



S/2097/2022  
25 August 2022  
ENGLISH only

**NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

**INVITATION TO APPLY FOR THE SEOUL WORKSHOP  
ON THE PEACEFUL DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF CHEMISTRY  
FOR MEMBER STATES OF THE OPCW IN THE ASIA REGION  
SEOUL, REPUBLIC OF KOREA  
16 – 18 NOVEMBER 2022**

1. The Director-General is pleased to invite government representatives responsible for chemical safety and security management, representatives from chemical industry associations, and managers involved in chemical industry safety and security, with a strong background in chemistry/and or chemical engineering, to submit applications for a workshop on the peaceful development and use of chemistry for Member States of the OPCW in the Asian region, to be held in Seoul, the Republic of Korea, from 16 to 18 November 2022.
2. The workshop is being organised to further promote international cooperation programmes that focus on chemical industry outreach and industry-related aspects of the implementation of Article XI of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”). The aim of this workshop is to promote the peaceful application of chemistry in the economic and technological development of the OPCW Member States. In addition, the workshop is aimed at improving the national capacities of the Member States in the region based on the experience of the Republic of Korea in chemical technology and industrial development. The workshop will raise awareness regarding dual-use chemicals and highlight process safety management in the context of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). By promoting best practices in chemical safety and security management, the workshop will benefit personnel working in chemical industry, enhance the capacities of National Authorities and chemical industry associations in Asian Member States, and indirectly benefit the general public as a whole.
3. The objectives of the workshop are to:
  - (a) foster cooperation among Member States on issues related to chemical industry towards achieving the objectives of Article XI of the Convention to promote the peaceful use of chemistry;
  - (b) enhance the safe and secure handling of chemicals at the national level;
  - (c) provide an opportunity for participating Member States to discuss challenges in chemical safety and security management;



- (d) contribute to the sharing of information and the exchange of experiences regarding practical management programmes; and
  - (e) review best practices in chemical safety and security management and generate recommendations to promote these practices in SMEs in Asian countries.
4. This workshop will allow ample time for question-and-answer sessions and will include theoretical and practical components. The workshop topics will include an overview of international cooperation programmes, the Convention, and the OPCW. During the workshop, participants will be provided with updated information on, inter alia, current practices and concepts relating to the management of chemical processes, modern safety strategies, current trends in safety and security management in the chemical industry, and emerging threats. Leading experts in chemical safety and security management will give presentations and facilitate discussions.
  5. Workshop participants will be expected to prepare brief presentations on current safety and security management practices based on their experience, including suggestions and concerns for improving the safety management culture in their respective countries or companies.
  6. The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) expects to be able to sponsor a limited number of participants. Applicants must have a relevant background in areas including but not limited to Member States’ agencies regulating and promoting chemical management, chemical industry associations, SMEs, and academia. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, meals, and medical insurance, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses. The Secretariat will also arrange and pay for accommodation for sponsored participants. A letter with the detailed programme and information on the venue will be sent to all sponsored and registered participants in due course.
  7. Each application should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of the nominee’s participation. Member States are welcome to nominate participants for whom sponsorship is not required. The Secretariat strongly encourages applications from qualified female candidates. Only selected candidates will be notified by the Secretariat.
  8. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. It will purchase tickets and send them to participants. In order for the Secretariat to keep costs to a minimum, participants are expected to arrive **no earlier than Tuesday, 15 November 2022** and to depart **no later than Saturday, 19 November 2022**. The agreement of the Secretariat is required for any changes to arrival and departure dates. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the workshop or that result from changes to travel arrangements that it has not authorised. Sponsored participants must bear all costs resulting from changes they make, including cancellations, once the Secretariat has purchased tickets. Participants who have not been sponsored are requested to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.
  9. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to the workshop. When applying for an entry visa, they should present the Embassy or Consulate of the Republic of Korea with a copy of the acceptance letter from the OPCW.

10. All participants will be required to comply with the Republic of Korea's entry requirements regarding mandatory COVID-19 vaccination and pre-boarding PCR test via the country's Q-Code system. As entry requirements are subject to change, participants are responsible for regularly checking relevant information through the nearest Republic of Korea Embassy or Consulate.
11. For participants requiring a COVID-19 PCR test on return travel, the Secretariat will cover the costs related to such tests on completion of the workshop, and in good time before the participants' travel back to their duty station/country of origin. Participants who choose not to avail themselves of this PCR test and who, as a result, incur additional costs, will bear full responsibility for this choice and will be required to cover themselves any such additional costs (including for any resulting additional accommodation and/or flight changes).
12. The workshop will be conducted entirely in English. All participants are therefore expected to have a good written and oral command of the language.
13. Interested applicants are invited to apply online through Eventus—the OPCW event management system (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>). Applicants should create an account in Eventus and then register for the training course. Please note that all questions marked with an asterisk (\*) in the online form must be answered for the candidate to be considered for this event. These applications must be reviewed and endorsed electronically through Eventus by the respective National Authorities, to be followed by a final review and approval by the Secretariat. In case the interested applicants have difficulties in submitting their application online via Eventus, the applicants are requested to send an email explaining the problem to [icb@opcw.org](mailto:icb@opcw.org) with a reference to the name and location of the event in the subject line of the message. All applications must be received by the Secretariat **no later than 8 September 2022**.
14. Additional information about the workshop may be obtained from the International Cooperation Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the OPCW. The OPCW contact persons for the workshop are Mr Taeon Kim, Programme Officer ([taeon.kim@opcw.org](mailto:taeon.kim@opcw.org)), and Ms Ting Zhang, Senior Administrative Assistant ([ting.zhang@opcw.org](mailto:ting.zhang@opcw.org)).

Annex:           Provisional Programme

## Annex

**SEOUL WORKSHOP ON THE PEACEFUL DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF  
CHEMISTRY FOR MEMBER STATES OF THE OPCW IN THE ASIA REGION  
SEOUL, REPUBLIC OF KOREA  
16 – 18 NOVEMBER 2022**

**PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

Time	Activity
<b>Wednesday, 16 November 2022</b>	
08:30 – 09:15	Registration
09:15 – 09:45	Welcome remarks
09:45 – 10:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
<b>Session I: Introduction to the chemical industry in the Republic of Korea and to the Convention</b>	
10:00 – 11:00	Growth and development of the chemical industry in the Republic of Korea
11:00 – 11:30	The Convention and the peaceful use of chemistry in the Republic of Korea
11:30 – 12:30	Chemical safety and security management; scenario-based strategies
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
<b>Session II: Peaceful uses of chemistry</b>	
14:00 – 15:30	History of chemical weapons and the importance of ethics
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:00 – 18:00	Dual-use chemicals and the peaceful application of chemistry
<b>Thursday, 17 November 2022</b>	
<b>Session III: Chemical safety and security management issues in the Asian region</b>	
09:00 – 10:00	Presentation by the International Cooperation Branch, OPCW
10:00 – 10:45	Layers of protection and analysis for chemical industries to prevent accidents
10:45 – 11:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:15 – 12:00	Roundtable discussion on safety and security issues in chemical industry in the region: remarks by participants (3 to 5 minutes each)
12:00 – 13:00	OPCW indicative guidelines on chemical safety and security for SMEs
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
<b>Session IV: Introduction to the chemical safety management system in the Republic of Korea</b>	
14:00 – 15:30	The chemical safety management system of the Republic of Korea
15:30 – 16:00	The chemical security management system of the Republic of Korea
16:00 – 16:30	Best practices: examples from selected chemical industries in the Republic of Korea
16:30 – 17:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
<b>Friday, 18 November 2022</b>	
<b>Session V: Chemical safety and security management issues and best practices</b>	
09:00 – 10:00	Chemical security threats and mitigation strategies
10:00 – 10:45	Emerging threats and chemical industry preparedness
10:45 – 11:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:15 – 12:30	Emerging threats and new trends: cybersecurity, artificial intelligence (AI) and drones
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 15:30	Critical infrastructure protection
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:00 – 17:00	Wrap-up discussion