

**REPORT OF THE ELEVENTH SESSION  
OF THE ADVISORY BOARD ON EDUCATION AND OUTREACH****1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session**

1.1 The Advisory Board on Education and Outreach (ABEO) met for its Eleventh Session on 26 and 27 July 2021. The meeting was conducted in a virtual format as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

1.2 The Chairperson of the ABEO for 2021, Dr Johannes-Georg Weinig, opened the session at 14:05 on 26 July 2021. Dr Weinig commented that this would be the last official meeting of the ABEO in its current composition, as several Board members would have served a second term by December 2021. After welcoming all Board members as well as observers from the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) and the OPCW Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), the Chairperson highlighted that Ms Kayoko Gotoh, the Director of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division (ICA), would be delivering a welcome address. In addition, Dr Adriana Bernacchi would be presenting a proposal on the creation of regional online modules for National Authorities. Dr Weinig noted that several important topics were on the agenda, including an update on the work of the Temporary Working Group (TWG) on e-Learning. The update, focusing on the final report of the TWG, would be attached to the annual report of the ABEO. Other interesting topics on the agenda included a proposal for the creation of an “ABEO Alumni Network”, which would benefit the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) at no cost, as well as a presentation by Prof. Fatima Lamchouri on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on teaching and how to use active learning via videoconferencing in this context.

1.3 A list of participants is contained in the Annex to this report.

**2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Adoption of the agenda**

The ABEO adopted the following agenda for its Eleventh Session:

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Welcome address by the Director of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division

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\* Reissued in English for technical reasons.



4. Appointment of a drafting committee
5. Update on the work of the Temporary Working Group on e-Learning and its final report
6. Proposal on the creation of regional modules for National Authorities within the framework of Project 5A on the development of e-Learning modules
7. Proposal on the creation of an “ABEO Alumni Network”
8. Introduction to the functions of the recently created ABEO channel
9. Presentation on the “Impact of COVID-19 in teaching and how to use active learning via videoconferencing”, by Professor Fatima Lamchouri
10. Contribution to the United Nations Secretary-General’s Report on Disarmament Education
11. Update by the Secretary of the ABEO, with a particular focus on Projects 5A (development of e-learning modules) and 5B (translation and dissemination of education and outreach tools and materials)
12. Identification of education and outreach tools and materials for translation and dissemination
13. Report on intersessional activities of Board members
14. Discussion among Board members on intersessional work

**3. AGENDA ITEM THREE – Welcome address by the Director of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division**

- 3.1 The Director of the ICA welcomed the ABEO members to the Eleventh Session of the Board and remarked that several of the topics on the agenda were either relevant to the ICA or referred to areas of already ongoing cooperation between the Board and the Division. The Director of the ICA further highlighted that the Division and the ABEO shared the goal of ensuring that the education and outreach activities of the OPCW that were aimed at promoting implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) were impactful, sustainable, and cost-effective, and that they benefitted from the latest advances in the fields of learning and stakeholder engagement. She highlighted in this regard that there had been ongoing cooperation between the ICA and the Board since its inception in 2016, when members of the Board had participated in the annual meeting of National Authorities. More recently, in June 2021, the participation of ABEO members in the Nineteenth Regional Meeting of National Authorities in Africa and in the Twenty-Second Regional Meeting of National Authorities in Latin America and the Caribbean resulted in the National Authorities gaining knowledge of and appreciation for the usefulness of the ABEO’s education and outreach materials. The Director of the ICA affirmed that the provision by the ICA of capacity-building support to the States Parties was essential to enhancing the implementation of the Convention. Since June 2020, despite restrictions under the COVID-19 pandemic, the ICA had conducted 82 online events which accommodated some 3,500 participants from all geographical regions, representing an 86% increase in the average participation per event when compared to the average prior to COVID-19.

The Director of the ICA underlined that online learning was not intended to replace in-person events, but rather to complement and enrich them, and that it had a potential to reach out to larger—and possibly so far untapped—pools of stakeholders. Further, in terms of specific outreach initiatives conducted by the ICA, the Director briefed the Board on four specific initiatives: the Women in Chemistry Symposium; Women First Responders in Chemical Emergencies; Youth Training Programmes; and Alumni Networks of various ICA Programmes. She particularly highlighted an upcoming new effort to reach out to students as key future stakeholders and contributors to Convention implementation. The Director of the ICA also highlighted the usefulness of the virtual networks of alumni of the Associate Programme, the Chemical Safety and Security Programme, the Women in Chemistry Symposium, and the Africa Programme, which all contributed to ensuring further dissemination of knowledge and to promoting the exchange of experiences in relation to the Convention and the work of the OPCW.

- 3.2 The Director of the ICA further added that while in-person activities would continue to be the core and preferred modality for the delivery of training, online learning could be leveraged, as appropriate, to supplement, complement, and thereby further enhance future in-person courses. Currently, the ICA, in collaboration with the ABEO's TWG on e-Learning, was updating six online general e-learning modules, developing three new modules, and consolidating the 10 current modules on the transfers regime for scheduled chemicals and on customs. These endeavours were aimed at rendering the e-learning modules even more accessible, interactive, user-friendly, and relevant. Furthermore, the Director of the ICA underscored that the OPCW Centre for Chemistry and Technology (ChemTech Centre), which was expected to be operational in 2023, would offer a unique and unprecedented opportunity to significantly scale up capacity-building support for the benefit of States Parties. The idea of transforming the ChemTech Centre into a repository of knowledge related to the Convention and a hub for sharing and disseminating that knowledge and associated skills to relevant experts across the globe was a key vision of the Director-General. For this reason, the Director of the ICA encouraged the ABEO members to provide concrete inputs and fresh ideas on the potential that the ChemTech Centre presented, particularly in regard to outreach and raising awareness of the OPCW's mission.
- 3.3 In response to a question from the Board members, the Director of the ICA shared her views on how online learning could support and complement in-person training in a hybrid format. For example, to enhance advance preparations, online modules could be made available in preparation for an in-person session. Prior to an in-person event, participants could already secure basic knowledge through online learning tools provided by the ICA, such as self-paced e-learning modules, recorded presentations, and scenario-based exercises and quizzes, thereby enabling in-person events to focus on deeper learning through extensive interactions among participants. Such a hybrid method was already proving to be effective and, as an example, the Director of the ICA noted the online modules that were being used for the Associate Programme since last year.
- 3.4 In response to a question regarding the methodology for the selection of participants, the Director of the ICA explained the established procedure under which participants were nominated/endorsed by the National Authorities of States Parties. Asked about the possible weaknesses of online learning, the Director of the ICA opined that this method could not replicate the key advantage of in-person courses, such as human interaction and real-time networking. Other challenges with online courses could include more limited

means to bolster interaction and engagement among participants, as well as varied levels of Internet connectivity and accessibility across States Parties. Finally, multilingualism was very important to promote greater engagement and interactions. The Director of the ICA informed the Board that her Division, with great support from the Information Services Branch, had recently begun to make use of an online platform known as KUDO, which enabled simultaneous interpretation during online meetings. The experience with this platform in the meetings of National Authorities, for example, had been positive.

- 3.5 The subsequent discussion with the Board members touched upon the following topics:
- (a) continuing opportunities for the ABEO to participate in National Authorities' meetings in a format suitable to foster active engagement with National Authorities;
  - (b) opportunities and challenges in combining online education and in-person meetings, and devising interactive methodologies to ensure a smooth linkage between online and in-person meetings; and
  - (c) experiences with alumni networks in the Associate Programme, the Chemical Safety and Security Programme, the Women in Chemistry Symposium, and the Africa Programme.

#### **4. AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Appointment of a drafting committee**

The ABEO appointed Dr Johannes-Georg Weinig, Mr Shahab Ud Din, Dr Craig Cormick, and Dr Jean Pascal Zanders to the drafting committee.

#### **5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – Update on the work of the Temporary Working Group on e-Learning and its final report**

- 5.1 The Chairperson of the TWG on e-Learning, Prof. Rocael Hernández Rizzardini, delivered a presentation focusing on the content of the final report of the TWG, and informed the ABEO that the final report would be sent to the ABEO in the course of the week. He also thanked the Secretariat for its support during the various meetings of the TWG, including the two virtual meetings, with the involvement of several staff and Board members.
- 5.2 After highlighting that in 2019, well ahead of the current pandemic, the ABEO had already stressed the need to review the e-learning activities of the Secretariat, Prof. Hernández Rizzardini presented on the executive summary of the final report of the TWG, the virtual meetings of the TWG in November 2020 and April 2021, and the TWG's main recommendations. The main recommendations of the TWG were to follow a common approach for the development of e-learning modules, to build a unique e-learning strategy for the Secretariat, with e-learning activities centralised in a committee, unit, or working group responsible for e-learning, and to build alliances with universities.
- 5.3 Prof. Tatsuya Abe commented that the lack of a coordinating e-learning unit at the Secretariat was of concern, given the growing importance of e-learning. Prof. Abe wondered if the future ChemTech Centre could harbour such a unit.

- 5.4 The Chairperson of the ABEO agreed that the ChemTech Centre could perhaps have a unit for e-learning with coordinating functions in the maintenance, update, and development of e-learning modules.
  - 5.5 Prof. Alastair Hay congratulated the Chairperson of the TWG and its members for their good and comprehensive work and stressed that the OPCW should now consider whether to follow the recommendations.
  - 5.6 The Chairperson of the TWG commented that he hoped that the recommendations would have some impact on the Organisation.
  - 5.7 The Vice-Chairperson of the ABEO, Mr Shahab Ud Din, highlighted that it seemed that e-learning was now intimately linked with the future programmes of the OPCW's training modules. Therefore, it was important for the TWG, the Secretary of the ABEO, and the Secretariat to remain in close liaison to further refine the relevant training modules. The Vice-Chairperson added that the ChemTech Centre could be the launching pad for future e-learning initiatives.
  - 5.8 The Secretary of the ABEO thanked the Chairperson of the TWG and its members for their work and commented that the recommendations were pertinent, and that in her view they would foster reflection within the Secretariat. The Secretariat would assess these recommendations and analyse whether or not they were feasible. Regarding the procedure for endorsement by the ABEO of this final report, she informed the Board that the final report of the TWG would normally be attached to the annual report of the ABEO, to be submitted in early September. For this reason, the ABEO would need to review the final report and endorse it during the following week, i.e. not later than 5 August 2021.
- 6. AGENDA ITEM SIX – Proposal on the creation of regional modules for National Authorities within the framework of Project 5A on the development of e-Learning modules**
- 6.1 Dr Adriana Bernacchi circulated in advance of the meeting a draft proposal on the creation of regional modules for National Authorities within the framework of Project 5A on the development of e-learning modules (run with the financial support of the European Union). Following the experience of several Board members in their interaction with National Authorities over the past year, Doctor Bernacchi concluded that there was a need to structure a dialogue in order to better serve the needs of National Authorities. Very often, regional meetings of National Authorities were filled with relevant information on declarations, transfer discrepancies, etc. and, as a result, there was not enough time for the ABEO to better explain why education and outreach mattered and how educational resources could be better used by National Authorities and help them in the implementation of the Convention.
  - 6.2 For this reason, there was a need to first identify the main features of National Authorities in each region and their needs. If this information could be provided by the Secretariat, the ABEO could better focus on building a dialogue with National Authorities in each separate region. The ABEO could provide advice on how the National Authorities in each region could go about relating to other stakeholders (academia, professional associations, etc.) in cases where they had not yet built a network with them. The ABEO could provide advice on the topics and educational

resources in a (virtual) regional meeting with the National Authorities. If IUPAC were available to also participate in these (virtual) regional meetings, it could also provide strategies and concepts relevant to liaising with scientific associations. Subsequently, this information could be used in producing one or two brochures for National Authorities or a set of regional online courses that could be translated into all official OPCW languages.

6.3 Board members endorsed the proposal and agreed to start work in an open-ended working group during the intersessional period.

**7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Proposal on the creation of an “ABEO Alumni Network”**

7.1 Dr Jean Pascal Zanders explained his proposal to create an ABEO alumni network, with the aim of preserving as much knowledge and expertise as possible in the realm of the OPCW. The alumni network would be open to former ABEO members who could then volunteer their expertise and knowledge to the Secretariat at no cost. The alumni network would not entail any formal agreement and would not interfere with the ABEO’s role.

7.2 An important aspect of the network idea would be to maintain the relationship among persons who served in the ABEO, possibly through the exchange of information on their current educational projects or the development of ideas for joint initiatives, and to contribute to the OPCW’s education and outreach work at the request of the Secretariat.

7.3 Network members could be available to provide advice on an as-needed basis, or to review project proposals and project outcomes, among others.

7.4 Board members endorsed the proposal and agreed that the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson would send letters inviting outgoing and former ABEO members to join the network.

**8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – Introduction to the functions of the recently created ABEO channel**

8.1 Mr Unnikannan Ayilliath, Software Developer in the Information Services Branch, delivered a presentation on the main functionalities and features of the ABEO channel, which had been created on an online platform for Board members. He provided a live demonstration in order to explain to Board members how to communicate and collaborate on the platform, and to share items such as documents and presentations.

8.2 The Chairperson of the ABEO thanked Mr Ayilliath for his presentation and demonstration.

8.3 Mr Ayilliath informed the Board of his availability to answer any questions related to the functioning of this channel; questions could be sent by ABEO Board members through the Secretary.

**9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – Presentation on the “Impact of COVID-19 in teaching and how to use active learning via videoconferencing”, by Professor Fatima Lamchouri**

- 9.1 Board member Prof. Fatima Lamchouri shared her experience in using active learning during the COVID-19 pandemic to teach students at two universities in Morocco. This involved three modules for undergraduate students at the Polydisciplinary Faculty of Taza of the Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University of Fez, and two modules for master’s degree students at the School of Agriculture, Fertilization and Environmental Sciences of the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University of Ben Guerir.
- 9.2 In March 2020, with the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Moroccan authorities urgently implemented distance learning to ensure continuity of education. Measures to save the academic year included placing all available pedagogical resources on the university e-learning platforms, followed by the training of teachers on how to use the platform to give videoconferences and stay in touch with students. Furthermore, to bridge the gap of the lack of Internet connectivity for some students, but also the lack of access to computers and mobile phones, teachers recorded and delivered courses on national television and radio channels to enable students and pupils to participate in learning activities remotely.
- 9.3 Referring to her work with undergraduate students at the University of Fez, Prof. Lamchouri noted the use of an open-source e-learning platform for two-way communication with students, as well as for sharing documents, didactic materials, assignments, timetables of sessions, and announcements related to individual modules. Teaching methods included active learning through several videoconference exercises and tutorials designed to ensure interactivity between facilitators and students, with discussions and solutions provided. One of the main challenges encountered during this endeavour was how to carry out practical exercises, which represented 25% to 50% of the total time to be spent on the module. A solution was to place the instructions for students on the platform and to carry out practical work in smaller groups of 13 to 15 students each. The final exams were organised in standard and remedial sessions in an individual face-to-face format.
- 9.4 Turning to her experience in teaching two modules for master’s students, Prof. Lamchouri explained that these modules were for smaller groups of 10 students each, with more possibilities for active e-learning. The lessons were organised in the form of theoretical courses, alternated with practical lessons and facilitated exercises, using new teaching and learning methods, including active learning and evaluation. Interactions between the teacher and students was achieved through group learning, brainstorming, case studies, films, role play, and group presentations. The module was organised into five elements, with individual and group exercises performed in virtual classrooms and at home, followed by the final individual oral exam.
- 9.5 In conclusion, in regard to the lessons learned, Prof. Lamchouri noted that the pandemic had accelerated the distance learning process, with universities now being able to give students an opportunity to access higher education from anywhere, at any time. E-learning had proved to be a useful distance learning teaching tool as it was accessible to students at any location, allowing teachers and students to overcome the physical limitations of a classroom and to communicate synchronously using various features (audio, video, text chat, interactive whiteboard, and application sharing). This had

enabled universities and companies to offer their students and staff more flexible learning opportunities (combining study, work, and family life), while teachers, educators, and facilitators were encouraged to be more inventive and creative in meeting the challenges of rapid and accelerating change in their profession. Finally, Prof. Lamchouri noted that the changes in teaching and education methods could provide the OPCW with more opportunities and means to interact with States Parties.

**10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – Contribution to the United Nations Secretary-General’s Report on Disarmament Education**

10.1 Dr Bernacchi delivered a presentation on a proposal related to the contribution of the ABEO to the United Nations Secretary-General’s Report on Disarmament Education, which was published on a biennial basis. The OPCW had contributed to these reports in 2012, 2014, 2016, and 2020. Taking into account that the next report would be published in 2022, a contribution could be prepared by the ABEO, and the Secretariat could incorporate that contribution into its own submission to the Secretary-General’s report. The proposal also contained an initiative to share OPCW education and outreach tools and resources, by adding links to the OPCW website on the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) webpages devoted to disarmament education<sup>1</sup> in the following areas: educational activities, presentations, disarmament explainer videos, publications, podcasts, films and videos, specialised courses and degrees, educational resources for teachers and students, the United Nations system, outside resources, and the disarmament education dashboard.

10.2 Board members endorsed this proposal and agreed to work on this during the intersessional period.

10.3 The Secretary of the ABEO mentioned that the Secretariat would need to confirm internally whether sharing of these resources with the United Nations was possible and, if so, how to do so.

**11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Update by the Secretary of the ABEO, with a particular focus on Projects 5A (development of e-learning modules) and 5B (translation and dissemination of education and outreach tools and materials)**

The Secretary of the ABEO provided an update on developments since the Ninety-Seventh Session of the Executive Council, including on the ChemTech Centre, the biennial Draft Programme and Budget for 2022 – 2023, the composition of the Secretariat, and the need to raise awareness about professional opportunities at the OPCW, and the possible role of the ABEO in this regard. The Secretary then informed the Board that 30 April 2022 was the deadline for the implementation period of the remaining funds for Projects 5A (development of e-learning modules) and 5B (translation and dissemination of education and outreach materials).<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.disarmamenteducation.org>.

<sup>2</sup> Both projects are run with financial support from the European Union.

**12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Identification of education and outreach tools and materials for translation and dissemination**

- 12.1 The Secretary of the ABEO informed the Board that the Office of Strategy and Policy had identified the final report of the TWG on e-Learning as an educational resource that warranted translation into all OPCW official languages. The Board agreed that it would be very useful to have this final report translated into these languages.
- 12.2 The Board was encouraged to identify two or three resources that could be proposed for translation and dissemination within the framework of Project 5B.

**13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Report on intersessional activities of Board members**

- 13.1 The ABEO Chairperson, Dr Johannes-Georg Weinig, mentioned his intersessional activities between January and June 2021 including:
- (a) delivering a statement on 12 April on behalf of the ABEO at the Twenty-Fifth Session of the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”);<sup>3</sup>
  - (b) generating the support of the German Chemical Society, the European Chemical Society, the Royal Society of Chemistry, and the Royal Netherlands Chemical Society for the new OPCW ChemTech Centre;
  - (c) giving a presentation entitled “The Hague Ethical Guidelines – Creation, Implementation and Impact” at the online conference “Dual Use in Chemical research: Opportunities, Risks and Responsibility”, organised by the Leopoldina-DFG (German Research Foundation) Joint Committee on the Handling of Security-Relevant Research, in cooperation with the German Chemical Society, 31 May 2021;
  - (d) attending an online meeting of the European Chemical Society Working Party “Ethics in Chemistry” on 7 June; and
  - (e) giving a presentation, together with Prof. Alastair Hay, at the Nineteenth Regional Meeting of National Authorities in Africa, 15 to 17 June (online) on “How CWC implementation can foster scientific and economic development triggered by education and outreach activities”.
- 13.2 Dr Weinig informed the Board that his contribution/presentation on the “OPCW Advisory Board on Education and Outreach – Supporting the OPCW’s Engagement with External Partners” had been accepted to be given at the SCIENCE · PEACE · SECURITY ’21 Conference, to be held from 8 to 10 September 2021 in Aachen, Germany (online).<sup>4</sup>
- 13.3 Finally, Dr Weinig informed the Board about his promising correspondence with Wolfgang Huang (Director, Executive Secretariat, Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings) and Prof. Wolfgang Lubitz (Council Vice-President, Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings) about the invitation extended to Director-General Fernando Arias to the 2022 Lindau

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<sup>3</sup> See <https://www.opcw.org/sites/default/files/documents/2021/04/c25wp01%28e%29.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> See <https://peasec.de/2020/sps21/>.

Meeting of Nobel Laureates in Chemistry. The main goal of this participation would be to promote the ChemTech Centre and the Nobel laureates as “Ambassadors” of the ChemTech Centre.

- 13.4 The Vice-Chairperson of the ABEO also apprised the Board members of his participation in intersessional activities conducted between January and June, as follows:
- (a) Pakistan had organised an international course on reconnaissance and sample operations in a highly contaminated environment (online) from 15 to 19 March 2021 in collaboration with the OPCW. The Vice-Chairperson acted as a resource person during the course and delivered a number of lectures. During the question-and-answer session, he was part of the panel that answered the various queries of the participants. This online course was a capacity-building initiative to support full implementation of Article X of the Convention. This was the first international online course organised by Pakistan and was attended by 181 participants from 41 countries worldwide.
  - (b) The course on legislative and regulatory issues in chemical security was conducted at national level in Pakistan on 27 and 28 May 2021. The course was attended by 44 participants representing academia, industry, other national institutes, the chemical industry, and the National Authority of Pakistan. The Vice-Chairperson acted as member of the instructional team during this course, which provided conceptual and technical knowledge to the participants on the legal and regulatory aspects of chemical security and how to address the related issues at the national level.
  - (c) The online chemical and biological emergency response management course was held from 21 to 25 June 2021. The course aimed to create and enhance the awareness of the participants about chemical and biological threats and to train them to effectively respond in cases of chemical or biological incidents or accidents. The course was attended by, among others, officers of the Tri Services of Pakistan. The Vice-Chairperson acted as a resource person during the course.
- 13.5 Dr Jean Pascal Zanders presented his experience with virtual education and outreach strategies gained through an educational project conducted as part of the European Union Targeted Initiatives concerning chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) dual-use export controls. Speaking of post-pandemic options, he noted the possibilities of preceding or supplementing in-person seminars and the like with virtual events to support sustainability of education. These events could involve participants additional to those selected for the physical events, and webinars could be organised to promote networking among different stakeholder communities and/or different countries.
- 13.6 On 7 July 2021, Prof. Alastair Hay gave a short presentation on The Hague Ethical Guidelines to the security subcommittee of the International Chemical Trade Association (ICTA). After a question-and-answer session, the subcommittee decided to recommend to the full board of the ICTA that it endorse the guidelines and, should it do so, that it inform the Director-General of its decision.

- 13.7 Prof. Hay had also been a member of one of the three World Health Organization working groups that were producing guidance on biosecurity for the biological sciences. Prof. Hay's working group was focused on awareness raising, and many of the OPCW's ABEO publications would be referenced and promoted. Prof. Hay had also been involved with a working group coordinated by Johns Hopkins University and China's Tianjin University, in cooperation with the International Academy Partnership, which was producing a set of guidelines for the biological sciences similar in scope to The Hague Ethical Guidelines. The Tianjin Biosecurity Guidelines were now published and would be widely circulated.
- 13.8 Prof. Hay had also been a member of a small team that was producing a handbook for the OPCW on the long-term effects of exposure to chemical weapons.
- 13.9 Dr Bernacchi shared with the Board her intersessional activities, which included:
- (a) working as a postgraduate professor at the Nonproliferation for Global Security Foundation (NPSGlobal). The eight modules on non-proliferation of chemical and biological weapons and export controls of dual-use materials and technology were delivered via online synchronous learning;
  - (b) facilitating the participation of eight chemistry students from the Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences of the University of Buenos Aires and two postgraduates from NPSGlobal in the virtual OPCW visit on 21 May 2021;
  - (c) participating in the Twenty-Second Regional Meeting of National Authorities of States Parties in Latin America and the Caribbean on 10 June 2021;<sup>5</sup>
  - (d) speaking as an invited professor at the first workshop on chemical weapons in the "National Defense and CBRNe" series (online synchronous mode on 24 June 2021);<sup>6</sup>
  - (e) presenting on "The Chemical and Biological and Toxins Weapons Conventions" at the "International Disarmament and Non-proliferation Regimes" national workshop, organised by the Government of Peru and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (event held in online synchronous mode on 16 July 2021); and
  - (f) participating in the second (virtual) meeting of the TWG on e-Learning, held on 28 April 2021.
- 13.10 Professor Bin Maah commented that he had reported on the Tenth Session of the ABEO in a meeting held on 9 March.
- 13.11 The Board took note of the intersessional activities of the Board members, several of which had already been shared during an informal intersessional meeting on 22 June 2021.

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<sup>5</sup> Presentation entitled "Strengthening the education and outreach efforts in the academic and industrial sectors aiming for a deeper implementation of the CWC".

<sup>6</sup> Presentation entitled "Chemical weapons and international control agreements". National Defense University.

**14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Discussion among ABEO members on intersessional work**

- 14.1 Board members agreed to organise their work during the intersessional period through two open-ended working groups. The first would be tasked with preparing a contribution from the ABEO to be included in the Secretariat's submission to the United Nations Secretary-General's Report on Disarmament Education for 2022 and with selecting educational resources that could be shared with UNODA on its webpage. The second working group would work on the proposal to initiate a dialogue with National Authorities as well as on creating regional online courses for National Authorities, or the content for two subsequently planned brochures for National Authorities on the reasons why education and outreach can be useful to them in reaching out to academia and scientific associations, and on how education and outreach can contribute to the implementation of the Convention. Technical issues related to the planned brochures, were they to be chosen as a suitable product, would be discussed and agreed with the Public Affairs Branch in due course.
- 14.2 The Chairperson thanked all Board members for their work and the Secretariat for its technical and administrative support, and reminded the Board this would be the last official meeting of the Board in its current composition. The election of a new Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for 2022 would not take place during the summer session but rather at the next official ABEO meeting in 2022, taking into account that the composition of the Board would change from January 2022.
- 14.3 Work during the intersessional period would continue and would include an informal intersessional meeting before the end of 2021, as well as the preparation of a statement by the Chairperson on behalf of the Board to be delivered at the Twenty-Sixth Session of the Conference.
- 14.4 The Chairperson closed the Eleventh Session of the Board at 16:15 CET on 27 July 2021.

Annex: List of Participants in the Eleventh Session of the Advisory Board on Education and Outreach

**Annex**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS\* IN THE ELEVENTH SESSION  
OF THE ADVISORY BOARD ON EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

1. Prof. Tatsuya Abe
2. Dr Adriana Bernacchi
3. Prof. Mohd Jamil Bin Maah
4. Dr Craig Cormick
5. Prof. Alastair Hay
6. Prof. Rocael Hernández Rizzardini
7. Prof. Fatima Lamchouri
8. Mr Shahab Ud Din
9. Dr Johannes-Georg Weinig
10. Dr Anna Zalewska
11. Dr Jean Pascal Zanders
12. Dr Mark Cesa (observer: IUPAC)
13. Prof. Imee Su Martinez (observer: member of the SAB)
14. Prof. Ponnadurai Ramasami (observer: member of the SAB)

\* Apologies: Ms Gaukhar Mukhatzhanova, Dr Krishnaswamy VijayRaghavan  
Absent: Dr Jo Husbands, Dr Austin Ochieng Aluoch