



S/1976/2021

22 July 2021

ARABIC and ENGLISH only

**NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT**

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A SUBREGIONAL TRAINING COURSE  
ON FULFILLING DECLARATIONS AND INSPECTIONS OBLIGATIONS  
UNDER ARTICLE VI OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION  
FOR ARABIC-SPEAKING STATES PARTIES  
IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA  
13 – 30 SEPTEMBER 2021**

1. The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) is pleased to announce that an online subregional training course on fulfilling declarations and inspections obligations under Article VI of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) for Arabic-speaking States Parties in the Middle East and North Africa will be held from 13 to 30 September 2021.
2. The training course has two main objectives: to facilitate the submission by National Authorities of accurate and timely annual declarations required under Article VI of the Convention (“Activities Not Prohibited Under This Convention”); and to provide practical guidance to States Parties on receiving and escorting OPCW inspections. The training course is also intended to raise general awareness among stakeholders on the requirements under Article VI of the Convention regarding national implementation.
3. This course is primarily intended for representatives of National Authorities and relevant stakeholders, particularly in the chemical industry and trade associations, who are involved in compiling data and preparing national declarations and in the inspection process.
4. The course will provide participants with an opportunity to refresh their knowledge and skills relating to Article VI requirements. The course will also provide information on recent developments around Article VI and offer participants an opportunity to share experiences, ask questions, and clarify and discuss related issues.
5. The training course comprises the following three steps:
  - (a) self-paced learning of resources that will be made available in Arabic on the OPCW online learning platform, TalentSoft (from 13 to 30 September 2021);
  - (b) a three-hour live session (online): declaration exercises using the Electronic Declaration Information System (EDIS) software and Q&A (28 September 2021) in English, with simultaneous interpretation into Arabic; and



- (c) a three-hour live session (online): a mock inspection exercise, followed by discussion and Q&A (30 September 2021) in English, with simultaneous interpretation into Arabic.
6. The topics covered by this training course are as follows:
  - (a) training objectives, programme overview, pre- and post-training activities;
  - (b) updates on Article VI-related issues;
  - (c) status of national implementation of Article VI of the Convention (declarations and inspections);
  - (d) activities monitored under Article VI of the Convention and related declaration requirements;
  - (e) identification of declarable activities;
  - (f) State Party experience and practice;
  - (g) electronic declaration tools – EDIS and the Secure Information Exchange (SIX) system;
  - (h) mandate of OPCW industry inspections and the role of the National Authority and industry in receiving and escorting inspections;
  - (i) pre-inspection planning, on-site and post-inspection activities;
  - (j) the next steps following an OPCW inspection; and
  - (k) contribution of the Article VI verification regime to countering terrorism.
7. States Parties are requested to disseminate information on this training course to the national stakeholders. Participants must:
  - (a) be involved, at the national level, in the fulfilment of Article VI obligations (identification of declarable activities, preparation of annual declarations, receiving and escorting OPCW inspections);
  - (b) not have participated in this training courses in the past five years;
  - (c) have a good command of Arabic; and
  - (d) have completed and submitted the Self-Assessment and Training Action Plan Form (Annex 2). These two documents should be filled out electronically by the nominated participant him/herself in either English or Arabic. A Microsoft Word version of the forms can be obtained from the Implementation Support Branch by writing to the project assistant of this training course, Mr Victor Barros Correia ([victor.barros-correia@opcw.org](mailto:victor.barros-correia@opcw.org)), with “online Article VI training” clearly stated in the subject line of the message.

8. Nominated participants are strongly encouraged to complete the OPCW e-learning modules described below, which are available in English, French, and Spanish only (<https://www.opcw.org/opcw-e-learning>):
  - (a) Identification of Declarable Activities Under Article VI of the Convention;
  - (b) Introduction to Article VI Declarations;
  - (c) Introduction to the Electronic Declaration Information System (EDIS);
  - (d) Introduction to the Secure Information Exchange (SIX) system; and
  - (e) Preparing for and Receiving an Article VI Inspection by Plant Site.
9. Moreover, it is mandatory for participants in this training course to review pre-recorded presentations (please refer to subparagraph 5(a) of this Note) and other materials that will be made available in Arabic from 13 September 2021. Without completing the self-paced study of these materials, participants will not be able to participate effectively in two live exercise sessions on 28 and 30 September.
10. Interested applicants are invited to register their application online through Eventus, the OPCW event management system (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>). Please note that Eventus registration can be conducted only in English. Applicants should first create an account and then register for the event (use of Google Chrome is advisable). Each application must be endorsed by the Head or Chief Coordinator of the National Authority of the applicant's State Party through the submission of the endorsement form (attached as Annex 1 to this Note), which must be signed and stamped.
11. The National Authority Endorsement Form and the Self-Assessment and Training Action Plan Form need to be uploaded in Eventus before the deadline for the application, **27 August 2021**.
12. Additional information about the course may be obtained from the Implementation Support Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the Secretariat. The contact persons are Mr James Pettit (email: [james.pettit@opcw.org](mailto:james.pettit@opcw.org)) and Mr Victor Barros Correia ([victor.barros-correia@opcw.org](mailto:victor.barros-correia@opcw.org)).

Annexes:

- Annex 1: National Authority Endorsement Form  
Annex 2: Self-Assessment and Training Action Plan Form

**Annex 1**

**ONLINE SUBREGIONAL TRAINING COURSE  
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**ENDORSEMENT BY THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY**

This form must be duly filled and uploaded when registering the participant electronically  
(<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>).

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Head/Chief Coordinator of the  
National Authority of the State Party of \_\_\_\_\_,  
on behalf of the Government of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby endorse the  
application of Mr/Ms \_\_\_\_\_, holding the  
position/designation of \_\_\_\_\_  
in the Office/Division/Branch of \_\_\_\_\_,  
for participation in the online Subregional Training Course on Fulfilling Declarations and  
Inspections Obligations Under Article VI of the Chemical Weapons Convention for  
Arabic-Speaking States Parties in the Middle East and North Africa, to be held  
**from 13 to 30 September 2021.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
[an electronic signature is acceptable]

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

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

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

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

Official seal of the Organisation:

**Deadline for applications: 27 August 2021**

## Annex 2

**ONLINE SUBREGIONAL TRAINING COURSE  
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**SELF-ASSESSMENT AND TRAINING ACTION PLAN**

The two tables below must be completed by the applicant of the training course him/herself.

The tables should be completed **electronically** and submitted as part of the application requirements through Eventus (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>) by **Friday, 27 August 2021**.

**SELF-ASSESSMENT**

Name of participant	
Job title and organisation	
State Party	
Your experience in relation to fulfilling Article VI obligations	
Status of Article VI implementation in your country (including the number of sites declared, the number of OPCW inspections received, etc.)	
What are the issues or challenges that need to be addressed and overcome to enhance the level of Article VI implementation in your country?	
By participating in this training course, what specific areas would you like to improve in regard to the implementation of Article VI in your country?	
Does the National Authority of your country use the Electronic Declaration Information System (EDIS) and the Secure Information Exchange (SIX) system?	EDIS: Yes [ ] No [ ] SIX: Yes [ ] No [ ] Comments:
Installation of EDIS software is recommended for the National Authority and other national stakeholders participating in this training course.	I agree to install EDIS software on my computer ahead of the training course. Yes [ ] No [ ] Comments:

### TRAINING ACTION PLAN

Please indicate at least one area/challenge:

Areas of Article VI national implementation that need to be improved/enhanced.	Please specify your own action plan and time frame to address the areas identified.	Please explain how your participation in the training course will have a positive impact on the areas identified. How would the impact be measured?
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	3	3