



S/2507/2026
19 March 2026
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT**EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMME
ON PEACEFUL USES OF CHEMISTRY
DHAKA, BANGLADESH
6 – 8 OCTOBER 2026****PURPOSE OF THE COURSE**

1. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (the Secretariat) wishes to inform Member States that it will organise an education and training programme on peaceful uses of chemistry for young people in Dhaka, Bangladesh, from 6 to 8 October 2026.
2. The programme aims to raise awareness among young people about the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention), the importance of chemical safety and security management, key concepts and historical events associated with the use, misuse, and abuse of dual-use chemicals, and the benefits of the peaceful uses of chemistry. It is open to young people between the ages of 18 and 24, especially university students in chemistry, chemical engineering, or other relevant chemistry-related scientific fields, who are keen to pursue a career in chemistry or chemical disarmament, or who are expected to assume related research roles in chemistry within a university or academic institution.
3. The training programme will accommodate a limited number of participants from Member States of the OPCW with economies that are developing or in transition. It will consist of a global segment on the first day, and a regional segment exclusively for the Member States of the Asia Group on the remaining two days. The training will be conducted in hybrid mode throughout the first day, with participants from Asian Member States attending in person and those from other regions attending online. Over the remaining two days, the training will be reserved exclusively for participants from Asia attending in person.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

4. The training programme will focus on tailored presentations and interactive sessions, including tabletop exercises and group work addressing various aspects of concern relevant to the peaceful uses of chemistry, as well as an educational field trip to a chemical plant or similar site. The training is intended to offer an opportunity for young people to gain awareness of the Convention, deepen their understanding of ethics in chemistry, and appreciate the crucial role of chemical safety and security management. Additionally, participants will gain valuable knowledge and insights into the benefits of the peaceful uses of chemistry. The programme will also help participants liaise, network, build, and foster professional relationships, and eventually support ongoing efforts towards the prohibition of chemical weapons.



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

5. The regional, in-person segment of the training is open to young people who are:
 - (a) citizens of OPCW Member States in the Asia region;
 - (b) between the ages of 18 and 24;
 - (c) pursuing a university degree in chemistry, chemical engineering, or other chemistry-related scientific fields; and
 - (d) interested in pursuing a career in chemistry or chemical disarmament, or are expected to assume research roles in chemistry within a university or academic institution.
6. For the global part of the training, online participants will be selected from the eligible and endorsed applications received from outside the Asia region. The admission requirements for the global (online) segment of the training are the same as the requirements for in-person participants stated in paragraph 5 above, with the exception of subparagraph (a).
7. All programme activities will be conducted in English. Participants are therefore expected to have a good command of the English language, both written and oral.
8. Member States and National Authorities are strongly encouraged to support and endorse applications by suitable women candidates for the programme. Member States are also welcome to nominate participants for whom sponsorship is not required.

SPONSORSHIP

9. The Secretariat will sponsor only a limited number of participants from Asian Member States attending the training in person. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel and medical insurance and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover meals and sundry expenses. The Secretariat will also arrange and pay for the accommodation of sponsored participants.
10. The Secretariat will not pay for medical assistance. Therefore, participants should be fit for travel. All participants taking prescribed medication should arrive with supplies sufficient for the duration of the event.
11. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. It will purchase tickets and send them to the participants. Participants are required to arrive **no earlier than Monday, 5 October 2026** and to depart **no later than Friday, 9 October 2026**. The agreement of the Secretariat is required in order to make any changes to the arrival and departure dates. The Secretariat will not cover any expenses unrelated to the training or that result from changes to travel arrangements that have not been 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.
12. Participants are requested to ensure and obtain any necessary visas, including transit visas, as may be needed, before travelling to Bangladesh for the training. When applying for an entry visa, they should present a copy of the acceptance letter from the OPCW to the Embassy or Consulate of Bangladesh.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

13. Interested candidates, for both online and in-person participation, are invited to submit their applications through Eventus, the OPCW event management system (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>). Applicants must first create an account and then register for the event.
14. Only nominations endorsed by the National Authority or Permanent Representation of the candidate'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 or Permanent Representation. A passport and an up-to-date curriculum vitae must be uploaded during the online registration process. Nominees must also indicate their career or research interests and work experience, if any, in their curricula vitae to highlight their career plans. Only selected candidates will be notified by the Secretariat.
15. The personal information provided in the application must match the details as shown in the passport, as this information will be used for the issuance of flight tickets should an application be successful. Participants are responsible for ensuring the accuracy of their personal information. Any inaccuracies may result in additional charges that will need to be borne by the participants or exclusion from the course.
16. Applications must be submitted to the Secretariat **no later than Friday, 17 April 2026**. Additional information may be obtained from the International Cooperation Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact persons are Ms Jo Eun Kim, Associate Programme Officer (Tel: +31 (0)60 54 91 83 32; Email: joeun.kim@opcw.org) and Ms Julia Gonzalez, Senior Project Assistant (Tel: +31 (0)70 416 3239; Email: julia.gonzalez@opcw.org).