



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

External Relations Division

S/727/2008*

19 December 2008

ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**WORKSHOP ON THE UNIVERSALITY
OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN AND THE MIDDLE EAST REGION
ISTANBUL, TURKEY
16 – 17 APRIL 2009**

1. On behalf of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General is pleased to invite States Parties and States not Party to a workshop on the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) in the Mediterranean basin and the Middle East region, to be co-organised with the Government of Turkey, in Istanbul, on 16 and 17 April 2009.
2. The main objectives of the workshop are to promote awareness of the Convention, its universality, and effective implementation among States in the Mediterranean basin, the Middle East region, and neighbouring countries. Participants from other regions are also welcome to attend. The workshop is also intended to:
 - (a) explain the obligations of States Parties under the Convention, as well as its benefits, including the contribution that it makes to international peace and security; and
 - (b) raise awareness of the activities of the OPCW.
3. The workshop is supported by a European Union Joint Action.¹ Its objectives are consistent with the action plan for the universality of the Convention, adopted in 2003 by the Executive Council at its Twenty-Third Session;² with the subsequent decisions on the universality of the Convention and the implementation of the action plan adopted by the Conference of the States Parties at its Tenth, Eleventh, and Twelfth Sessions;³ as well as with the recommendations stemming from the Second Special

* Reissued for technical reasons.

¹ Council Joint Action 2007/185/CFSP of 19 March 2007, OJ L85, 27.03.2007, p. 10.

² EC-M-23/DEC.3, dated 24 October 2003, adopted following a recommendation by the First Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (paragraph 7.18 of RC-1/5, dated 9 May 2003).

³ C-10/DEC.11, dated 10 November 2005, C-11/DEC.8, dated 7 December 2006, and C-12/DEC.11, dated 9 November 2007, respectively.



Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.⁴

4. The programme for the workshop will include the following elements:
 - (a) an overview of the main features of the Convention and of the work of the OPCW;
 - (b) a description of how the Convention contributes to advancing the cause of international peace and security;
 - (c) a review of the status of the Convention in the regions in question, and of the issues commonly encountered in joining it;
 - (d) briefings and discussions on the operation of the Convention, the status of participation in it, and universality-related activities;
 - (e) a discussion of the measures required in order to implement the Convention at the national level;
 - (f) a discussion of the benefits of joining the Convention from the political and security perspectives, as well as from the standpoint of international cooperation; and
 - (g) segments on the OPCW's programmes on international cooperation, assistance and protection.
5. The provisional programme for the workshop will be circulated in due course.
6. The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter "the Secretariat") expects to be able to sponsor the participation of two representatives from each State not Party.
7. States Parties may kindly note that the OPCW sponsorship for this workshop is only available for States not Party. They are therefore encouraged to bear the costs associated with sending their representatives to the workshop.
8. Participants will be informed in due course regarding hotel arrangements and the venue for the workshop, as well as regarding the administrative arrangements relating to their participation.
9. The workshop will be conducted in English. All participants must therefore possess a good command, both written and oral, of English.
10. Interested States are invited to complete the nomination form that is annexed to this Note, making sure in particular to provide all the contact details it requests. Completed forms should be addressed to the Director, External Relations Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. Nominations may also be submitted by fax to +31(0)70 306 3535, or by e-mail to grb@opcw.org.

⁴ RC-2/4, dated 18 April 2008, paras. 9.12–9.13, 9.16, and 9.18.

All nominations must be received by the Secretariat no later than **Friday, 6 March 2009**. Please be advised that participants must present an OPCW acceptance letter in order to register at the workshop.

11. Additional information on the workshop may be obtained from the Government Relations and Political Affairs Branch in the External Relations Division. The contact persons are Ms Valeria Santori, Government Relations and Political Affairs Branch (+31 (0)70 416 3232; valeria.santori@opcw.org), and Mr Martin Ewi (+31 (0)70 416 3023; martin.ewi@opcw.org).

Annex:
Nomination Form

Annex

**WORKSHOP ON THE UNIVERSALITY
OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN AND THE MIDDLE EAST REGION
ISTANBUL, TURKEY, 16 – 17 APRIL 2009**

NOMINATION FORM

Please submit the completed form **by 6 March 2009** to:
The Director, External Relations Division, OPCW
Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands
Fax: +31 (0)70 306 3535/416 32 80; e-mail: grb@opcw.org

Please use BLOCK LETTERS

1.	Government body making the nomination				
2.	Family name of nominee				
3.	First name(s)*		Mrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Ms <input type="checkbox"/>	Mr <input type="checkbox"/>
4.	Date of birth	Day	Month	Year	
5.	Citizenship				
6.	Gender	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>		
7.	Passport number				
8.	Date of issue	Day	Month	Year	
9.	Expiry date	Day	Month	Year	
10.	Place of issue				
11.	Employer				
12.	Position (including title)				
13.	Employer's address (Please do not give a post-office box number)	Street			
		Number	Post code		
		City			
		Country			

* For this and all like items, please tick the appropriate box.

14.	E-mail address	
15.	Telephone numbers, including country and city codes	Home
		Work
		Mobile
16.	Fax numbers, including country and city codes	Home
		Work
17.	Has the nominee previously attended a workshop of this kind?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If so, when and where?
18.	Dietary requirements	Vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/> No special requirements <input type="checkbox"/>
19.	What areas of the CWC are of concern or interest to your country?	----- ----- ----- ----- -----
20.	Is a bilateral meeting with Secretariat staff required?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
		If so, please indicate what matters you would like to discuss: Verification-related <input type="checkbox"/> Legal <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Please specify: ----- ----- -----