



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

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23 March 2026
ENGLISH and SPANISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE TWENTY-SEVENTH
REGIONAL MEETING OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
14 – 16 JULY 2026**

1. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (the Secretariat) wishes to invite representatives of National Authorities to attend the Twenty-Seventh Regional Meeting of National Authorities of States Parties in Latin America and the Caribbean, which will be held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, from 14 to 16 July 2026.
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 and regional levels.
3. The purpose of the meeting is to facilitate and exchange information and views on:
 - (a) OPCW capacity-development support for the implementation of obligations under Articles VI, VII, X, and XI;
 - (b) tools available in support of timely and accurate declarations, as well as updated information about OPCW inspections;
 - (c) ways and means of strengthening regional and subregional networks and fostering enhanced collaboration among States Parties in attendance;
 - (d) progress made and challenges encountered in implementing the Convention in the region;
 - (e) developments related to the National Implementation Framework, Mentorship/Partnership Programme, and preliminary assessment of post-training action plans of customs capacity-development courses; and
 - (f) policy-related issues, including the outcomes of the recent sessions of the policy-making organs.



4. The expected results of the meeting include:
 - (a) ensuring that participants are provided with relevant and updated information on the status of 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;
 - (c) strengthening regional and subregional networks and enhanced collaboration among States Parties in attendance;
 - (d) increasing participants' awareness of policy matters, including the outcomes of the recent sessions of the policy-making organs; and
 - (e) 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. The provisional programme for the regional meeting is included as the Annex to this Note.
6. The meeting will be conducted in English and Spanish, and interpretation services will be provided between these two languages.
7. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor one participant from each State Party from the region. The nominee should be a representative of the National Authority. Each nomination should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of the nominee's participation.
8. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, accommodation, meals, and medical insurance, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover terminal expenses. Sponsored participants who do not intend to use the accommodation arranged by the Secretariat are requested to indicate this as soon as possible to prevent the Secretariat from incurring hotel cancellation fees. Please note that the Secretariat will not cover the costs of any accommodation that it has not arranged.
9. National officials not sponsored by the Secretariat are welcome to attend the event as self-sponsored participants.
10. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. The Secretariat will purchase tickets and send them to the participants. Participants will be allowed to purchase tickets locally only if the Secretariat authorises it and if it leads to further savings for the Secretariat. Sponsored participants must bear all costs resulting from any changes they make once the Secretariat has purchased the tickets. Participants who have not been sponsored will be requested to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements. In order to keep costs to a minimum, sponsored participants are expected to arrive **no earlier than Monday, 13 July 2026** and to depart **no later than Friday, 17 July 2026**.

11. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to Trinidad and Tobago. When applying for an entry visa, they should present the Embassy or Consulate of Trinidad and Tobago with a copy of the acceptance letter from the OPCW.
12. Interested National Authority representatives are invited to register online by **12 May 2026** through Eventus, the OPCW event management system. The registration link is accessible via the OPCW Eventus website (<https://eventus.opcw.org/Home?eventid=697>). Each application must be endorsed digitally on the Eventus platform by the nominee's respective National Authority. National Authorities are strongly encouraged to support and endorse the nominations of women candidates for this event.
13. In the online registration system, all questions marked with an asterisk (*) must be completed for the nomination to be received and for the candidate to be considered for this event. The personal information provided in the application must match the details as shown in the passport, as this 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 exclusion from the event or additional charges that will need to be borne by the participants.
14. All nominated persons must hold valid passports with at least six months' validity beyond the anticipated date of travel to Trinidad and Tobago. A photocopy of the personal identification page of the applicant's passport is mandatory and must be uploaded to Eventus as part of the application process.
15. 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 10 minutes and highlight best practices and challenges encountered in relation to the implementation of the Convention.
16. Additional information about this regional meeting may be obtained from the Implementation Support Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the OPCW. The contact persons are Mr Rene Betancourt (Tel: +31 (0)6 46 95 92 85; Email: rene.betancourt@opcw.org) and Ms Olukemi Adenuga (Email: olukemi.adenuga@opcw.org).

Annex: Provisional Programme

Annex**TWENTY-SEVENTH REGIONAL MEETING OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO****14 – 16 JULY 2026****PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME*****Tuesday, 14 July 2026***

- Opening remarks
- Overview of the meeting's programme and objectives
- Follow-up on issues raised during the previous regional and annual meetings
- Report of the Chairperson of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC) on activities since the last regional meeting
- Status of national implementing legislation for the Convention in Latin America and the Caribbean, including relevant programmatic support
- Updates regarding Article VI declarations and related projects, including updates on transfer discrepancies
- Updates on OPCW inspections and related issues
- Overview of strategy and policy-related developments with emphasis on emerging technology initiatives
- Other Convention-related topics

Wednesday, 15 July 2026

- Synergies between the Convention and United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 (2004): an overview of progress in implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Progress in implementing the Convention: national presentations on good practices, challenges, and needs related to capacity development
- Customs capacity development activities in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Regional priorities for capacity building under Articles VI, VII, X, and XI
- National experiences in inter-institutional coordination and the preparation of national programmes for protection against chemical weapons under Article X
- Programmes on chemical safety and security and development of chemical laboratory capabilities, followed by national presentations on good practices and capacity-building needs and requirements
- National experiences in using online tools (including the Secure Information Exchange System, the Electronic Declaration Information System, the Article VII online submission platform, the Protection and Assistance Databank, Eventus, and online training modules), and the issues with and benefits of these tools

Thursday, 16 July 2026

- National Implementation Framework
- Leveraging the Mentorship/Partnership Programme for National Authorities to revitalise coordination and collaboration with other stakeholders
- Conclusions, next steps, and closing remarks