



**OPCW**

**Technical Secretariat**

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Office of the Deputy Director-General

S/379/2003

18 September 2003

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**MEETING OF GOVERNMENT EXPERTS TO REVIEW THE FINDINGS  
SUBMITTED BY THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD  
TO THE FIRST REVIEW CONFERENCE  
THE HAGUE, 12 – 14 NOVEMBER 2003**

1. Having consulted with the Chairman of the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”), and following the recommendation of the First Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (First Review Conference) (subparagraph 7.30 of RC-1/5, dated 9 May 2003), the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) wishes to inform States Parties that a meeting of government experts will be convened under the auspices of the Council to review the observations and recommendations in the Note by the Director-General entitled “Report of the Scientific Advisory Board on Developments in Science and Technology” (RC-1/DG.2, dated 23 April 2003).
2. The meeting will be held from 12 to 14 November 2003 in the Ieper Room of OPCW headquarters, with morning sessions from 10:00 to 12:30 and afternoon sessions from 14:30 to 17:00. The meeting will be conducted in English. A provisional programme is annexed hereto.
3. The aims of the meeting are to review RC-1/DG.2 and to prepare a report to the Council so as to enable it to begin work on the recommendations it was requested to prepare for the Conference of the States Parties.
4. States Parties are invited to nominate experts to participate in the meeting. Nominations should be sent to the Office of the Deputy Director-General, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. They may also be submitted by fax to +31 (0)70 306 3535, or by e-mail to [oddg@opcw.org](mailto:oddg@opcw.org).
5. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to the Netherlands. Participants requiring an entry visa are advised to contact the nearest diplomatic mission of the Netherlands as soon as possible. Participants requiring assistance from the Secretariat may contact the Protocol Branch at either of the following numbers:

Phone: +31 (0)70 416 3300

Fax: +31 (0)70 306 3890.

Please note that the Secretariat cannot sponsor participation in this meeting.

Annex: Provisional Programme



**Annex**

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**PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

**Wednesday, 12 November**

***Session 1: 10:00 – 12:30***

Opening of the meeting

Introduction to the Note by the Director-General “Report of the Scientific Advisory Board on Developments in Science and Technology” (RC-1/DG.2)

General discussion

***Session 2: 14:30 – 17:00***

The Schedules of Chemicals (findings 2.2 through 2.4<sup>1</sup>)

The production of chemical compounds (findings 2.5 and 2.6)

**Thursday, 13 November 2003**

***Session 3: 10:00 – 12:30***

Sampling and analysis on-site (findings 2.7, 2.9, and 2.10)

Chemical analysis off-site (findings 2.8 and 2.11)

***Session 4: 14:30 – 17:00***

Optimising the verification of chemical weapons destruction operations (finding 2.12)

Assistance and protection (finding 2.13)

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<sup>1</sup> This numbering refers to the paragraphs containing these findings in the executive summary (section 2) of the report of the Scientific Advisory Board to the First Review Conference, Annex to RC-1/DG.2. Please note that the report also contains observations and recommendations by the Director-General referring to these findings, and that more-detailed observations by the Scientific Advisory Board are to be found elsewhere in its report.

**Friday, 14 November 2003**

***Session 5: 10:00 – 12:30***

Education, outreach, and international cooperation (finding 2.14)

The technical capabilities of the Secretariat (finding 2.15)

***Session 6: 14:30 – 17:00***

Wrap-up discussion and summary

Report to the Executive Council

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