



NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

STATUS REPORT ON THE TIMELY SUBMISSION BY STATES PARTIES OF DECLARATIONS UNDER ARTICLE VI OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY TO 31 MAY 2021

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Note, which is being submitted to the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) for consideration at its Ninety-Seventh Session, provides an update on the information and analysis related to the implementation by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) and States Parties of the decision “Timely Submission by States Parties of Declarations Under Article VI of the Convention” (EC-51/DEC.1, dated 27 November 2007). It covers the period 1 January to 31 May 2021.
- 1.2 In response to Council decision EC-51/DEC.1 requesting all States Parties to meet their obligations regarding annual declarations in a timely manner, the Secretariat further sent a note verbale to all States Parties (NV/VER/DEB-2/21, dated 5 February 2021) reminding them of the requirements of the decision and of the deadline for submission of annual declarations on past activities (ADPAs) for 2020.
- 1.3 In the decision, the Council also requested the Secretariat “to make its requirements known at regional meetings and at any other venues that the Secretariat deems effective”. During the reporting period, the Secretariat highlighted the importance of timely submissions of declarations by the States Parties.

2. SUBMISSION OF INITIAL DECLARATIONS UNDER ARTICLE VI

During the reporting period, the Secretariat did not receive any initial declarations. As at 31 May 2021, only one State Party, Tonga, had yet to submit its initial declaration under Article VI of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”). The Secretariat will continue to work with this State Party towards the submission of its outstanding initial declaration.



3. SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL DECLARATIONS UNDER ARTICLE VI

- 3.1 The deadline for the submission of ADPA 2020 was 31 March 2021. As of that date, the Secretariat had received ADPA 2020 from 66 States Parties with declarable activities in 2020. In addition, nine States Parties informed the Secretariat that they had no declarable activities (“nil” declarations).¹ After 31 March 2021, an additional 15 States Parties submitted information on declarable facilities or activities for ADPA 2020, in accordance with the Verification Annex to the Convention. In addition, one more State Party submitted a nil ADPA 2020 to the Secretariat.
- 3.2 In summary, between 1 January and 31 May 2021, a total of 81 States Parties had submitted declarations on declarable activities for 2020; this excludes those 10 States Parties that submitted nil declarations. Of the 81 States Parties, 66 (81.5%) were on time in submitting at least part of their declaration. The current status of submissions of ADPA 2020 is detailed in Annexes 1 and 2 to this report.
- 3.3 The deadlines for the submission of annual declarations on anticipated activities for 2021 were 2 October 2020 (for Schedule 1 facilities) and 1 November 2020 (for Schedule 2 and 3 plant sites). Since the Ninety-Sixth Session of the Council, there has been no change in the number of States Parties that have declared activities and facilities for 2021.
- 3.4 In paragraph 4 of EC-51/DEC.1, the Council requests “States Parties that anticipate difficulties in regard to the timely submission of their declarations in accordance with the deadlines in the Convention to inform the Secretariat at the earliest possible date of the circumstances of such difficulties”. As of the deadline for the submission of ADPA 2020, Portugal and Qatar had submitted such information. By 31 May 2021, both States Parties had submitted their ADPA 2020.

4. ONGOING EFFORTS TO ASSIST STATES PARTIES

- 4.1 The Secretariat stands ready to offer the States Parties advice and assistance where needed in regard to the submission of their annual declarations. For example, the Secretariat has provided customised support, through bilateral consultations with National Authorities, to those States Parties which encountered difficulties in identifying declarable activities, collecting data for declaration, and preparing and submitting their annual declarations. The Secretariat continues to work with concerned States Parties towards the submission of complete and accurate annual declarations on time.
- 4.2 The Secretariat continues to support States Parties in using the new Secure Information Exchange System (SIX) for the exchange of confidential information, in particular declarations. Currently, 121 users from 61 States Parties are registered to use SIX. In 2021, the system was used by 35 States Parties for the submission of ADPA 2020. Further details and updates regarding the system are available in Note S/1891/2020 (dated 31 August 2020). The SIX project team is available for questions from States Parties and can be contacted via email (six@opcw.org).

¹ Although the submission of nil declarations is not a requirement of the Convention, a number of States Parties choose to provide the Secretariat with such information voluntarily.

5. ANALYSIS OF TRENDS IN THE TIMELINESS OF PAST ADPAs^{2,3}

5.1 The number and percentage of ADPA 2020 received on time improved, as did the number of declarations received by 31 May 2021, namely, 81 compared to 72 for ADPA 2019. The adaptation to the ongoing coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic situation may well be a major reason for this increase. A timeline of ADPA submissions from 1997 to 2020 is shown in Figure 1 below.

FIGURE 1: OVERVIEW OF SUBMISSIONS OF ADPA 1997 – 2020

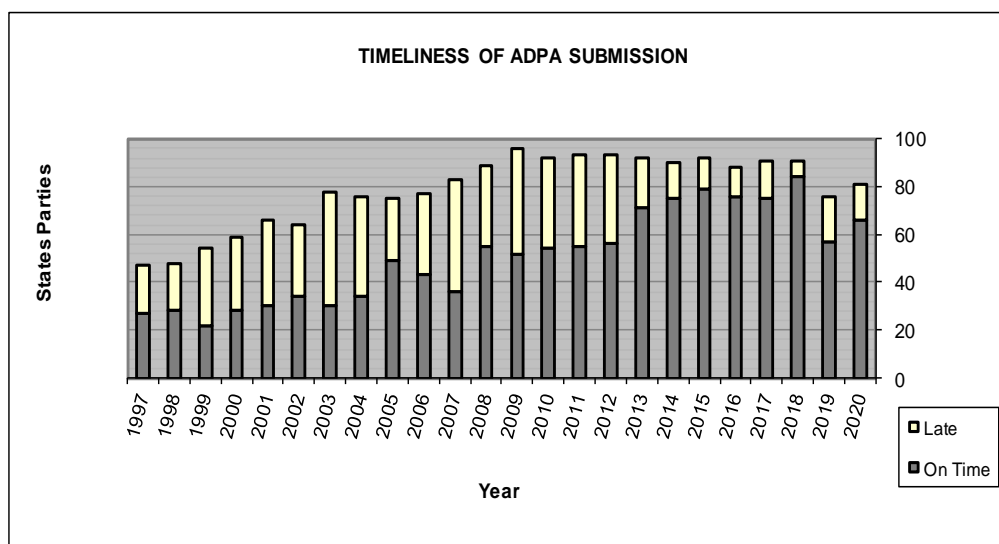
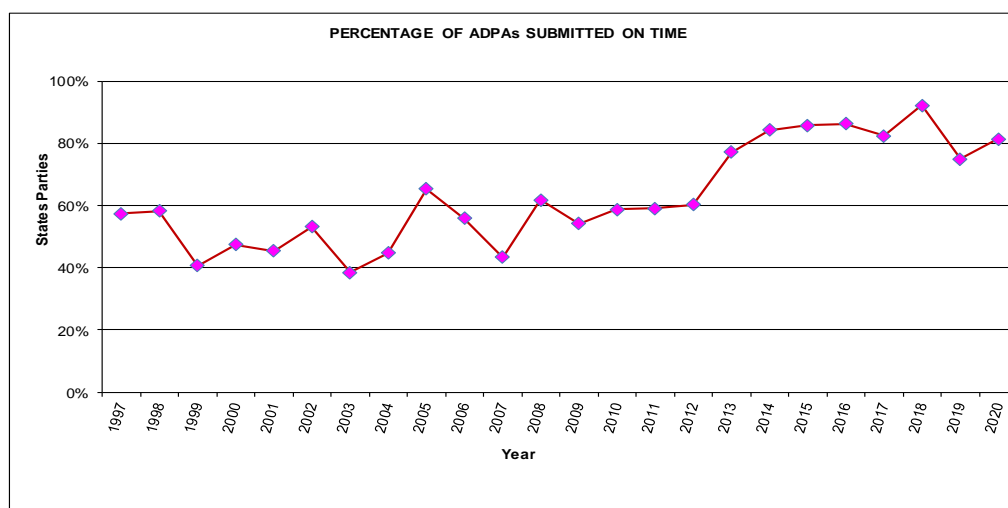


FIGURE 2: OVERVIEW OF ADPA SUBMISSIONS FROM ADPA 1997 TO ADPA 2020

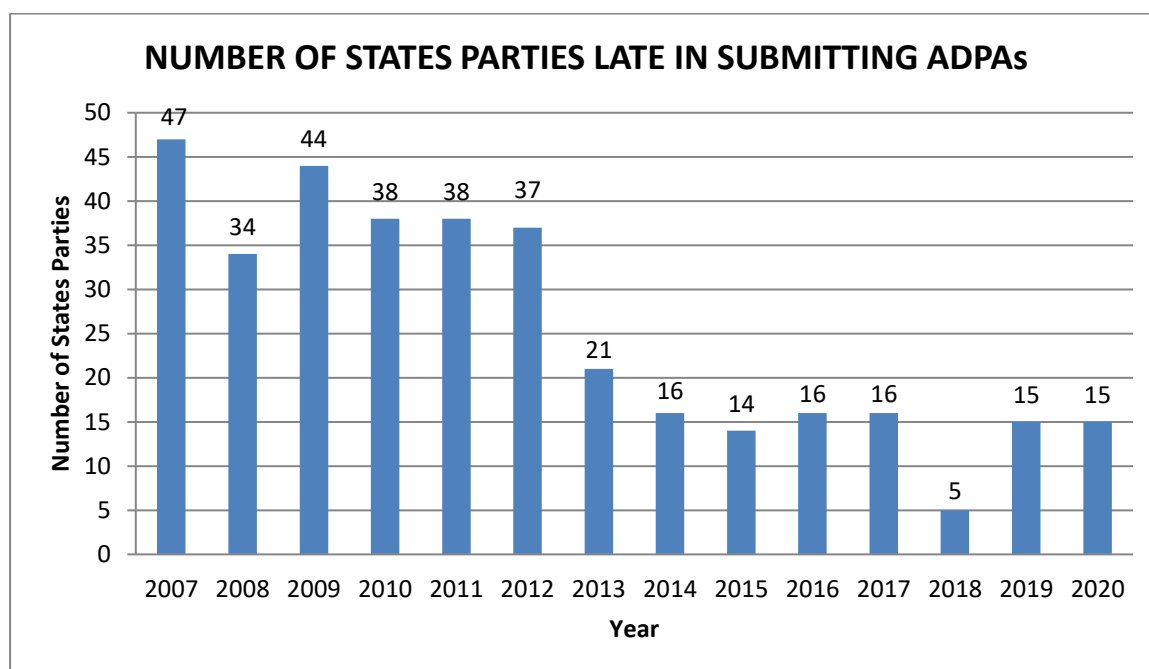


² The numbers and percentages of States Parties in this section do not include submissions of nil declarations.
³ For Figures 1 to 3, the cut-off date for submissions is 31 May for each of the respective years.

5.2 In order to highlight the importance of timely submissions and to offer advice and assistance, the Secretariat plans to contact the States Parties that have not yet submitted their annual declarations, i.e. States Parties from which the Secretariat would normally expect submissions based on the previous declaration rounds.

5.3 As at 31 May 2021, 15 States Parties were late in submitting declarable activities for ADPA 2020; 11 of these States Parties submitted their declarations within 30 days of the deadline and four submitted their declarations more than 30 days after the deadline. An overview of late submissions for ADPA 2007 to ADPA 2020 is given in Figure 3 below.

FIGURE 3: OVERVIEW OF LATE SUBMISSIONS – ADPA 2007 TO ADPA 2020



Annexes:

Annex 1: Timely Submissions of Annual Declarations on Past Activities for 2020 (as at 31 March 2021)

Annex 2: Additional Submissions of Annual Declarations on Past Activities for 2020 (as at 31 May 2021)

Annex 1

TIMELY SUBMISSIONS OF ANNUAL DECLARATIONS ON PAST ACTIVITIES FOR 2020 (AS AT 31 MARCH 2021)⁴

In the table below an asterisk (*) denotes the submission of a nil declaration.

	State Party	Schedule 1 Facilities	Schedule 1 Transfers	Schedule 2 Plant Sites	Schedule 2 AND ⁵	Schedule 3 Plant Sites	Schedule 3 AND	Schedule 3 OCPF ⁶ Update
1.	Algeria						29-Mar-21	29-Mar-21
2.	Andorra*	09-Feb-21*	09-Feb-21*	09-Feb-21*	09-Feb-21*	09-Feb-21*	09-Feb-21*	09-Feb-21*
3.	Argentina			30-Mar-21	30-Mar-21	30-Mar-21	30-Mar-21	30-Mar-21
4.	Armenia*	26-Mar-21*	26-Mar-21*	26-Mar-21*	26-Mar-21*	26-Mar-21*	26-Mar-21*	26-Mar-21*
5.	Australia	29-Mar-21		29-Mar-21	29-Mar-21	29-Mar-21	29-Mar-21	29-Mar-21
6.	Austria			29-Mar-21	29-Mar-21		29-Mar-21	29-Mar-21
7.	Bahamas*	31-Mar-21*	31-Mar-21*	31-Mar-21*	31-Mar-21*	31-Mar-21*	31-Mar-21*	
8.	Bahrain						29-Mar-21	
9.	Belgium	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-21
10.	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)						26-Mar-21	
11.	Bosnia and Herzegovina							15-Mar-21
12.	Brazil			29-Mar-21	29-Mar-21	29-Mar-21	29-Mar-21	29-Mar-21
13.	Bulgaria			31-Mar-21	31-Mar-21		31-Mar-21	31-Mar-21
14.	Burkina Faso*	30-Mar-21*	30-Mar-21*	30-Mar-21*	30-Mar-21*	30-Mar-21*	30-Mar-21*	30-Mar-21*
15.	Canada	24-Mar-21	24-Mar-21	24-Mar-21	24-Mar-21		24-Mar-21	24-Mar-21
16.	Chile						30-Mar-21	30-Mar-21
17.	China	25-Mar-21		25-Mar-21	25-Mar-21	25-Mar-21	25-Mar-21	25-Mar-21
18.	Costa Rica						30-Mar-21	30-Mar-21
19.	Croatia		15-Mar-21				15-Mar-21	15-Mar-21
20.	Cuba						30-Mar-21	30-Mar-21
21.	Cyprus*							19-Mar-21*

⁴ States Parties that submitted ADPA 2020 by the deadline.

⁵ AND = aggregate national data.

⁶ OCPF = other chemical production facility.

	State Party	Schedule 1 Facilities	Schedule 1 Transfers	Schedule 2 Plant Sites	Schedule 2 AND ⁵	Schedule 3 Plant Sites	Schedule 3 AND	OCPF ⁶ Update
52.	Oman						24-Mar-21	24-Mar-21
53.	Pakistan	29-Mar-21					29-Mar-21	29-Mar-21
54.	Peru	30-Mar-21*	30-Mar-21*	30-Mar-21*	30-Mar-21*		30-Mar-21	30-Mar-21
55.	Philippines			31-Mar-21	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-21	
56.	Poland			23-Mar-21	23-Mar-21	23-Mar-21	23-Mar-21	23-Mar-21
57.	Republic of Korea	26-Feb-21		25-Mar-21	25-Mar-21	25-Mar-21	25-Mar-21	25-Mar-21
58.	Romania			18-Mar-21*	18-Mar-21*	18-Mar-21*	18-Mar-21	18-Mar-21
59.	Saudi Arabia					11-Mar-21	11-Mar-21	11-Mar-21
60.	Singapore	19-Mar-21					19-Mar-21	19-Mar-21
61.	Slovakia	01-Mar-21		29-Mar-21	29-Mar-21	29-Mar-21	29-Mar-21	29-Mar-21
62.	Slovenia			23-Mar-21	23-Mar-21		23-Mar-21	23-Mar-21
63.	South Africa	26-Mar-21		26-Mar-21	26-Mar-21	26-Mar-21	26-Mar-21	26-Mar-21
64.	Spain	22-Mar-21		22-Mar-21	22-Mar-21	22-Mar-21	22-Mar-21	22-Mar-21
65.	Sri Lanka						29-Mar-21	
66.	Sudan*	15-Mar-21*	15-Mar-21*	15-Mar-21*	15-Mar-21*	15-Mar-21*	15-Mar-21*	15-Mar-21*
67.	Sweden	18-Mar-21	18-Mar-21	18-Mar-21	18-Mar-21	18-Mar-21	18-Mar-21	18-Mar-21
68.	Switzerland	17-Mar-21	17-Mar-21	17-Mar-21	17-Mar-21	17-Mar-21	17-Mar-21	17-Mar-21
69.	Thailand				30-Mar-21	30-Mar-21	30-Mar-21	30-Mar-21
70.	United Arab Emirates						31-Mar-21	31-Mar-21
71.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	24-Feb-21		24-Feb-21	24-Feb-21	24-Feb-21	24-Feb-21	24-Feb-21
72.	United States of America	30-Mar-21		30-Mar-21	30-Mar-21	30-Mar-21	30-Mar-21	30-Mar-21
73.	Uruguay						30-Mar-21	30-Mar-21
74.	Uzbekistan					15-Feb-21	15-Feb-21	15-Feb-21
75.	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)				29-Mar-21		29-Mar-21	29-Mar-21

Annex 2

ADDITIONAL SUBMISSIONS OF ANNUAL DECLARATIONS ON PAST ACTIVITIES FOR 2020 (AS AT 31 MAY 2021)⁷

In the table below an asterisk (*) denotes the submission of a nil declaration.

	State Party	Schedule 1 Facilities	Schedule 1 Transfers	Schedule 2 Plant Sites	Schedule 2 AND	Schedule 3 Plant Sites	Schedule 3 AND	OCPF Update
1.	Bangladesh						29-Apr-21	29-Apr-21
2.	Belarus					09-Apr-21	09-Apr-21	09-Apr-21
3.	Colombia			05-May-21			05-May-21	05-May-21
4.	Denmark ⁸	12-May-21						
5.	Greece						01-Apr-21	01-Apr-21
6.	Indonesia			20-Apr-21			20-Apr-21	20-Apr-21
7.	Iraq						12-Apr-21	12-Apr-21
8.	Kuwait						04-May-21	04-May-21
9.	Lao People's Democratic Republic					22-Apr-21	22-Apr-21	
10.	Portugal		16-Apr-21		16-Apr-21	16-Apr-21	16-Apr-21	16-Apr-21
11.	Qatar						01-Apr-21	01-Apr-21
12.	Russian Federation			16-Apr-21	16-Apr-21	16-Apr-21	16-Apr-21	16-Apr-21
13.	Serbia	14-Apr-21					14-Apr-21	14-Apr-21
14.	Tunisia*	07-Apr-21*	07-Apr-21*	07-Apr-21*	07-Apr-21*	07-Apr-21*	07-Apr-21*	07-Apr-21*
15.	Turkey			21-May-21	21-May-21	21-May-21	21-May-21	21-May-21
16.	Ukraine			26-May-21	26-May-21		26-May-21	26-May-21
17.	Viet Nam						06-Apr-21	06-Apr-21

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States Parties that submitted ADPA 2020 after the deadline and up to and including 31 May 2021.

8

Also listed under Annex 1 in relation to declarations made under other parts of the Verification Annex to the Convention.