



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

Office of the Legal Adviser
International Cooperation and Assistance Division
S/208/2000
28 August 2000
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**AN INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE
IN A REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION AND
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ISSUES
MBABANE, SWAZILAND, 28 - 30 NOVEMBER 2000**

1. The Government of Swaziland and the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (hereinafter the "Secretariat") invite representatives of States Parties and signatory States to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) from the Southern African Development Conference (SADC) region to attend a workshop on the implementation of the CWC. This workshop, which will focus on national implementing legislation, international cooperation issues, and the CWC's provisions for monitoring transfers of scheduled chemicals, will be held in Mbabane, Swaziland, from 28 to 30 November 2000.
2. When this invitation was published, Angola - an SADC member - had not yet joined the CWC. Should Angola wish to be represented at the workshop, it will accordingly be obliged to make its own arrangements. Attendance by representatives of Angola would enable its Government to be informed at first hand about the CWC and to learn about the benefits of membership of the OPCW.
3. The workshop will provide a forum in which government officials, particularly those responsible for drafting or proposing amendments to CWC implementing legislation, can pool their experiences with a view to adopting the most efficient strategies for preparing the legislative/regulatory framework for implementing the Chemical Weapons Convention. Each invited State Party is requested to nominate up to two candidates (one representative of its National Authority, preferably with a good understanding of its chemical industry, and one expert in the drafting of legislation).
4. The provisional programme of the workshop is contained in annex 1 to this invitation. The workshop will be conducted in English only. Due to a lack of funding, no interpretation services can be provided.

5. As part of the preparations for the workshop, each National Authority is requested to provide a brief written summary of the following: (a) national legislation and regulations currently in force on chemicals and what they provide for, or do not provide for, in relation to the CWC; and (b) national legislation and regulations on chemicals that are currently being drafted, if any. Delegations will also be expected to present one to two pages of project proposals for discussion at the workshop, in order to assist the Secretariat to draw up an OPCW regional programme which meets the needs of the region.
6. As has been pointed out above, the Secretariat will be able to sponsor up to two representatives of the National Authority or other government agencies of each State Party. The sponsorship will cover the costs of international travel for and accommodation during the workshop, in accordance with the standard OPCW procedures and rates. Details of the OPCW's terms and conditions for the sponsorship of participants will be provided separately to the participants through the Swaziland National Authority, which is responsible for contacting the respective National Authorities about these matters.
7. Participants nominated by their governments or by National Authorities, or any other prospective participants able to pay privately for their participation, are invited to complete the registration form contained in annex 2 to this invitation, and to return it to the Secretariat **no later than 30 September 2000**, together with an indication of whether OPCW sponsorship is a precondition for their participation. Additional information on the workshop can be obtained from the Office of the Legal Adviser to the OPCW (contact person Ms Cecilia Echevarría, telephone +31 (0)70 416 3814).

Annexes:

Annex 1: Provisional programme

Annex 2: Registration form

Annex 1**REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ISSUES
Mbabane, Swaziland, 28 - 30 November 2000****PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME****Monday 27 November***Arrivals and registration***Tuesday 28 November**

10:00 - 10:15	Welcoming statement by a representative of Swaziland
10:15 - 10:45	Obligations of States Parties under the CWC and assistance with declarations (LAO)
10:45 - 11:15	Implementing the CWC: problems for declared non-possessor States Parties (regional representative)
11:15 - 11:30	Membership benefits for declared non-possessor States Parties (ICA)
11:30 - 11:45	<i>Tea Break</i>
11:45 - 12:15	Legislation to implement the CWC: elements to be taken into account
12:15 - 12:45	One-subject matter-legislative act vs. an integrated legislative approach
13:00 - 15:00	<i>Lunch</i>
15:00 - 15:15	Presentation of the OPCW Secretariat's legislation package (LAO)
15:15 - 15:30	Legal technical assistance programme (LAO)
15:30 - 16:00	Import/export controls and customs issues (LAO/ICA)
16:00 - 16:15	<i>Tea Break</i>
16:15 - 16:45	Question and answer period: clarifying issues

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Wednesday 29 November

- 09:00 - 10:00 General discussion on issues of international cooperation and existing ICA programmes (ICA)
- 10:00 - 11:00 Discussion of regional projects in international cooperation (ICA)
- 11:00 - 11:15 *Tea Break*
- 11:15 - 12:30 Integrated approach towards infrastructure building for chemical laboratories (ICA)
- 12:30 - 14:30 *Lunch*
- 14:30 - 15:00 Presentation of the outcome of the joint UNITAR/OPCW thematic workshop (scheduled for September 2000)
- 15:00 - 15:15 *Tea Break*
- 15:15 - 16:00 Discussion of regional initiatives in different areas: outline presentations of projects by representatives of States Parties for discussion by the workshop, in order to assist the OPCW to set up a regional project programme (ICA/LAO)
- 16:00 - 16:30 Control of transfers of scheduled chemicals (LAO)
- 16:30 - 17:00 Question and answer period: clarifying issues (ICA/LAO)

Thursday 30 November

- 09:00 - 11:00 National overviews of chemical regulations in force in selected regional States Parties (to be decided in advance in consultation with participants)
- 11:00 - 11:15 *Tea Break*
- 11:15 - 12:30 A brief overview of chemical regulations currently being drafted in some selected regional States Parties (to be decided in advance in consultation with participants) (LAO)
- 12:30 - 14:30 *Lunch*
- 14:30 - 15:00 Summary of workshop proceedings and recommendations (LAO/ICA)
- 15:00 - 15:30 Closing remarks (LAO and Swaziland National Authority)

Annex 2

**REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ISSUES
Mbabane, Swaziland, 28 - 30 November 2000**

REGISTRATION FORM

Please submit the completed form by **30 September 2000** to:
Office of the Legal Adviser, 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 expiry	_____
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. Special dietary requirements if any (please specify)	_____
18. Sponsorship: (a) OPCW	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
(b) Private	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

* Delete as appropriate.