



S/2482/2026
9 February 2026
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**INVITATION TO APPLY FOR THE SEOUL WORKSHOP ON PEACEFUL
DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF CHEMISTRY FOR MEMBER STATES OF
THE OPCW: A SPECIAL EDITION ON THE APPLICATION OF
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY
SEOUL, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
14 – 16 APRIL 2026**

1. The Technical Secretariat (the Secretariat) is pleased to invite government representatives responsible for chemical safety and security management (CSSM), digital transformation, and other relevant areas with a strong background in chemistry and/or chemical engineering to apply for the Seoul Workshop on the Peaceful Development and Use of Chemistry: A Special Edition on the Application of Artificial Intelligence in Chemical Industry, to be held in Seoul, the Republic of Korea, from 14 to 16 April 2026.
2. Aligned with Article XI of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention), this workshop aims to promote the peaceful application of chemistry, with a focus on applications of artificial intelligence (AI) in chemical industry and their impact on CSSM. With a view to improving the national capacities of Member States, the workshop will cover topics relevant to the peaceful use of chemistry, AI and its industrial applications, and the dual-use risks of AI. The workshop will offer participants a valuable opportunity to learn from the Republic of Korea's experience in how new technology such as AI is integrated into chemical technology and industrial development. The workshop is designed for personnel working in, or associated with, the chemical industry, including those working in CSSM.

BACKGROUND

3. The workshop builds on a series of efforts by the Secretariat to explore the impact of AI in the implementation of the Convention, in particular in the area of international cooperation. The Global Conference on the Role of Artificial Intelligence in Advancing the Implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention held in Rabat, Morocco, in 2024 was the first large-scale forum to comprehensively examine both the opportunities and risks associated with AI in this context. Its outcomes informed the Secretariat's identification of priority areas for future work (S/2289/2024, dated 23 May 2024).
4. In response, the International Workshop on AI and Chemical Safety and Security Management was organised in Shanghai, China, in 2025, as the first OPCW capacity-building activity dedicated to AI. The workshop examined the various applications of AI in chemical research and industry within the framework of the Convention and confirmed strong interest among Member States in further AI-related capacity building, while also shaping the Secretariat's future engagement on the topic (S/2444/2025, dated 17 September 2025).



5. Against that backdrop, the Secretariat is organising the annual Seoul workshop with a special focus on AI for the chemical industry. The workshop will deepen participants' technical understanding and present practical applications to build skills surrounding the safe, secure, and responsible adoption of AI-enabled applications in the chemical industry context, with particular attention to CSSM and associated dual-use considerations.

OBJECTIVES

6. The objectives of the workshop are to:
 - (a) foster cooperation among Member States on issues related to the application of AI in chemical industry towards achieving the objectives set out in Article XI of the Convention to promote the peaceful use of chemistry;
 - (b) improve CSSM best practices among Member States by examining relevant AI-driven tools and solutions; and
 - (c) contribute to the sharing of information and experience in practical applications of AI in chemical research and industry that enhance operational efficiency and safety in chemical facilities.

FOCUS AREAS AND TOPICS

7. The workshop will include informative sessions presented by relevant experts and will provide a platform for exchanging best practices in CSSM. The sessions will cover a variety of topics in the peaceful use of chemistry and CSSM, including the following: dual-use chemicals and their management systems, the implications of AI for chemical security, and the OPCW development programme and guidelines for CSSM tools. To promote the exchange of knowledge and experience, participants will be required to present best practices and case studies in the field of chemical safety and security based on their own experience.

SELECTION CRITERIA

8. The Secretariat will select participants based on the following criteria:
 - (a) Required: Applicants must have at least five years of progressive work experience in relevant areas, such as: the chemical industry; governmental agencies regulating chemicals; integrated chemical management; chemical industry associations; academia; or other relevant areas.
 - (b) Desirable: Applicants should have work experience directly or indirectly related to chemical industry associations or CSSM, or work experience in developing policies and procedures for CSSM, among other fields. Experience in applying AI to chemical plant processes, safety, security, or regulatory compliance or digital transformation is desirable.

APPLICATION/NOMINATION PROCEDURE

9. Interested applicants are invited to apply online through Eventus—the OPCW event management system (<https://eventus.opcw.org>)—no later than 1 March 2026. Applicants should create an account in the Eventus system and then register for the workshop. Please note that all questions marked with an asterisk (*) in the online form must be answered for the candidate to be considered for this event. To be considered for the workshop, applicants must include in their application a complete curriculum vitae, as well as a copy of the personal identification pages of their passport. Personal information provided in the application must strictly match the details as shown in the passport, as this information will be used for the issuance of flight tickets should the application be successful. Participants are responsible for ensuring the accuracy of their personal information. Any inaccuracies may result in exclusion from the course or additional charges that will need to be borne by the participants.
10. Applications must be reviewed and endorsed electronically in Eventus by the candidate's National Authority or Permanent Representation to the OPCW; this will be followed by a final review and approval by the Secretariat. In the event that interested applicants have difficulties submitting their applications online via Eventus, they are requested to send an email explaining the problem to icb@opcw.org, with a reference to the name and location of the event in the subject line of the message.
11. Each application should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of the nominee's participation. Member States are welcome to nominate participants for whom sponsorship is not required. The Secretariat strongly encourages States Parties and National Authorities to seek, support, and endorse applications from qualified women candidates. Only selected candidates will be notified by the Secretariat.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

12. The Secretariat will sponsor a limited number of participants. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, meals, and medical insurance, and will 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 and information on the venue will be sent to all participants in due course.
13. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. It will purchase tickets and send them to participants. In order for the Secretariat to keep costs to a minimum, participants are expected to arrive no earlier than Monday, 13 April 2026, and to depart no later than Friday, 17 April 2026. The agreement of the Secretariat is required for any changes to arrival and departure dates. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the workshop 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.

14. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to the workshop. When applying for an entry visa, they should present a copy of the acceptance letter from the OPCW to the Embassy or Consulate of the Republic of Korea.
15. The workshop will be conducted entirely in English. All participants are therefore expected to have a good written and oral command of the language.
16. Additional information about the workshop may be obtained from the International Cooperation Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the OPCW. The OPCW contact persons for the workshop are Mr Taeon Kim, Programme Officer (taeon.kim@opcw.org), and Mr Azamatbek Salikhov, Associate Programme Officer (azamatbek.salikhov@opcw.org).

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