



S/2261/2024
4 March 2024
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT**INVITATION TO APPLY FOR A SEMINAR ON THE CHEMICAL
WEAPONS CONVENTION AND CHEMICAL SAFETY AND
SECURITY MANAGEMENT FOR ASIAN MEMBER STATES
DOHA REGIONAL CENTRE FOR CBRN TRAINING
28 – 30 MAY 2024**

1. The Technical Secretariat (the Secretariat) is pleased to invite National Authorities and government representatives responsible for chemical safety and security management, representatives from chemical industry associations, as well as managers involved in chemical industry safety and security and the Responsible Care[®] programme, to submit applications for a seminar on the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention) and chemical safety and security management for Member States of the OPCW in the Asia region, to be held at the Doha Regional Centre for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) Training in Doha, Qatar, from 28 to 30 May 2024.
2. The seminar 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. The aim of this seminar is to support sound chemical safety and security management in the chemical industry in Asian States Parties. The objectives of the seminar include sharing best practices and discussing current issues in chemical safety and security management, with a particular focus on providing assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises. As a result, the seminar will benefit chemical industry personnel who are involved in safety and security management issues, and enhance the capacities of National Authorities and chemical industry associations in OPCW Member States in the Asia region.
3. 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 the sharing of information and the exchange of experiences on the practical implementation of chemical safety and security management programmes;
 - (c) review best practices with regard to the safety and security management of chemicals and generate, through interactions and discussions, recommendations on the structure of future standardised seminars to promote these practices among small and medium-sized enterprises in Asian Member States;



- (d) foster wider cooperation between States Parties on issues related to the chemical industry towards achieving 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.
- 4. This seminar will include theoretical and practical components on topics relevant to chemical safety and security management. The seminar topics will include an overview of OPCW activities, the Convention, and international cooperation programmes. The seminar will also provide participants with updated information on, inter alia, current practices and concepts relating to the safety and security management of chemical plants, dual-use chemicals and risk management, and current trends in safety and security management in the chemical industry, in addition to best practices in chemical safety and security management in an industry setting. Leading experts in chemical safety and security management will provide presentations and facilitate discussions. Participants should therefore have a strong background in chemistry and/or chemical engineering, with at least five years of experience in a relevant discipline, preferably in industry.
- 5. Seminar participants will be expected to prepare brief presentations on current safety and security management practices based on their experience, including suggestions for improving the safety management culture in their respective countries or the organisations at which they work.
- 6. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor a limited number of participants, for whom it will cover the costs of travel, meals, and medical insurance, and 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 will be sent to all registered participants in due course.
- 7. Applications from Asian Member States should be endorsed by their respective National Authorities. The endorsement will be completed automatically through Eventus—the OPCW event management system (<http://eventus.opcw.org>). Each application should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of the nominee's participation. States Parties are welcome to nominate participants for whom sponsorship is not required. **States Parties and National Authorities are strongly encouraged to support and endorse applications from (or nominations of) suitable female candidates.**
- 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. Participants will be allowed to purchase tickets locally only if this leads to further savings for the Secretariat, and if the Secretariat authorises it. In order for the Secretariat to keep costs to a minimum, participants are expected to **arrive no earlier than Monday, 27 May 2024** and to **depart no later than Friday, 31 May 2024**. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the seminar 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 seminar. When applying for an entry visa, they should present a copy of the acceptance letter from the OPCW to the Embassy or Consulate of Qatar.
10. The seminar will be conducted in English with interpretation available into Arabic. All participants are therefore expected to have a good written and oral command of one of these languages.
11. Interested applicants are invited to apply online through 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 in order for a 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 the event that interested applicants have difficulties submitting their application online via Eventus, the applicants should send an email explaining the problem to icb.events@opcw.org with 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 29 April 2024**.
12. Additional information about the seminar may be obtained from the International Cooperation Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the OPCW, as well as from the website of the Qatar National Committee for the Prohibition of Weapons (<http://ncpw.org.qa/ncpw/webpage/index.jsp>). The OPCW focal points for this seminar are Mr Taeon Kim, Programme Officer (Email: taeon.kim@opcw.org), and Mr Farid Tata, Senior Project Assistant (Email: farid.tata@opcw.org).

--- 0 ---