



OPCW

Conference of the States Parties

Thirteenth Session
2 – 5 December 2008

C-13/DG.8
27 November 2008
Original: ENGLISH

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

THE PROGRAMME TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION WITH AFRICA

Background to the Africa Programme

1. The Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa (hereinafter “the Africa Programme”) was developed at the initiative of the Director-General to give strategic direction to the Technical Secretariat’s (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) engagement with African Member States in the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”), given the need for prompt action to accelerate and strengthen efforts to achieve universality and ensure the full implementation of the Convention in Africa (EC-48/DG.15, dated 13 March 2007).
2. The overall outcome of the Africa Programme includes new value-added programmes and activities, which are integrated into the Secretariat’s existing work. Initiatives and activities under the Africa Programme are supported with funding from the regular budget, voluntary contributions, or a mixture of both.
3. In order to take this initiative forward, the Secretariat solicited the views of Permanent Representatives of States Parties in Africa on what elements such a programme should include. Subsequently, the Secretariat developed and structured the Programme to respond to the specific needs of Africa and established a Steering Committee made up of representatives of the various divisions in the Secretariat and a representative of the African Group to galvanise support for the Programme, sensitise key stakeholders, and solicit the participation and further involvement of the Africa Group. In addition, an advisory group composed of representatives of the Africa Group and the Director of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division (ICA), who is also the Chairperson of the Programme, has been formed.
4. At its Fiftieth Session, the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) welcomed the Director-General’s initiative and looked forward to further information, including budgetary implications, for future activities. It noted the African States Parties’ support for the Programme as well as their call for it to continue to take into account inputs by the Africa Group. The Council also emphasised the importance of close involvement in the Programme by key donors and other interested parties (EC-50/4, dated 28 September 2007).



5. At its Fifty-Second Session, the Council further requested the Director-General to implement the Africa Programme at the earliest opportunity, as well as to provide feedback on a regular basis on the activities and progress made in this regard (EC-52/2, dated 7 March 2008).
6. The Report of the Second Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention noted the Director-General's initiative regarding the Africa Programme and called upon the Secretariat to implement the Programme as soon as possible, as well as to provide feedback on a regular basis on the activities and progress made in this regard (RC-2/4, dated 18 April 2008).
7. The following initiatives and activities have been undertaken under the Africa Programme in 2008:
 - (a) high-level bilateral visits and other activities to increase awareness about the Convention in Africa, including cooperation with the African Union (AU); outreach to industry, civil society, the media, and academic institutions;
 - (b) additional ICA activities and a mechanism to assess the efficacy of programme activities and the requirements of National Authorities in Africa for implementation-related assistance and national capacity building;
 - (c) activities in the field of assistance and protection aimed at upgrading national response capabilities; training of first responders and assisting countries in fostering regional cooperation in this field, as well as in establishing regional protection networks; and
 - (d) increasing the number of participants from African States Parties who have taken part in various activities under the Africa Programme. This includes additional efforts to increase the number of participants from African Member States in regular programmes, as well as tailor-made activities for Africa.
8. The Secretariat held a Steering Committee Meeting on 10 June this year to encourage support and sensitise key stakeholders to the Africa Programme. An information session was held the next day, on 11 June 2008, for representatives of the Africa Group, at which time the Secretariat asked for inputs and suggestions. A request was also made to provide the Secretariat with the names of the Group's designated representatives on the Steering and Advisory Committees as well as a representative of the Group who could participate in the Secretariat's activities with Permanent Representatives. A second meeting of the Steering Committee was held on 18 November 2008, at which the Africa Group was represented by H.E. Ambassador Dani, Permanent Representative of Algeria to the OPCW.
9. Aimed at sharing information on the progress made under the Africa Programme with donors and the Africa Group, the first Donor's Meeting was convened on 26 June 2008. It apprised them of future activities envisaged under the Africa Programme and also sought to encourage sponsorship for the identified activities through voluntary contributions or donations in kind, such as laboratory or office equipment, for National Authorities/Member States as per identified needs.

10. The Advisory Group, which consists mainly of the representatives of the Africa Group, held its first meeting on 3 October 2008.
11. All three events held in 2008 under Article VII, **Implementation Support**, were solely for participants from African Member States. Of the 11 events that were held in 2008 under Article X, **Assistance and Protection**, 66.5% of the participants were from African countries, while almost 40% of those who participated in Article XI, **International Cooperation**, events in 2008 were from African States Parties.
12. Details of the support provided with regard to Articles VII, X, and XI are provided in the annexes.
13. At the Sixth Regional Meeting of National Authorities in Africa held in Kampala, Uganda, from 11 to 13 November 2008, the Director of the ICA and the Permanent Representatives to the OPCW of Nigeria and Uganda took the opportunity to present the Africa Programme and to encourage African States Parties to submit proposals and suggestions for future incorporation into the Africa Programme. Participants underlined their support for the Africa Programme and its further development and expressed their satisfaction with its current progress. H.E. Ambassador Abuelgasim Idris, Chairperson of the Conference of the States Parties and Permanent Representative of Sudan to the OPCW, also participated in the Meeting and emphasised the role of National Authorities in implementing the Africa Programme, urging them to participate actively in it.
14. A delegation from the Secretariat visited the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in Accra, Ghana, on 8 and 9 September 2008, to further promote the OPCW's relations and links with Africa. During the visit, possible avenues of cooperation between the OPCW and KAIPTC were discussed and explored. A reciprocal visit was undertaken from 11 to 12 November 2008 by a delegation from KAIPTC, during which, discussions focussed on modalities for future cooperation under the Africa Programme.
15. During his official visit to the AU on 18 November 2008, Ambassador Rogelio Pfrter, Director-General of the OPCW, informed the AU of the objectives and achievements of the Africa Programme. The visit provided an excellent opportunity for fruitful discussions on issues affecting Africa in the area of the Convention and the peaceful uses of chemistry. Also emphasised were the benefits that African States Parties stand to derive from the Africa Programme.
16. In the Secretariat's work plan for 2009, it is envisaged that ongoing efforts under the Africa Programme will be sustained in order to meet the needs and requests of the African Member States. It is foreseen that approximately 45% of the 6% increase provided to ICA will be spent on the Africa Programme.
17. The Secretariat continues to review and refine the Africa Programme in line with feedback, suggestions, comments, and input received from stakeholders.

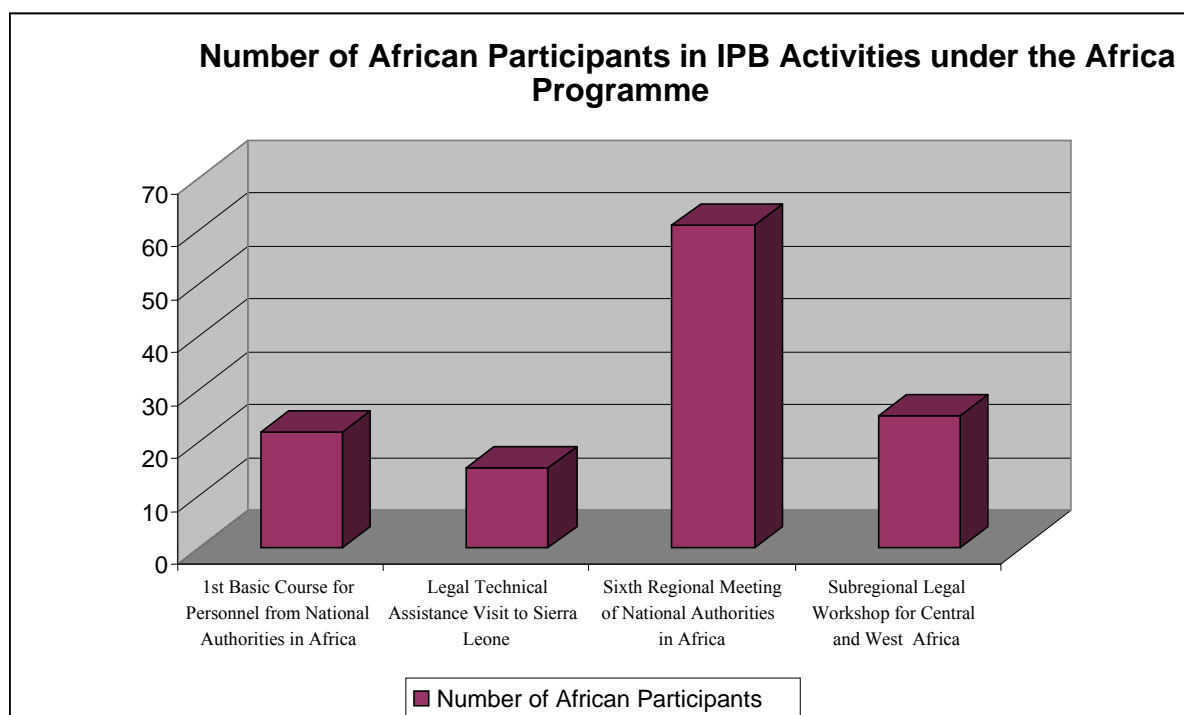
Annexes (English only):

- Annex 1: Africa Programme Activities Undertaken in 2008 under Article VII, Implementation Support
- Annex 2: Africa Programme Activities Undertaken in 2008 under Article X, Assistance and Protection
- Annex 3: Africa Programme Activities Undertaken in 2008 under Article XI, International Cooperation

Annex 1**AFRICA PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN 2008 UNDER
ARTICLE VII, IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT**

Programme	Dates	Event	Location	Number of African Participants	Source of Funding
Basic Course	22 – 26 Sept 2008	Basic Course for Personnel from National Authorities in Africa	Tshwane, South Africa	25	IPB regular budget
Technical Assistance Visits (TAVs)	November	Legal Technical Assistance Visit	Sierra Leone	15	Netherlands voluntary contribution*
	11 – 13 Nov 2008	Sixth Regional Meeting of National Authorities in Africa	Kampala, Uganda	30	IPB regular budget
	16 – 17 Dec 2008	Subregional Legal Workshop for Central and West Africa	Gambia	25	IPB regular budget

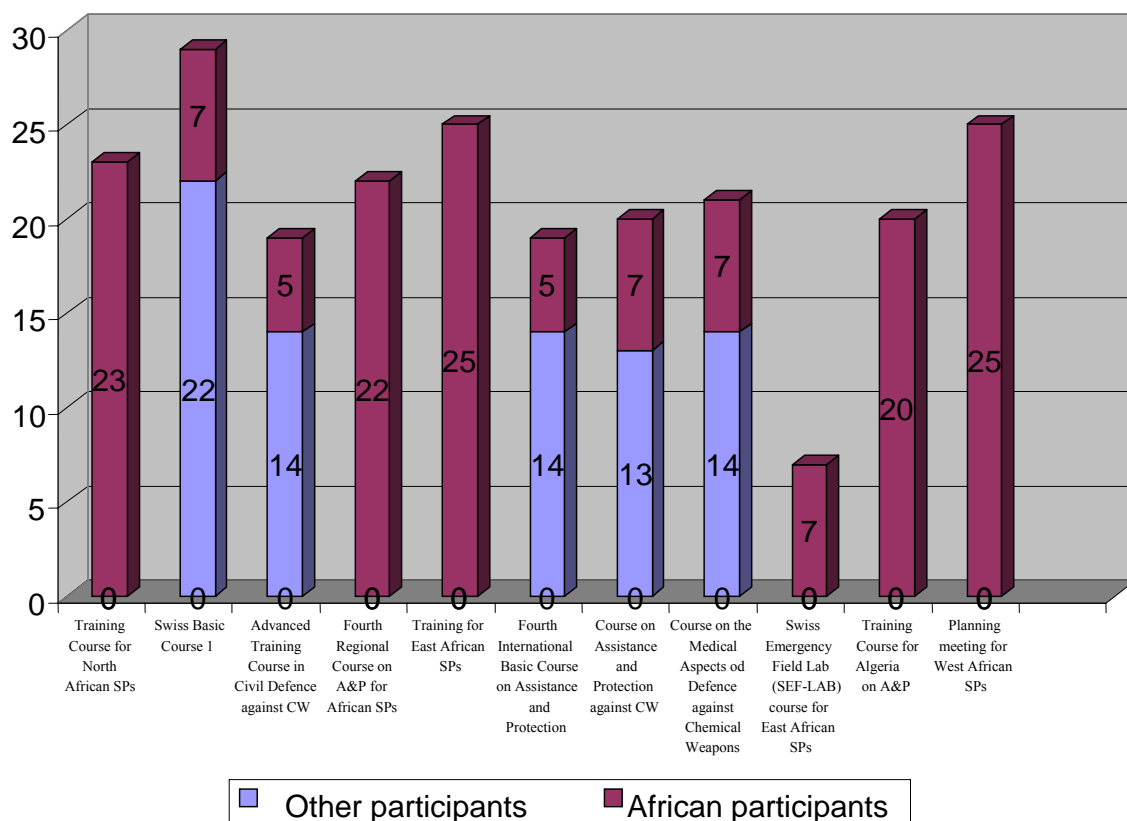
*Funded with voluntary contributions.



Annex 2**AFRICA PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN 2008 UNDER
ARTICLE X, ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION**

Dates	Event	Location	African Participants	Source of Funding
3 – 7 Mar	Regional course on emergency response for North African States Parties	Kenitra, Morocco	23 participants, 6 observers	European Union Joint Action
31 Mar to 4 Apr	Swiss Basic Course	Spiez, Switzerland	7 participants	Swiss Government* + APB regular budget
21 – 25 Apr	Advanced Training Course in Civil Defence against CW	Slovenská L'upča , Slovakia	5 participants	Slovakian government* + APB regular budget
19 – 23 May	Assistance and Protection course for African States Parties	Pretoria, South Africa	22 participants	South African government* + APB regular budget
26 – 30 May	Practical training course for East African States Parties	Lázně Bohdaneč and Příbram, Czech Republic	25 participants	Czech Voluntary contribution*
2 – 6 Jun	Fourth International Basic Course on Assistance and Protection	Kruševac, Serbia	5 participants	Serbian government* + APB regular budget
8 – 12 Sept	Course on Assistance and Protection against chemical weapons	Kuopio, Finland	7 participants	Finnish government* + APB regular budget
1 – 5 Nov	Course on the Medical Aspects of Defence against Chemical Weapons	Tehran, Iran, Islamic Republic of	7 participants	Iranian government* + APB regular budget
10 – 14 Nov	Swiss Emergency Field Lab course for East African States Parties	Spiez, Switzerland	7 participants	Swiss government* + APB regular budget
24 – 28 Nov	National Capacity-building training course	Algiers, Algeria	20 participants	APB regular budget
26 – 28 Nov	Planning meeting of West African countries for the subregional capacity-building project	Dakar, Senegal	25 participants	APB regular budget
TOTAL NUMBER OF AFRICAN PARTICIPANTS			153	

*Funded with voluntary contributions.



Note: SP = States Parties; CW = chemical weapons.

Annex 3

**AFRICA PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN 2008 UNDER
ARTICLE XI, INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

PROGRAMME	DATES	EVENT	NUMBER OF AFRICAN PARTICIPANTS	SOURCE OF FUNDING
Conference Support Programme	25 – 29 Feb	IOCDISDNP 2008 Joint Symposium – Natural Products: Unlimited Resources for the Development of Drugs, Cosmetics and Food, Kasane, Botswana	5 Cameroon Ethiopia South Africa Sudan Tanzania	Regular Budget
	13 – 15 May	Regional Workshop on Chemical Hazard Communication and Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) Implementation for Countries of the ECOWAS Region , Abuja, Nigeria	18 Benin Burkina Faso Côte d'Ivoire Mali Niger Sierra Leone Ghana(2) Liberia (2) Guinea (2) Senegal (2) Gambia (2) Togo (2)	Regular Budget
	27 – 29 July	The Role of Chemistry in Industry, Environmental Health and National Development, Ile Ife, Nigeria	1 South Africa	Regular Budget
	3 – 8 Aug	20th International Conference on Chemical Education (20th ICCE) – Chemistry Education in the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Age, Reduit, Mauritius	1 South Africa	Regular Budget
	15 – 19 Sept	Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety (IFCS Forum VI): IFCS Global Partnerships for Chemical Safety – Contributing to the 2020 Goal, (in collaboration with the World Health Organisation), Dakar, Senegal	8 Cameroon, Central African Republic Comoros Ethiopia Mauritania Rwanda Seychelles Tunisia	Regular Budget
	13 – 18 Apr	7 th Chemical Biological medical Treatment Symposium (CBMTS VII), Spiez, Switzerland	2 South Africa Zambia	Regular Budget

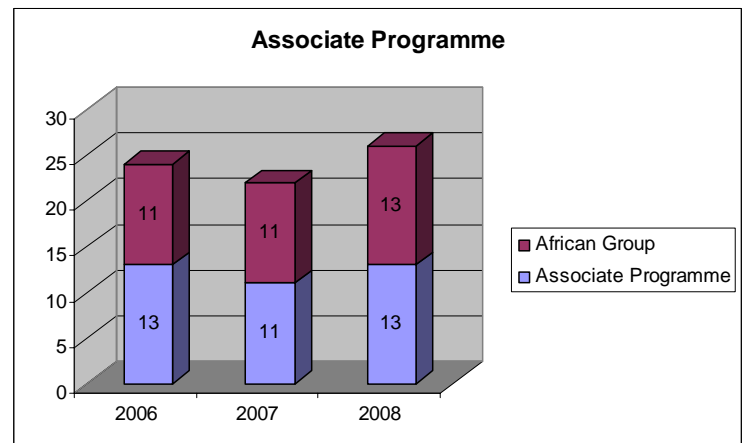
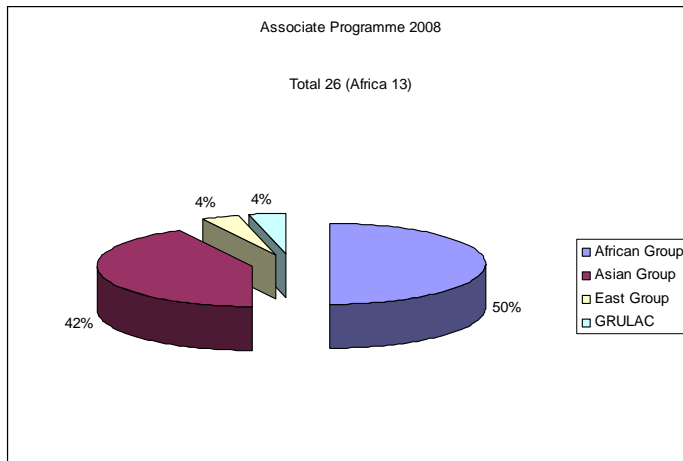
PROGRAMME	DATES	EVENT	NUMBER OF AFRICAN PARTICIPANTS	SOURCE OF FUNDING
	6 – 14 Sept	Risk Assessment Summer School XIII, Hemmenhofen, Germany	2 Cameroon Tunisia	Regular Budget
	29 Oct to 1 Nov	11 th International Symposium on Natural Products Chemistry, Karachi, Pakistan	3 Cameroon Ghana Sudan	Regular Budget
	3 – 6 Nov	13 th Asian Symposium on Medical Plants, Spices and other Natural Products (ASOMPS XIII): Natural Products in Drug Discovery, Hyderabad, India	4 Kenya (2) Nigeria South Africa	Regular Budget
	28 – 30 Oct	5 th Malaysian International Conference on Essential Oils, Fragrance and Flavour Materials (MICEOFF5), Kuala Lumpur Malaysia	4 Madagascar Mauritius Nigeria South Africa	Regular Budget
	8 – 11 Nov	First African Conference on Pesticides, Wadedani, Sudan	7 Ethiopia Kenya Tanzania Uganda Nigeria Zimbabwe(2)	Regular Budget
	8 – 12 Dec	7th East and Southern Africa Laboratory Managers Association (E-SALAMA) Workshop-2008 , Nairobi, Kenya	12 Botswana(2) Ethiopia (2) Lesotho Sudan Tanzania(2) Uganda(2) Zimbabwe(2)	Regular Budget
TOTAL NUMBER OF AFRICAN PARTICIPANTS IN 2008 CONFERENCE SUPPORT PROGRAMMES			67	

**AFRICA PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN 2008 UNDER
ARTICLE XI, INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION (continued)**

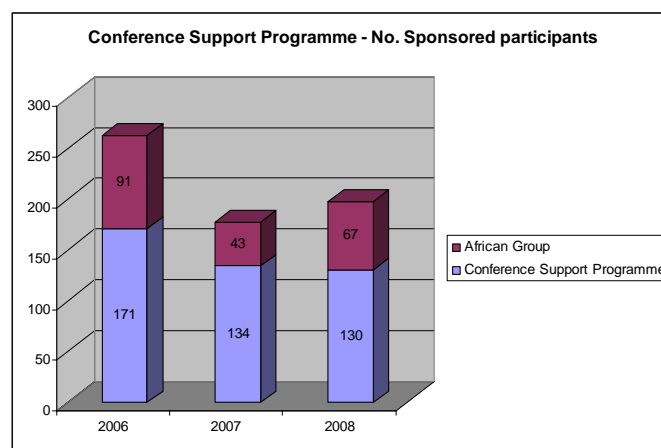
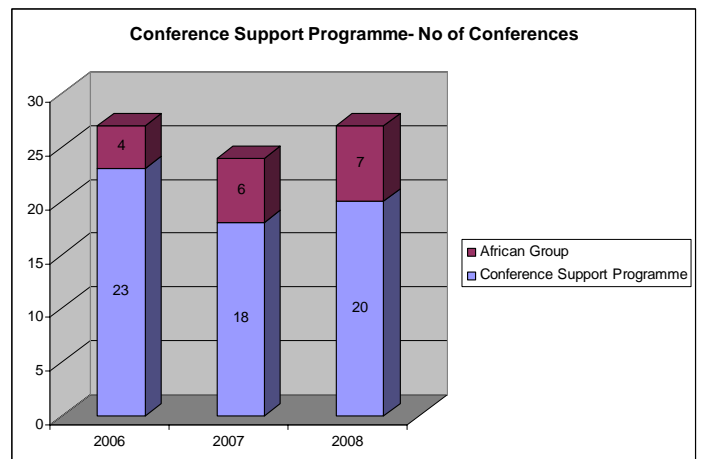
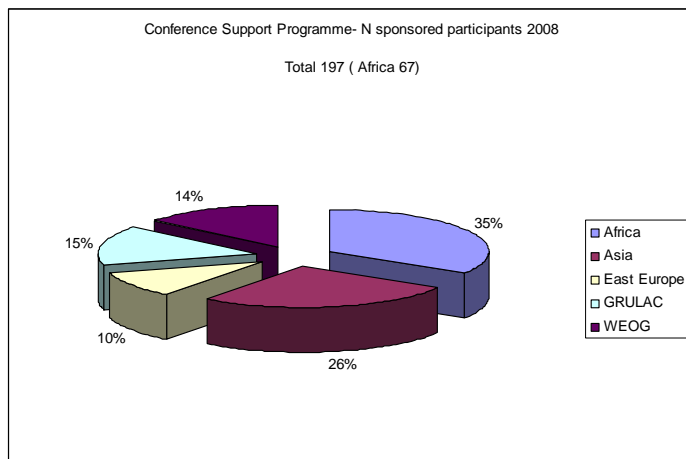
Programme	Dates	Event	Number of African Participants / Location	Source of Funding
Internships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nigeria (1 Feb – 30 Apr 2008) • Ghana (7 Sept – 30 Nov 2008) • Nigeria (24 Nov 2008 – 20 Feb 2009) • Tunisia (8 Sept 2008 – 5 Dec 2009) • Ethiopia (1 Apr – 30 Jun 2008) • Nigeria (11 Dec 2008 – 22 Jan 2009) • Kenya (30 Aug – 20 Nov 2008) • Zambia (1 Feb – 30 Apr 2008) • Nigeria (29 Oct 2008 – 28 Jan 2009) • Nigeria (13 Oct 2008 – 31 Dec 2009) • Kenya (1 Dec 2008 – 28 Feb 2009) • Nigeria (1 Sept 2008 – 28 Feb 2009) • Botswana (1 Sept 2008 – 28 Feb 2009) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internship, Nigeria national to Botswana, 1 Feb – 30 April • Internship, Ghana national to Japan, 7 Sept – 30 November • Internship, Nigeria national to South Africa, 24 Nov 2008 – 20 Feb 2009 • Internship, Tunisia national to Italy, 8 Sept – 5 Dec • Internship, Ethiopia national to Sweden, 1 Apr – 30 Jun • Internship, Nigeria national to South Africa, 11 Dec – 22 Jan 2009 • Internship, Kenya national to South Africa, 30 Aug – 20 Nov • Internship, Zambia national to South Africa, 1 Feb – 30 Apr • Internship, Nigeria national to South Africa, 29 Oct – 28 Jan 2009 • Internship, Nigeria national to South Africa, 13 Oct – 31 Dec 2009 • Internship, Kenya national to South Africa, 1 Dec – 28 Feb 2009 • Internship, Nigeria national to the Netherlands, 1 Sept – 28 Feb 2009 • Internship, Botswana national to the Netherlands, 1 Sept – 28 Feb 2009 	<p>13 / Botswana, Japan, South Africa (7), Italy, Sweden, the Netherlands (2)</p>	<p>Regular Budget</p> <p>Two interns from Voluntary Assistance from the Government of the Kingdom of The Netherlands</p>

Equipment Exchange Programme	<p>Apr – May 2008</p> <p>Jun – Jul 2008</p> <p>Jul – Aug 2008</p> <p>Aug – Sept 2008</p>	<p>a. National Authority of Burundi</p> <p>b. University of Botswana</p> <p>c. University of Malawi</p> <p>d. National Authority of Gambia</p>	<p>4 / Burundi</p> <p>Botswana</p> <p>Malawi</p> <p>Gambia</p>	Regular Budget
Associate Programme	18 Jul – 19 Sept 2008	Associate Programme	13 / Botswana, Congo, Ghana, Lybia, Lesotho, Mauritius, Nigeria, South Africa (2), Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe (2)	Regular Budget
Analytical Skills Development Courses & Laboratory Skills Enhancement	<p>5 – 16 May 2008</p> <p>30 May – 13 Jun 2008</p> <p>8 – 26 Sept 2008</p>	<p>CW-LSE Course</p> <p>Analytical Skills Development Course (ASDC)</p> <p>Course on the Analysis of Chemicals related to the CWC in the Framework of OPCW Proficiency Testing</p>	11 / Algeria, Burkina Faso (2), Ethiopia, Ghana, Lesotho (2), Malawi (2), Morocco, South Africa	Regular Budget & contribution in kind at VERIFIN Finland for CW-LSE course
Laboratory Assistance Programme	June and November 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laboratory Assistances visits Donation of spare parts to 13 laboratories 	<p>2 / Morocco & Nigeria (5 institutions)</p> <p>7 / Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Uganda, Zambia</p>	Regular Budget & EU Joint Action
Support for Research Programme		IFS/OPCW Co-funded and Directly Funded Research Projects	28 Researchers	Regular Budget

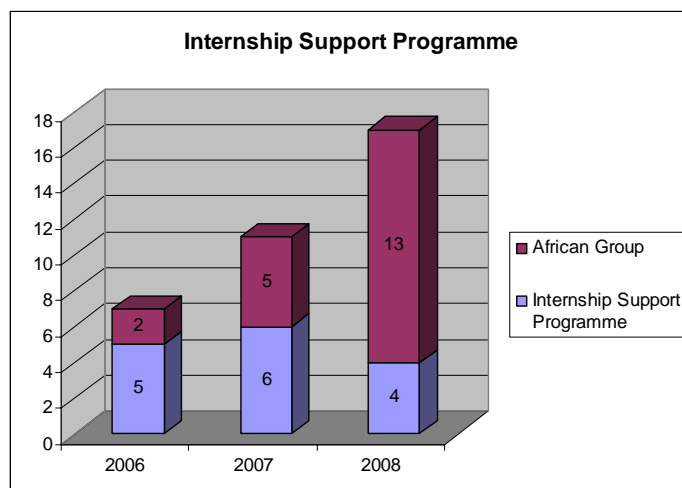
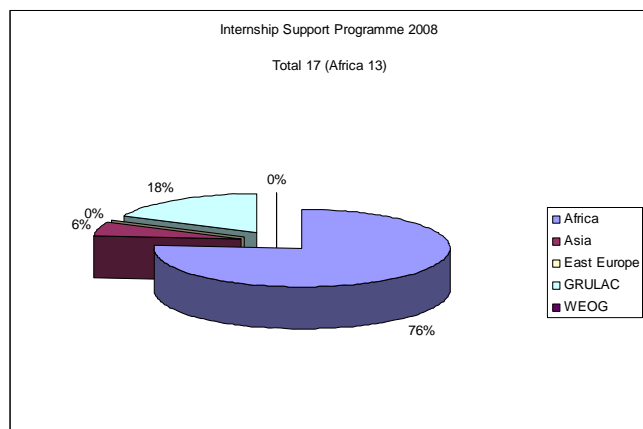
Associate Programme



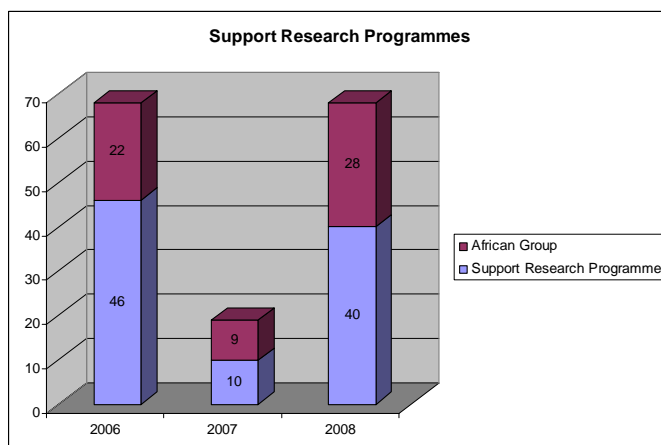
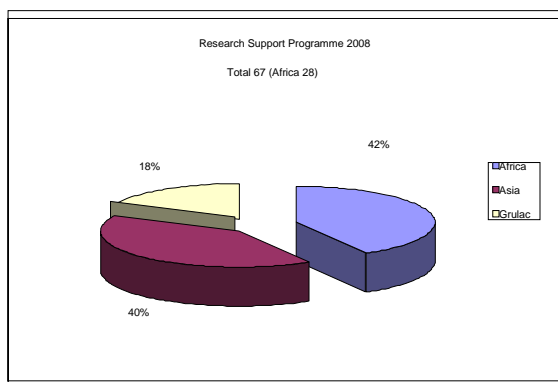
Conference Support Programme



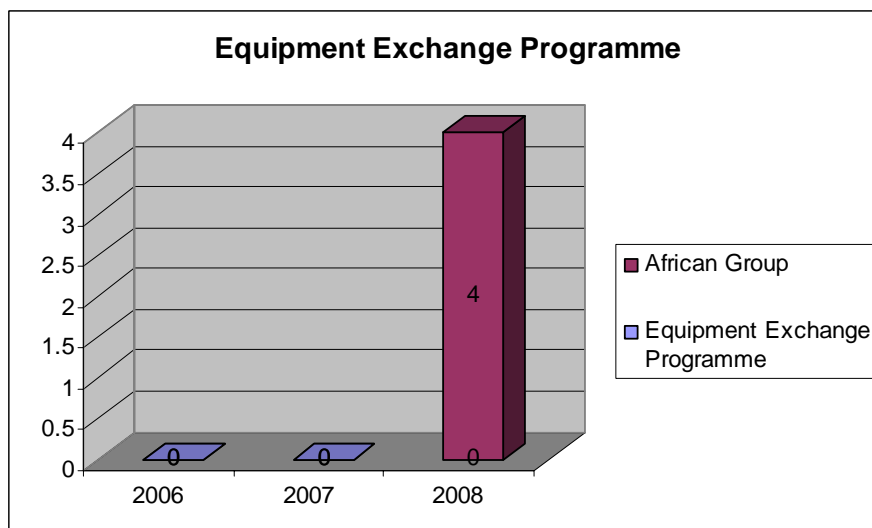
Internship Support Statistics



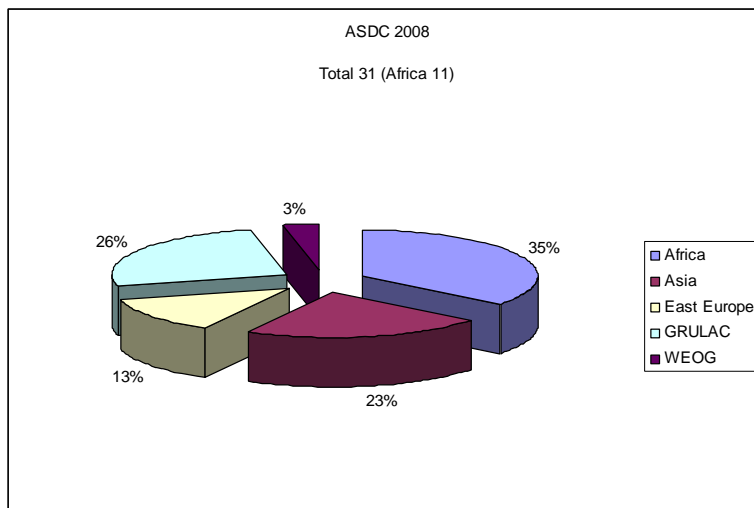
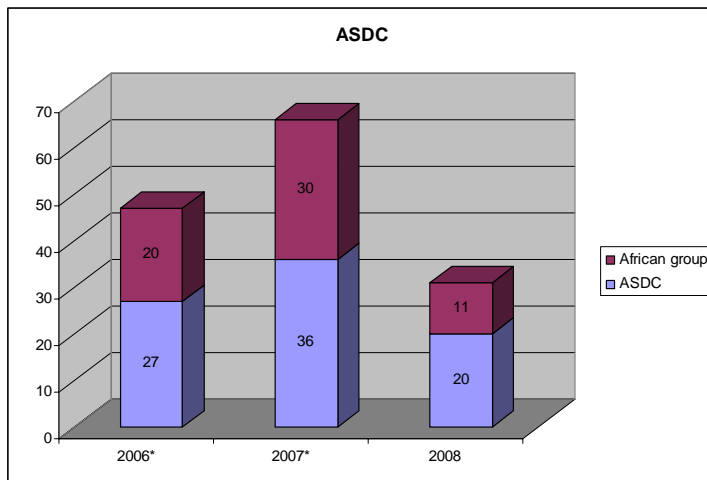
Research Projects



Equipment Exchange



Analytical Skills Development Course



Laboratory Assistance

