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9 February 2026
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR
A FORUM ON PEACEFUL USES OF CHEMISTRY
ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN
30 JUNE – 2 JULY 2026**

PURPOSE OF THE FORUM

1. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (the Secretariat) wishes to inform Member States that a forum on the peaceful uses of chemistry is scheduled to take place in Islamabad, Pakistan, from 30 June to 2 July 2026. The aim of the forum is to raise awareness among participants and to enhance their knowledge and understanding of chemical safety and security management (CSSM), with a particular focus on building and sustaining a strong culture of chemical safety and security.
2. The forum is being organised in line with the mandate of the OPCW to promote international cooperation in the peaceful uses of chemistry, as provided for under Article XI of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention). It is designed to contribute to efforts aimed at the effective implementation of the Convention by enhancing awareness and understanding of the Convention and The Hague Ethical Guidelines, fostering ethical, responsible, and safe scientific practices, and facilitating the exchange of knowledge, experience, and policy approaches among Member States.
3. In this context, the forum will place particular emphasis on green and sustainable chemistry as a framework for reducing risks associated with hazardous substances and harmful by-products, while improving the safety, sustainability, and environmental performance of chemical products and processes. The forum will also highlight the role of science, technology, and innovation, including the responsible application of emerging digital tools, in supporting CSSM, advancing sustainable chemical practices, and contributing to the achievement of the objectives of the Convention.
4. The forum will be held in two segments: a hybrid global segment on the first day, and a regional in-person segment for the Asia region on the second and third days. On the first day, the forum will be open to all participants from across OPCW Member States, with participants from the Asia region attending in person. The second and third days will be open exclusively to participants from the Asia region attending in person.
5. The forum is intended for chemists, chemical engineers, and other professionals from government institutions, international and regional organisations, academia, and industry who have responsibilities related to CSSM, regulatory oversight, international cooperation, and the effective implementation of the Convention.



6. The forum will be shaped by the expertise, experience, and perspectives of its participants, with the programme designed to promote interactive dialogue and peer-to-peer learning. Selected participants will be expected to present case studies, national experiences, or thematic contributions relevant to the purposes of the forum, such as approaches to strengthening CSSM or promoting sustainable chemical practices, subject to the forum agenda and time constraints. In addition, participants must be committed to actively contributing to the forum by leading or co-leading sessions, as appropriate, in close coordination with the organisers, thereby facilitating structured and substantive discussions on opportunities, challenges, and good practices related to innovation, sustainability, and the effective implementation of the Convention.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

7. As mentioned, the global segment is open to participants from across OPCW Member States, especially those with economies that are either developing or in transition. For the in-person regional segment, however, applications are invited only from OPCW Member States in the Asia region. All applicants must:
 - (a) 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;
 - (b) have not attended similar events organised by the OPCW in the last three years; and
 - (c) have a good command of the English language, both written and oral.

SPONSORSHIP

8. Sponsorship will be provided by the Secretariat to a limited number of participants from Asian Member States. Sponsorship will cover the costs of travel, medical insurance, and accommodation. Sponsored participants will also be provided with a limited subsistence allowance to cover meals and sundry expenses. Further details regarding accommodation and other logistical arrangements will be issued to all selected participants. Sponsored participants who do not intend to use the accommodation arranged by the Secretariat are requested to inform the Secretariat as soon as possible to avoid incurring hotel cancellation fees. The Secretariat will not cover the costs of any accommodation that it has not arranged.
9. 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 from the Asia region are expected to **arrive no earlier than Monday, 29 June 2026 and to depart no later than Friday, 3 July 2026**. The Secretariat will not cover expenses that are not related to the forum 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.
10. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to Pakistan. When applying for an entry visa, participants should present the Embassy or Consulate of Pakistan with a copy of the acceptance letter from the OPCW. A visa support letter may also be issued if needed. The Secretariat will reimburse the costs of visa applications upon the production of original receipts.

11. The Secretariat will not pay for medical assistance. Therefore, participants should be fit to travel. All participants taking prescribed medication should arrive with sufficient supplies for the duration of the event.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

12. Applications will be carefully screened based on the criteria specified in paragraph 7 above.
13. All forum activities will be conducted in English, and no interpretation services of any kind will be provided.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

14. Interested candidates are invited to submit their applications through Eventus, the OPCW event management system (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>) by the stipulated deadline of **Monday, 16 March 2026**. Applicants may need to first create an account and then register for the event.
15. Only nominations endorsed by the National Authority or Permanent Representation of the applicant's country to the OPCW 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. A photocopy of the personal identification page of the applicant's passport is also requested. Only selected candidates will be notified by the Secretariat. States Parties and National Authorities are strongly encouraged to support and endorse applications from qualified women candidates for the event.
16. Personal information provided in the application must strictly match the details as shown on 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 event or additional charges that will need to be borne by the participants.
17. Applications must be submitted in Eventus **no later than Monday, 16 March 2026**. 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 focal point for this event is Mr Azamatbek Salikhov, Associate Programme Officer (Tel: +31 64 8438386; Email: azamatbek.salikhov@opcw.org).