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12 May 2023
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE TWENTY-SECOND REGIONAL MEETING OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES IN EASTERN EUROPE ONLINE 29 – 30 AUGUST 2023

1. On behalf of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General wishes to invite the representatives of National Authorities to attend the Twenty-Second Regional Meeting of National Authorities of States Parties in Eastern Europe, which will be held online on 29 and 30 August 2023.
2. This regional meeting of National Authorities will serve as a forum in which the States Parties discuss needs, priorities, actions taken, and best practices in relation to the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) at national and regional levels.
3. The purpose of the meeting is to facilitate the exchange of information and views on:
 - (a) OPCW capacity-development support for the implementation of obligations under Articles VI, VII, X, and XI of the Convention;
 - (b) tools available in support of the submission of timely and accurate declarations, as well as updated information about OPCW inspections;
 - (c) progress made and challenges encountered in implementing the Convention in the region; and
 - (d) policy-related issues, including the outcome of 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 are to ensure that participants are provided with relevant and updated information on the status of the implementation of the Convention in the region, to enhance participants’ understanding of potential follow-up actions and best practices of States Parties in relation to the implementation of the Convention, and to further strengthen participants’ understanding of specific issues related to Articles VI, VII, X, and XI of the Convention and the respective support provided by the OPCW Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”).



5. In addition, the meeting will serve as the venue to review and consolidate the priority needs of States Parties in Eastern Europe with a view to informing programmatic design for the region.
6. The provisional programme for the regional meeting is included as the Annex to this Note.
7. The National Authority of each State Party is requested to nominate up to two delegates to participate in the regional meeting. States Parties and National Authorities are strongly encouraged to support and endorse nominations of female participants for this event.
8. The meeting will last two days and participants are expected to attend both days. The meeting will be conducted in English. All participants are therefore expected to have a good oral and written command of English.
9. Interested National Authority representatives are invited to register online no later than 30 July 2023 through Eventus, the OPCW event management system (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>). Each application must be endorsed digitally on the Eventus platform by the nominee's respective National Authority.
10. National Authorities that wish for their nominee(s) to make presentations at the meeting should inform the Secretariat about the presentation's specific thematic area. Ideally, presentations should be limited to 10 minutes and highlight best practices and also challenges encountered in relation to the implementation of the Convention. Additional information about this meeting or registration for it may be obtained from the Implementation Support Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the OPCW. The contact persons are Mr Solomon Haile (Email: solomon.haile@opcw.org) and Mr Victor Barros Correia (Email: victor.barros-correia@opcw.org).

Annex: Provisional Programme

Annex

**TWENTY-SECOND REGIONAL MEETING OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF
STATES PARTIES IN EASTERN EUROPE
ONLINE**

29 – 30 AUGUST 2023

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

| Time | Agenda Item |
|---|---|
| <i>Tuesday, 29 August 2023</i> | |
| | Opening remarks |
| | Overview of the meeting's programme and objectives |
| | Follow-up on issues raised during the previous regional and annual meetings of National Authorities |
| | Regional priorities and needs – review and update |
| | Update on capacity-development support related to the implementation of Articles VI, VII, X, and XI of the Convention |
| | Updates on Article VI declarations and related projects |
| | Update on OPCW inspections and related issues |
| | Summary of Day 1 |
| <i>Wednesday, 30 August 2023</i> | |
| | National presentations on progress of implementation of the Convention, good practices, challenges, and needs related to capacity development |
| | Overview of OPCW policy-related issues |
| | The Fifth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention – Overview and potential follow-up |
| | Presentation on the National Implementation Framework |
| | Summary of Day 2 |
| | Conclusion and closing remarks |