. National Authorities' nominees are invited to register online **no later than 20 May 2021** through Eventus—the OPCW event management system (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>). **Each nomination must be accompanied by an endorsement form (Annex 2) from the nominee's respective National Authority.**
 9. Furthermore, National Authorities may also express their interest in bilateral consultation with the Secretariat on specific issues related to national implementation of the Convention.
 10. Additional information about the regional meeting may be obtained from the Implementation Support Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the OPCW. The contact persons are Ms Sharon Rivera (Email: sharon.rivera@opcw.org) and Mr Victor Barros-Correia (Email: victor.barros-correia@opcw.org).

Annexes:

Annex 1: Provisional Programme

Annex 2: Endorsement Form

Annex 1**TWENTY-SECOND REGIONAL MEETING OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES
OF STATES PARTIES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
(ONLINE)****8 – 10 JUNE 2021****PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

Time	Activity
<i>Tuesday, 8 June 2021</i>	
15:00 – 15:10	Opening remarks
15:10 – 15:20	Introduction: objectives and expected outcomes of the meeting
15:20 – 16:20	Presentations and discussion: Updates by the Secretariat on capacity-building activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of programmes and activities • Upcoming activities • Achieving national training objectives in light of the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic
16:20 – 16:30	<i>Break</i>
16:30 – 17:00	Presentation and discussion on the status of the OPCW Centre for Chemistry and Technology (ChemTech Centre) project
17:00 – 17:40	Presentation on the status of adoption of the national Convention-implementing legislation in the GRULAC ¹ region and including relevant programmatic support offered by the Secretariat, followed by national presentations on the status of adoption of implementing legislation
17:40 – 18:00	Report of the regional group Chairperson on GRULAC activities since the last regional meeting
<i>Wednesday, 9 June 2021</i>	
15:00 – 15:30	Presentation and discussion on the use of SIX ² and EDIS ³
15:30 – 16:00	Presentation and discussion on the status of Article VI declarations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of submissions of declarations • Trade and transfer discrepancies in the region
16:00 – 16:30	Presentation and discussion on confidentiality in correspondence between States Parties and the Secretariat
16:30 – 16:40	<i>Break</i>
16:40 – 17:00	Presentation and discussion on updates on the work of the Secretariat on declarations and relevant projects (including e-learning)
17:00 – 17:30	Presentation and discussion on the status of the 2021 inspection plan, effects of the restrictions and future plans
17:30 – 18:00	National presentations on challenges and best practices in the implementation of Article VI

¹ GRULAC = Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

² SIX = Secure Information Exchange.

³ EDIS = Electronic Declaration Information System.

Time	Activity
<i>Thursday, 10 June 2021</i>	
15:00 – 15:30	Presentations and discussion on education and outreach regarding Convention-related issues at the national level
15:30 – 16:00	Presentation and discussion on the Protection and Assistance Databank
16:00 – 16:20	Presentation and discussion on programmes for enhancing the capacity of analytical laboratories seeking OPCW designation
16:20 – 16:30	<i>Break</i>
16:30 – 17:10	Presentations and discussion on issues relating to chemical safety and security
17:10 – 17:50	National presentations and discussion on the implementation of Articles VII, X, and XI
17:50 – 18:00	Closing remarks

Annex 2

**TWENTY-SECOND REGIONAL MEETING OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES
OF STATES PARTIES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
(ONLINE)
8 – 10 JUNE 2021**

ENDORSEMENT BY THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY

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

Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS

I, _____, Head/Chief Coordinator of the
National Authority of the State Party of _____, on
behalf of the Government of _____, hereby
endorse the nomination of Mr/Ms _____,
holding the position/designation of _____
in the Office/Division/Branch of _____,
for participation in the Twenty-Second Regional Meeting of National Authorities of
States Parties in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held online, from 8 to 10 June 2021.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Designation: _____

Official seal of the organisation: