



S/2168/2023

4 May 2023

ENGLISH and SPANISH only

**NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT**

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A GENERAL TRAINING COURSE  
ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION FOR THE PERSONNEL  
OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES AND RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS  
SANTO DOMINGO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC  
27 – 29 JUNE 2023**

1. On behalf of the Government of the Dominican Republic and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) is pleased to announce that a three-day general training course on the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) and national obligations thereunder will be held in Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic, from 27 to 29 June 2023 for the personnel of National Authorities and relevant stakeholders.
2. The purpose of the course is to assist States Parties in complying with their obligations under the Convention by enhancing the knowledge and skills of the personnel of National Authorities and relevant stakeholders. The specific objective of the course is to fulfil the aims set out in the action plan for the implementation of obligations under Article VII of the Convention.
3. The general training course is intended primarily for the personnel of National Authorities and their relevant stakeholders who are responsible for the specific tasks involved in the implementation of the Convention at the national level, but who have little or limited knowledge in this area. The course will include both theoretical and practical exercises. The provisional programme for the course is attached as the Annex to this Note.
4. The expected results of the training course are as follows:
  - (a) increased understanding of the Convention and the obligations of National Authorities complying with it;
  - (b) improved capacity of National Authorities to design and deliver national training courses on Convention implementation; and
  - (c) additional, country-specific measures in support of implementation of the Convention, and in particular the identification of relevant obligations.
5. The course will be conducted in English and Spanish. Participants are therefore expected to have a good command, both written and oral, of the English and/or Spanish language.



6. States Parties whose nationals have not previously participated in basic or similar courses organised by the Secretariat are particularly encouraged to nominate candidates for participation. Priority will be given to one candidate from each such State Party. Nominees who have previously participated in a basic course for personnel of National Authorities will not be considered.
7. The candidates selected for the general training course will be required to complete the OPCW e-learning modules prior to attending the course. These modules are available on the OPCW website (<https://www.opcw.org/opcw-e-learning>). Pre- and post-training tests on relevant topics covered by the training course will be conducted on the first and last days of the course.
8. The Secretariat will sponsor one participant per State Party. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, accommodation, meals, and medical insurance for the duration of the course, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses. The Secretariat will not pay for medical assistance. Participants should therefore be fit to travel. All participants taking prescribed medication should arrive with supplies sufficient for the duration of the event.
9. The Secretariat will arrange accommodation for all sponsored participants. Any participants who do not intend to use this accommodation are requested to indicate this as soon as possible, so that the Secretariat does not incur hotel cancellation fees. In any case, the Secretariat will not cover the costs of any accommodation it has not arranged itself.
10. Applications from nominated participants should be submitted online through Eventus—the OPCW event management system—**no later than Friday, 19 May 2023** (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus/Home?eventid=462>). Each application must be endorsed digitally on the Eventus platform by the nominee’s respective National Authority, to be followed by a final review by the Secretariat. National Authorities are strongly encouraged to support and endorse the nominations of female participants for this event.
11. Additional information about the general training course may be obtained from the Implementation Support Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact persons are Mr Rene Betancourt (Tel: +31 (0)64 695 9285; Email: [rene.betancourt@opcw.org](mailto:rene.betancourt@opcw.org)) and Mr Alberto Fernandez (Tel: +31 (0)70 416 3480; Email: [alberto.fernandez@opcw.org](mailto:alberto.fernandez@opcw.org)).

Annex:           Provisional Programme

## Annex

**GENERAL TRAINING COURSE  
ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION FOR THE PERSONNEL OF  
NATIONAL AUTHORITIES AND RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS  
SANTO DOMINGO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC  
27 – 29 JUNE 2023**

**PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

Time	Activity
<b><i>Tuesday, 27 June 2023</i></b>	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:30	Opening ceremony and group photograph
09:30 – 09:50	Pre-training test
09:50 – 10:20	History of chemical weapons and an overview of the Chemical Weapons Convention
10:20 – 10:50	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:50 – 11:10	Introduction to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)
11:10 – 12:00	Role of the National Authority in the implementation of the Convention in relation to coordination and national implementing legislation
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00 – 14:30	The status of national implementation measures under Article VII in Latin America and the Caribbean
14:30 – 15:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:00 – 16:30	<b>Breakout groups:</b> Guided group discussion: Reflections on the attributes of effective National Authorities
16:30 – 17:00	Verification regime
<b><i>Wednesday, 28 June 2023</i></b>	
09:00 – 09:30	Article III declarations requirements
09:30 – 10:30	Article VI declarations requirements
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00 – 11:30	Identification of scheduled chemicals and declarable activities
11:30 – 12:00	Preparing declarations
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00 – 13:30	Electronic declarations and introduction to the Electronic Declarations Information System (EDIS) and the Secure Information Exchange System (SIX)
13:30 – 15:30	Quiz and exercises on declarations under Article VI
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:00 – 17:00	Industry verification provisions
<b><i>Thursday, 29 June 2023</i></b>	
09:30 – 09:45	Receiving Article VI inspections
09:45 – 10:30	The National Implementation Framework as a planning tool
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00 – 11:30	Programmes of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
11:30 – 12:30	Stakeholder engagement
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:00	<b>Breakout groups:</b> Towards developing national action plans (NAPs) to roll out training and undertake other pertinent activities at national level ( <i>using templates to be provided by the Implementation Support Branch</i> )
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:30 – 17:00	Wrap-up: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Post-training test</li><li>- Evaluation of the course</li><li>- Participants' reflection on outcomes and closing remarks.</li></ul>