



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

Office of the Legal Adviser and
International Cooperation and Assistance Division
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NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**LEGAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: MEETING OF THE
OPCW NETWORK OF LEGAL EXPERTS
THE HAGUE, 4 – 7 NOVEMBER 2003**

1. As announced in the Note by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) entitled “Legal Technical Assistance: Network of Legal Experts” (S/363/2003, dated 28 May 2003), a meeting of the OPCW Network of Legal Experts will be convened at OPCW headquarters in The Hague from 4 to 7 November 2003.
2. The provisional programme for the meeting is annexed to this Note.
3. In preparation for the meeting, all participants are requested to:
 - (a) prepare a presentation lasting no more than 10 minutes that:
 - (i) discusses the status in their countries of national implementing legislation for the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) and any problems that have been encountered and resolved in drafting it;
 - (ii) lists any outstanding problems, and indicates what assistance, if any, is still needed to resolve them; and
 - (iii) indicates what legal assistance, if any, has already been provided with the drafting of legislation; and
 - (iv) gives the projected date, where applicable, for the adoption of legislation;
 - (b) bring to the meeting either draft legislation, so that it can be discussed in a working group, or (if it has not already been submitted to the Secretariat) the implementing legislation in force in their countries, or both; and



- (c) review and download the background information for the meeting, which can be found under “Legal” on the OPCW website, and which includes the document entitled “Checklist for the Legislator” (available in six languages), model legislation, and examples of national implementing legislation.
- 4. Additional information about the meeting may be obtained from the Office of the Legal Adviser. The contact person is Lisa Tabassi, who can be reached by telephone at +31 (0)70 416 3708 or by e-mail at legal@opcw.org.

Annex:

Provisional Programme

Annex**MEETING OF THE OPCW NETWORK OF LEGAL EXPERTS
OPCW HEADQUARTERS
THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS
4 – 7 NOVEMBER 2003****PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

In preparation for the meeting, all participants are requested to:

- (a) prepare a presentation lasting no more than 10 minutes that:
 - (i) discusses the status in their countries of national implementing legislation for the Convention and any problems that have been encountered and resolved in drafting it;
 - (ii) lists any outstanding problems, and indicates what assistance, if any, is still needed to resolve them; and
 - (iii) indicates what legal assistance, if any, has already been provided with the drafting of legislation; and
 - (iv) gives the projected date, where applicable, for the adoption of legislation;
- (b) bring to the meeting either draft legislation, so that it can be discussed in a working group, or (if it has not already been submitted to the Secretariat) the implementing legislation in force in their countries, or both; and
- (c) review and download the background information for the meeting, which can be found under “Legal” on the OPCW website, and which includes the document entitled “Checklist for the Legislator” (available in six languages), model legislation, and examples of national implementing legislation.

Monday, 3 November

16:00 – Registration
18:00

Tuesday, 4 November

08:00 Registration
09:00 Opening ceremony:
 Opening address by Brian Hawtin, Deputy Director-General
 Introduction by Isaac K. Minta, Acting Legal Adviser
09:30 *Coffee break*

- 10:00 Legislative Requirements under the CWC¹, by Mtshana M. Ncube, Special Adviser for Legal Affairs
Enforcement of the CWC, by Lisa Tabassi, Legal Officer
The Action Plan for Article VII, by Ralf Trapp, Senior Policy Adviser
Privileges and Immunities of the OPCW, Delegates, the Director-General and Staff, by Samir Mechken, Acting Legal Officer
- 12:30 *Lunch*
- 14:00 National presentations:
Brief presentations by the members of the Network of Legal Experts on the status of CWC implementing legislation in their countries, including problems encountered and/or resolved, outstanding issues, legal assistance provided, and assistance needs
- 15:30 *Coffee break*
- 16:00 National presentations, continued
- 17:30 Consultations with assistance providers (no interpretation)
- 18:30 Adjournment

Wednesday, 5 November

- 09:00 National presentations, continued
- 10:30 *Coffee break*
- 11:00 National presentations, continued
- 12:30 *Lunch*
- 14:00 National presentations, continued
- 15:30 *Coffee break*
- 16:00 National presentations, continued
- 16:30 The Legal Module on the OPCW Website: by Scott Spence, Harvard Sussex Researcher
- 17:00 Establishment of working groups and coordination of work for Thursday and Friday
- 17:30 Bilateral consultations with assistance providers (no interpretation)
- 18:30 Adjournment

Thursday, 6 November

- 09:00 Working-group consultations on draft legislation in Arabic, English, French, Russian, and Spanish)
- 10:30 *Coffee break*
- 11:00 Working groups, continued
- 13:00 *Lunch*
- 14:00 Working groups, continued
- 15:30 *Coffee break*
- 16:00 Working groups, continued
- 18:00 Adjournment

¹ The Chemical Weapons Convention

Friday, 7 November

- 09:00 Working groups, continued
10:30 *Coffee break*
11:00 Working groups, continued
13:00 *Lunch*
14:00 Working groups, continued
15:30 *Coffee break*
16:00 Summing up of the work carried out in working groups and follow-up
action: reports by language coordinators
18:00 Closing of the meeting

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