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S/2038/2022

21 March 2022

ENGLISH and SPANISH only

**NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT**

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE TWENTY-THIRD REGIONAL MEETING  
OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES  
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN  
(ONLINE)  
14 – 16 JUNE 2022**

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-Third Regional Meeting of National Authorities of States Parties in Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC), which will be held online from 14 to 16 June 2022.
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 concerning the implementation of Articles X and XI of the Convention;
  - (e) broadening geographic representation among the Secretariat staff; and
  - (f) preparations for the Fifth Review Conference.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Fifth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.



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 an Annex 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. Interested National Authority representatives are invited to register online **between 16 April 2022 and 20 May 2022 (the latest)** through the OPCW event management system Eventus (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>). Each application must be endorsed digitally on the Eventus platform by the nominee's respective National Authority.
9. Furthermore, National Authorities may 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](mailto:sharon.rivera@opcw.org)) and Mr Victor Barros-Correia (Email: [victor.barros-correia@opcw.org](mailto:victor.barros-correia@opcw.org)).

Annex: Provisional Programme

**Annex**

**TWENTY-THIRD REGIONAL MEETING OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES  
OF STATES PARTIES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN  
(ONLINE)  
14 – 16 JUNE 2022**

**PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
<b><i>Tuesday, 14 June 2022</i></b>	
15:00 – 15:10	Opening remarks
15:10 – 15:20	Introduction: objectives and expected outcomes of the meeting
15:20 – 15:40	Update on OPCW capacity-building support related to the implementation of Articles VI and VII, including updates on the status of adoption of national implementing legislation
15:40 – 16:00	Update on OPCW capacity-building support related to the implementation of Article X
16:00 – 16:20	Update on OPCW capacity-building support related to the implementation of Article XI
16:20 – 16:30	<i>Break</i>
16:30 – 17:10	National presentations and discussions on good practices and challenges in national implementation and capacity-building needs
17:10 – 17:40	Follow-up on issues raised during previous regional and annual meetings
17:40 – 17:50	Report of the regional group Chairperson on GRULAC activities since the last regional meeting
17:50 – 18:00	Summary of Day 1
<b><i>Wednesday, 15 June 2022</i></b>	
15:00 – 15:30	Presentation and discussion on the use of SIX <sup>2</sup> and EDIS <sup>3</sup>
15:30 – 16:20	Presentation and discussion on Article VI declarations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Status of submissions of declarations</li> <li>• Trade and transfer discrepancies in the region</li> <li>• Tools and documents</li> </ul>
16:20 – 16:30	<i>Break</i>
16:30 – 17:00	Update on OPCW inspections and related issues
17:00 – 17:50	National presentations and discussions on good practices and challenges on the implementation of Article VI
17:50 – 18:00	Summary of Day 2

<sup>2</sup> SIX = Secure Information Exchange.

<sup>3</sup> EDIS = Electronic Declaration Information System.

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
<b><i>Thursday, 16 June 2022</i></b>	
15:00 – 15:40	Broadening geographic representation among OPCW Secretariat staff and the role of National Authorities
15:40 – 16:00	Overview of policy-related issues, including the Scientific Advisory Board
16:00 – 16:20	Preparations for the Fifth Review Conference
16:20 – 16:30	<i>Break</i>
16:30 – 17:00	Presentations and discussion on CHEMEX
17:00 – 17:10	Summary of Day 3
17:10 – 17:20	Closing remarks

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