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6 July 2023  
ENGLISH only

### NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

#### ADVANCED ONLINE SEMINAR ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION AND CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT FOR MEMBER STATES OF THE OPCW IN THE AFRICA REGION

##### BACKGROUND

1. The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) wishes to inform Member States that an advanced online seminar on the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) and chemical safety and security management for Member States of the OPCW in the Africa region will be held on 11 October 2023.
2. National Authorities or governmental representatives responsible for chemical safety and security management, representatives from chemical industry associations, and managers involved in chemical industry safety and security and Responsible Care<sup>®</sup> are invited to submit applications for the seminar, which 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 Convention.
3. The aim of the seminar is to support chemical safety and security management in the chemical industry in Africa. The overall goal is to sensitise States Parties to the new approaches that can be adopted in relation to chemical safety and security management, with a particular focus on providing assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises. By promoting and disseminating standardised and best practices in chemical safety and security, the seminar will benefit chemical industry personnel who are involved in safety and security management issues, enhance the capacities of National Authorities and chemical industry associations in Member States of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in the Africa region, and indirectly benefit the general public as a whole.
4. The objectives of the seminar are to:
  - (a) provide an opportunity for participating States Parties to consider and discuss specific chemical safety and security management issues related to chemical processes that have a direct bearing on the effective implementation of the Convention;
  - (b) contribute to sharing information and exchanging experiences on the practical implementation of chemical safety and security management programmes;



- (c) review best practices related to the safety and security management of chemicals, and generate, through interactions and discussions, recommendations on the structure of future standardised seminars in order to promote these practices in small and medium-sized enterprises in Africa;
  - (d) foster broader cooperation between States Parties on issues related to the chemical industry to ensure the achievement of the objectives of Article XI of the Convention (promoting the peaceful uses of chemistry); and
  - (e) enhance and promote the safe handling of chemicals at the national level.
5. The course programme will be provided to the selected participants in due course.

#### **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

6. The seminar is open to participants who:
- (a) are citizens of OPCW Member States in the Africa region;
  - (b) have at least five years of professional working experience in academia, science and technology institutions, the chemical industry, industry associations, or regulatory agencies in the field of chemical safety and security;
  - (c) have not attended similar events organised by the OPCW in the last three years; and
  - (d) have good written and oral command of English.

#### **APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

7. Interested candidates are invited to submit their applications through Eventus, the OPCW event management platform (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>). Applicants must first create an account and then register for the event.
8. Only nominations endorsed by the National Authority or Permanent Representation will be considered. Each application must be endorsed digitally on the Eventus platform by the nominee's respective National Authority, and be accompanied by a curriculum vitae or a short abstract describing the applicant's current research, work, and projects, in particular in the areas of chemical safety and security, transportation security, hazardous waste management, and new trends in chemical technology. A photocopy of the personal identification page of the applicant's passport is also requested. **The Secretariat strongly encourages applications from qualified female candidates. Only selected candidates will be notified by the Secretariat.**
9. Applications must be submitted in Eventus **no later than 11 August 2023. Incomplete or improperly filled out applications will not be considered.** Additional information may be obtained from the International Cooperation Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact persons are Ms Rufaro Kambarami, Senior Project Assistant (Tel.: +31 (0)70 416 3272; Email: [rufaro.kambarami@opcw.org](mailto:rufaro.kambarami@opcw.org)) and Mr Massimo de Rienzo, Senior Programme Officer (Tel.: +31 (0)70 416 3458; Email: [massimo.derienzo@opcw.org](mailto:massimo.derienzo@opcw.org)).