

S/2231/2023 20 December 2023 ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

UPDATED E-LEARNING CONTENT FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE

- 1. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (the Secretariat) wishes to inform States Parties of the launch of e-learning modules under the International Cooperation and Assistance Programme. This is part of the Secretariat's efforts to assist States Parties in meeting their obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention) by enhancing its educational and outreach resources. The launch of these e-learning modules also comes in response to the request of the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention for the Secretariat to expand the use of contemporary technological developments to assist and promote its training methods, including the further development of e-learning modules (subparagraph 9.103(i) of RC-3/3*, dated 19 April 2013).
- 2. The objectives of this initiative are to further assist States Parties in the effective implementation of the provisions of the Convention, to transfer critical knowledge to officials and experts within National Authorities and other relevant stakeholder institutions, and to complement the Secretariat's other capacity-building activities. The successful completion of relevant modules will be required prior to participation in selected advanced and specialised training courses conducted by the Secretariat.
- 3. Fifteen e-learning modules cover a wide range of Convention-related issues. Nine (General) modules introduce general issues related to chemical weapons, including the history of chemical weapons, the Convention, the OPCW, and National Authorities. In addition, the general modules provide basic knowledge about key provisions such as implementing legislation, assistance and protection, and chemical safety and security. Six additional (Customs) modules focus on customs matters and are primarily designed for frontline customs officers who deal with the transfer of chemicals. These modules cover aspects such as the identification of scheduled chemicals, relevant transfer provisions, reporting the import and export of chemicals, and control of the international trade of scheduled chemicals.
- 4. National Authorities are encouraged to inform relevant national institutions about this learning opportunity and invite pertinent officials and specialists to make use of this tool, which may be particularly beneficial for newly recruited staff and help them gain deeper knowledge about the Convention and the work of the OPCW.
- 5. The international cooperation and assistance e-learning modules are available from 1 January 2024 via the OPCW's Learning Management System

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(https://learn.opcw.org/). Learners from National Authorities and other relevant stakeholder institutions may access the modules by registering online.

- 6. The e-learning modules are currently available in English only.
- 7. The Secretariat welcomes feedback from States Parties on the e-learning modules and continues its efforts to enhance these learning tools. Further information about the tools and content may be obtained from the Implementation Support Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division (Email: IPB@opcw.org).

Annex: List of International Cooperation and Assistance E-learning Modules

Annex

LIST OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE E-LEARNING MODULES

GENERAL MODULES

- (a) Modules 1-2: History of Chemical Weapons, the Chemical Weapons Convention and introduction to the OPCW
- (b) Module 3: Chemical Weapons Convention: Article by article
- (c) Module 4: Establishing and running a National Authority
- (d) Module 5: National implementing legislation
- (e) Module 6: Implementation of Article X: Assistance and protection
- (f) Module 7: National implementing legislation: Initial measures
- (g) Module 8: A guide for National Authorities on submissions under Article X via the online platform PAD
- (h) Module 9: Article XI: An introduction to chemical safety and security management

CUSTOMS MODULES

- (a) Module 1: Chemical Weapons Convention and Customs Role in its implementation
- (b) Module 2: Scheduled chemicals and principal uses
- (c) Module 3: Transfer provisions of the CWC
- (d) Module 4: Identification of scheduled chemicals
- (e) Module 5: Problems in reporting imports and exports
- (f) Module 6: Practical issues in controlling the international trade of scheduled chemicals