INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FIRST REGIONAL MEETING OF
NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF MEMBER STATES IN
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN,
LIMA, PERU, 28 - 30 MARCH 2000

1. The National Authority of the Republic of Peru and the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) invite representatives of National Authorities to participate in the first regional meeting of National Authorities of Member States in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Lima, Peru, from 28 - 30 March 2000.

2. The meeting is being convened in connection with the offer of the Peruvian delegation to host a meeting of representatives of National Authorities, made at the Fourth Session of the Conference of States Parties.

3. The meeting is intended to provide a framework within which National Authority representatives can review and discuss the following:

   (a) the status of implementation of the Convention in the region: identification of special regional requirements, and ways to address current issues and new challenges;

   (b) international cooperation projects in the region: identification of regional priorities, and proposals for developing a common platform; and

   (c) verification-related issues: exchange of experiences, and the availability of assistance in preparing declarations.

4. The provisional programme of the meeting is attached as annex 1.

5. Spanish - English interpretation services will be available throughout the meeting.

6. The Secretariat will be able to sponsor a limited number of participants, to cover the costs of international travel and accommodation in Lima. Sponsored participants will be informed separately about the terms and conditions of OPCW sponsorship.
7. Interested representatives of National Authorities are invited to complete the attached registration form (annex 2), and to return it to the Secretariat no later than 29 February 2000, together with an indication of whether sponsorship will be required. The forms should be addressed to the Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, NL-2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. The forms may also be submitted by fax (+31-(0)70-306 3535) or by e-mail (webmaster@opcw.org).

8. Additional information about the meeting may be obtained from the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the OPCW, at the address specified in the previous paragraph.

Annexes
Annex 1: Provisional programme
Annex 2: Registration form
Annex 1

FIRST REGIONAL MEETING OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF MEMBER STATES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, LIMA, PERU, 28 - 30 MARCH 2000

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Tuesday 28 March

09:00 – 10:00  Registration

10:00 – 10:30  Opening of the meeting

10:30 – 10:45  Coffee break

10:45 – 11:30  Key speaker: Overview of the status of implementation of the Convention

11:30 – 12:15  Review of the status of implementation of the Convention in the region: current issues and new challenges (Part I)

12:15 – 14:15  Lunch

14:15 – 15:00  Review of the status of implementation of the Convention in the region: current issues and new challenges (Part II)

15:00 – 15:30  Summing up

15:30 – 15:45  Coffee break

15:45 – 16:30  Special requirements in the regional implementation of the Convention and support for National Authorities: proposals for developing a plan of action

16:30 – 17:00  Summing up

Wednesday 29 March

09:00 – 9:45  Key speaker: International cooperation under Article XI: current status and new challenges

09:45 – 10:15  Questions and answers

10:15 – 10:30  Coffee break

10:30 – 11:15  International cooperation projects under the Convention: identification of regional priorities, and proposals for developing a common platform

11:15 – 11:45  Summing up

11:45 – 12:00  OPCW video presentation “Verification in Action”
12:00 – 14:00  Lunch

14:00 – 14:45  Key speaker: The purpose of declarations and verification activities. Declaration requirements: the impact of the Convention on the chemical industry  
Secretariat

14:45 – 15:30  National Authorities in Latin America and the Caribbean: exchanges of experiences and the availability of declaration assistance  
National Authorities

15:30 – 16:00  Summing up

16:00 – 16:15  Coffee break

16:15 – 17:00  Key speaker: The Convention’s requirements with respect to trade in scheduled chemicals  
Secretariat

17:00 – 17:30  Questions and answers

**Thursday 30 March**

09:00 – 9:45  Ways to ensure the implementation of restrictions on trade in Schedule 2 chemicals: the experiences of National Authorities
National Authorities

9:45 – 10:15  Summing up

10:15 – 10:30  Coffee break

10:30 – 11:00  Key speaker: An overview of OPCW industry inspections  
Secretariat

11:00 – 11:30  Questions and answers

11:30 – 12:15  The role of Customs authorities in the implementation of the Convention: the perspective of National Authorities  
National Authorities

12:15 – 12:45  Summing up

12:45 – 13:30  Closing of the meeting
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REGISTRATION FORM

Please return the completed form by 29 February 2000 to: International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. Fax: +31-(0)70-306 3535.

Please use BLOCK LETTERS

1. Family name
2. First name
3. Date of birth
4. Nationality
5. Gender Male / Female
6. Ministry/ organisation
7. Passport No.
8. Date of issue
9. Place of issue
10. Date of expiration
11. Contact address
12. Telephone no. (home/work)
13. Fax no. (home/work)
14. E-mail address
15. Academic/professional qualifications
16. Area(s) of expertise
17. Dietary requirements, if any (please specify)
18. Is OPCW sponsorship a precondition for participation? Yes □ No □

* Delete as appropriate.