



S/1984/2021

24 August 2021

ENGLISH and FRENCH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR AN ONLINE TRAINING COURSE
FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF CUSTOMS TRAINING INSTITUTIONS FROM
AFRICA ON THE TRANSFERS REGIME OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS
CONVENTION
8 – 10 DECEMBER 2021**

1. The Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) wishes to invite representatives of customs training institutions of African Member States to participate in a training course on the transfers regime of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”). The training course will be held online from 8 to 10 December 2021, in cooperation with the World Customs Organization.
2. The course is primarily intended for customs officers who, within their respective customs administrations, are in charge of training activities encompassing various strategic trade control enforcement issues, including those related to the implementation of the Convention.
3. The objective of the course is to build the capacity of national customs administrations from Africa to train their customs officers on the Convention’s transfers regime of scheduled chemicals, as well as on a number of practical issues related to the role of customs administrations in controlling the trade in toxic chemicals.
4. The course will focus on the following areas:
 - (a) the OPCW, relevant provisions of the Convention, and the role of National Authorities and customs administrations in the implementation of the Convention;
 - (b) the scheduled chemicals and their identification through OPCW tools, Harmonized System (HS) codes, chemical databases, and specialised websites;
 - (c) transfers provisions on scheduled chemicals under the Convention and issues that cause discrepancies in reporting on the import and export of scheduled chemicals;
 - (d) customs-related matters such as licencing, risk management, profiling, targeting, risk assessment, risk indicators, customs checklist for document and physical control of chemical cargoes, inter alia; and
 - (e) practical exercises, discussions, and presentations.



5. Participants are expected to share information on how their authorities handle scheduled chemicals and on the relevant training programmes currently conducted for customs officers. Participants are also expected to actively take part in discussions on existing procedures governing the control of scheduled chemicals and to share best practices.
6. The provisional programme for the training course is attached as Annex 1 to this Note. Please note that the time for the training sessions is indicated as CET.
7. Each Member State is encouraged to endorse up to two participants who have customs training responsibilities within their respective customs administrations.
8. The training course will be conducted in English with interpretation into French. All participants are therefore expected to have a good command of English or French.
9. Interested customs officers are invited to register online **no later than 29 October 2021** through Eventus—the OPCW event management system (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>). Please note that all questions marked with an asterisk (*) on the online registration form must be answered in order for the candidate to be eligible for this course. **Each registration must be accompanied by an endorsement form (Annex 2) from the candidate's respective National Authority.**
10. Additional information about the training course may be obtained from the Implementation Support Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact person is Mr Pavlo Byalyk, Senior Programme Officer (email: pavlo.byalyk@opcw.org).

Annexes:

Annex 1: Provisional Programme

Annex 2: National Authority Endorsement Form

Annex 1

**ONLINE TRAINING COURSE FOR REPRESENTATIVES
OF CUSTOMS TRAINING INSTITUTIONS FROM AFRICA ON THE TRANSFERS
REGIME OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
8 – 10 DECEMBER 2021**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
<i>Wednesday, 8 December 2021</i>	
13:00 – 13:10	Opening remarks
13:10 – 13:30	Introduction of participants, levelling of expectations, and presentation of the training programme and objectives
13:30 – 14:00	Introduction to the OPCW and the Chemical Weapons Convention, roles of National Authorities and customs administrations
14:00 – 15:00	National presentations on cooperation between National Authorities and customs agencies, and ongoing national customs training programmes in the area of security and strategic trade control
<i>Thursday, 9 December 2021</i>	
13:00 – 13:30	Chemicals to be monitored under the Chemical Weapons Convention and their principal uses
13:30 – 14:00	Identifying Chemical Weapons Convention-related chemicals: The OPCW's Handbook on Chemicals, identification systems, and online chemicals databases
14:00 – 15:00	Exercise 1: Identification of chemicals
<i>Friday, 10 December 2021</i>	
13:00 – 13:30	Common problems in reporting imports/exports of scheduled chemicals
13:30 – 14:00	Exercise 2: Reporting on transfers of scheduled chemicals
14:00 – 14:50	Practical issues in controlling chemical trade
14:50 – 15:00	Conclusion and closing remarks

Annex 2

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

ENDORSEMENT BY THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY

I, (name) _____,
(designation) _____ of the National Authority of
(State Party) _____, on behalf of the Government of
(State Party) _____, hereby endorse the nomination of
Mr/Ms (nominee) _____, who has
been nominated by (nominating agency) _____
in the attached nomination form to participate in the training course for representatives of
customs training institutions from Africa on the transfers regime of the Chemical Weapons
Convention, which is scheduled to be held online from 8 to 10 December 2021.

I also certify that the above candidate has not attended any such course in the past.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Designation: _____

Official seal of the organisation: