



S/2269/2024

14 March 2024

ENGLISH and FRENCH only

**NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT**

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE TWENTY-SECOND REGIONAL MEETING  
OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES IN AFRICA  
YAOUNDÉ, CAMEROON  
11 – 13 JUNE 2024**

1. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (the Secretariat) wishes to invite States Parties from Africa to nominate representatives to attend the Twenty-Second Regional Meeting of National Authorities of States Parties in Africa, which will be held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, from 11 to 13 June 2024.
2. This regional meeting of National Authorities will serve as a forum for States Parties to discuss needs, priorities, actions taken, and best practices in relation to the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention) at the national, subregional, and regional levels. Participants will also discuss the capacity-development support provided within the framework of the OPCW Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Africa Programme).
3. The purpose of the meeting is to facilitate the exchange of information and views on:
  - (a) OPCW capacity-development activities in the Africa region;
  - (b) tools available in support of the timely and accurate submission of declarations, as well as updated information about OPCW inspections;
  - (c) developments related to the National Implementation Framework, the Mentorship/Partnership Programme for National Authorities, and preliminary assessment post-training action plans for customs capacity-development courses; and
  - (d) major elements of the sixth phase of the Africa Programme (2023 – 2025).
4. The expected results of the meeting include:
  - (a) ensuring that participants are provided with relevant and updated information on the status of the implementation of the Convention in the region;
  - (b) enhancing participants' understanding of potential follow-up actions and best practices of States Parties in relation to the implementation of the Convention; and
  - (c) further strengthening participants' understanding of specific issues related to Articles VI, VII, X, and XI of the Convention and the respective support provided by the Secretariat.



5. In addition, the participants and the Secretariat will discuss and agree upon needs and priorities for the sixth phase of the Africa Programme.
6. The provisional programme for the regional meeting is included as the Annex to this Note.
7. The National Authority of each State Party in the region is requested to nominate one delegate for participation in the regional meeting. The Secretariat will sponsor one participant per State Party. The sponsorship will cover the costs of travel, hotel accommodation, meals, and medical insurance, in addition to a limited subsistence allowance to cover terminal and sundry expenses. States Parties and National Authorities are strongly encouraged to support and endorse the applications or nominations of suitable female participants for this event.
8. Sponsored participants who do not intend to use the accommodation arranged by the Secretariat are requested to indicate this no later than four weeks prior to the event, in order to prevent the Secretariat from incurring hotel cancellation fees. In any case, the Secretariat will not cover the costs of any accommodation that it has not arranged.
9. The meeting will be conducted in English and in French, with interpretation services available. Participants are therefore expected to have a good oral and written command of either English or French.
10. Interested National Authority representatives are invited to register **before 13 April 2024** 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.
11. National Authorities that wish for their nominee(s) to make a presentation at the meeting should inform the Secretariat about the presentation's specific thematic area. Ideally, presentations should be limited to seven minutes and highlight best practices, as well as challenges encountered in relation to the implementation of the Convention. In addition, specific actions taken by a State Party as a result of attending or participating in the Secretariat's capacity-development events (in particular those within the framework of the Africa Programme) should be brought to the attention of the meeting participants.
12. Furthermore, National Authorities may express their interest in bilateral consultations with the Secretariat on specific issues related to national implementation of the Convention.
13. Information on national presentations and bilateral consultations should be conveyed by the respective nominee(s) to Mr Solomon Haile, the Senior Programme Officer in charge of organising the regional meeting.
14. Additional information about the regional meeting may be obtained from the Implementation Support Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact persons are Mr Solomon Haile ([solomon.haile@opcw.org](mailto:solomon.haile@opcw.org)) and Mr Victor Barros Correia ([victor.barros-correia@opcw.org](mailto:victor.barros-correia@opcw.org)).

Annex: Provisional Programme

**Annex**

**TWENTY-SECOND REGIONAL MEETING OF  
NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES IN AFRICA  
YAOUNDÉ, CAMEROON  
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**PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda item</b>
<b><i>Tuesday, 11 June 2024</i></b>	
	Opening remarks
	Overview of the meeting programme and objectives
	Follow-up on issues raised during the previous regional and annual meetings
	Update on capacity-development activities in the Africa region, followed by a question and answer session (Q&A)
	An overview of the sixth phase of the Africa Programme: priorities, outcomes, outputs, and progress
	Updates regarding Article VI declarations and related projects, followed by Q&A
	Updates on OPCW inspections and related issues, followed by Q&A
	Overview of policy-related issues, followed by Q&A
<b><i>Wednesday, 12 June 2024</i></b>	
	Synergies between the Convention and United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 (2004): An overview of implementation progress in Africa
	Progress in Convention implementation: National presentations on good practices, challenges, and needs related to capacity development (two States Parties)
	Lessons from the Africa edition of the best practices for chemical security legislation workshop—Secretariat and national presentation
	Customs capacity-development activities in Africa: Assessment of implementation of post-training action plans—Secretariat and two national presentations from two States Parties
	Progress in drafting and implementing Convention national implementing legislation—Secretariat and selected national presentation (one State Party)

<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda item</b>
<b><i>Thursday, 13 June 2024</i></b>	
	Developments related to the National Implementation Framework
	Leveraging the Mentorship/Partnership Programme for National Authorities to strengthen National Authorities and revitalise coordination and working relationships with other stakeholders
	Subregional presentations on priority capacity-development needs (two States Parties from North Africa, and the Southern African Development Community) (templates to be provided by the Secretariat).
	Conclusions, next steps, and closing remarks

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