



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

Office of Special Projects
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NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**THE INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY
TARNÓW, POLAND
8 AND 9 NOVEMBER 2012**

1. On behalf of the Government of Poland and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) wishes to invite States Parties, governmental agencies, international organisations, chemical industries and its trade associations, laboratories, academia, and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to the upcoming international meeting on chemical safety and security, which will take place on 8 and 9 November 2012 in Tarnów, Poland.
2. The meeting is organised in cooperation with the G8 Global Partnership and other international partners. Financial support is being provided under the European Union (EU) Council Decision 2012 in support of activities of the OPCW in the framework of the implementation of the EU Strategy against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (2012/166/CFSP, dated 23 March 2012), the United States Chemical Security Engagement Programme, and the Government of Poland.
3. The meeting aims to encourage international cooperation in the field of chemical safety and security and promote the development of a global chemical safety-and-security culture. It will seek ways to enhance chemical safety and security at the national level, support capacity building, exchanges of best practices, and improve national and international coordination in these matters.
4. The meeting will be attended by representatives of States, governmental agencies, international organisations, chemical industries, and academia, and will provide an opportunity for them to explore national and international approaches and innovative strategies in chemical safety and security.
5. The relevant background documentation for the meeting, including the nomination form, is also available on the OPCW website.

Background

6. The global chemical industry and its activities have grown rapidly over the past several decades and continue to expand. Applying sound principles for chemical



safety and security is consequently becoming critically important for an increasing number of States. Promoting and establishing a global chemical safety-and-security culture will provide greater assurances that national measures undertaken in this regard can prevent the misuse of toxic chemicals.

7. The OPCW's involvement in regard to enhancing chemical safety and security is a follow-up to the decisions of both the First Special Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Second Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter "the Second Review Conference"), held in 2003 and 2008, respectively. The Second Review Conference welcomed the fact that some States Parties had taken measures to minimise security risks at chemical facilities and encouraged States Parties to exchange experiences and discuss related issues (paragraph 9.94 of RC-2/4, dated 18 April 2008).
8. The Conference of the States Parties decided (C-16/DEC.10, dated 1 December 2011)¹ at its Sixteenth Session that, inter alia, a series of measures concerning chemical safety and security should be implemented.
9. The subsequent discussions and activities of the Member States and the Secretariat have further developed the OPCW as a platform of support for global cooperation in decreasing the chemical threat, and includes such activities as raising awareness, training, the exchange of best practices, and fostering cooperation between chemical professionals in order to support the safe and secure production, transportation, and storage of chemicals. These activities have included the "Seminar on OPCW's Contribution to Security and Non-Proliferation of Chemical Weapons", held in The Hague, the Netherlands (OPCW Headquarters building), on 11 and 12 April 2011; and the Conference on International Cooperation and Chemical Safety and Security, held in The Hague, the Netherlands (OPCW Headquarters building), on 12 and 13 September 2012.

Meeting objectives

10. The meeting is another step in promoting the OPCW as a platform of support for global cooperation in decreasing the chemical threat and enhancing chemical safety and security.
11. The Tarnów meeting will involve a broad coverage of all issues relevant to chemical safety and security. Discussions and presentations include topics such as national measures and approaches, international cooperation and assistance, chemical-industry issues, and chemical plant and transportation security.
12. Meeting objectives will include the following:
 - (a) promoting a global chemical safety-and-security culture and international cooperation in that field;
 - (b) strengthening the commitment to develop a global chemical safety-and-security culture;

¹ C-16/DEC.10 = "Components of an Agreed Framework for the Full Implementation of Article XI"

- (c) fostering discussions on effective responses to the misuse of chemicals;
- (d) exchanging ideas on the evolving nature of the chemical industry;
- (e) building synergies and strengthening collaborative frameworks between governments, international organisations, chemical industry, academia, and NGOs;
- (f) raising awareness about assistance needs in the areas of chemical safety and security and the transportation of chemicals, including in countries with emerging economies; and
- (g) encouraging discussion on the role that international organisations can play in developing security mechanisms in a changing environment.

13. The meeting is expected to achieve the following results:

- (a) to raise awareness of and promote the exchange of ideas and expertise on global chemical safety and security;
- (b) to support global cooperation in lessening the chemical threat by promoting awareness of chemical-security best practices and fostering cooperation between chemical professionals;
- (c) to offer assistance in enhancing national measures in the areas of the chemical safety and security and the transportation of chemicals; and
- (d) to highlight chemical weapons proliferation as a global threat that requires a global response and to discuss how to effectively respond to this threat.

Venue and dates

14. The two-day meeting will be held in Tarnów, Poland, at the Tarnów Theatre (Adama Mickiewicza 4, 33-100 Tarnów, Poland) on 8 and 9 November 2012.

Format

15. The meeting will be inaugurated by a high-level opening plenary session and possible adoption of a declaration on the importance of developing a global chemical-safety-and-security culture; this will be followed by three working sessions. The final session will provide an opportunity for the outcomes to be discussed.

Participants

16. Key stakeholders and target audiences for the meeting include representatives from governments, relevant national agencies, international organisations engaged in the field of chemical safety and security, the chemical industry and its trade associations, academia, laboratories, NGOs, and independent experts.

Registration, sponsorship, coordination, contact information, and logistical information

17. Those wishing to participate in the meeting are invited to complete the nomination form that is annexed hereto, and which can also be downloaded from the OPCW website (www.opcw.org). Every participant will receive a letter of confirmation from the Secretariat.
18. Completed forms should be addressed to Mr Krzysztof Paturej, Director of the Office of Special Projects at the OPCW, who is responsible for the overall coordination of the preparations for and conduct of the meeting. He can be reached at the following address: Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands and by email at: paturej@opcw.org). Nominations can also be submitted by e-mail or fax to Ms Nadezda Malyutina, Senior Secretary, who can be reached at: +31 (0)70 416 3492 (phone), fax: +31 (0)70416 3499, and e-mail: nadezda.malyutina@opcw.org. In addition, a copy of the form should be sent to Ms Vanessa Rehn: email: vanessa.rehn@opcw.org. **All applications must be received by the Secretariat no later than 19 October 2012.**
19. The meeting will be conducted in English. All participants are therefore expected to have a good oral and written knowledge of this language.
20. If indicated on the nomination form, the Secretariat will reserve hotel accommodation on behalf of the participant. Unless sponsored by the OPCW, the participant is expected to pay in full for hotel accommodation.
21. Participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to Poland.

Sponsorship

22. Due to the limited funds available for sponsorship, the Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor only a limited number of participants from States Parties. The nomination of qualified female participants is strongly encouraged. Each nomination should specify whether sponsorship is a condition for the nominee's participation. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel and medical insurance, as well as hotel and meals and will provide a daily subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses.
23. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. The Secretariat will purchase tickets and send them to participants. Sponsored participants shall bear all costs resulting from any changes they make, once the Secretariat has purchased tickets. In order for the Secretariat to keep costs to a minimum, sponsored participants are expected to arrive in Tarnów, Poland, **no earlier than Wednesday, 7 November 2012**, and to depart **no later than Friday, 9 November 2012**. The Secretariat's approval is required for any changes to the arrival and departure dates of sponsored participants. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the course or that result from changes in travel

arrangements that it has not authorised. Sponsored participants shall bear all costs resulting from changes they make, including cancellations, once the Secretariat has purchased their tickets.

Contacts

24. The preparations for the meeting, including planning and conduct, are being coordinated, on behalf of Poland, by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Polish National Authority) and the International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security in Tarnów. Further information can be obtained from the following official authorities of Poland:

Lukasz Rozycki
Security Policy Department
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Telephone: + 48 22 523 9704
Fax: +48 22 628 5841

Szymon Bochenski
Counsellor
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Telephone: + 31 (0)70 799 0114
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E-mail: szymon.bochenski@msz.gov.pl

Lukasz Blacha
Municipality of Tarnów
Telephone: + 48 665 100 437
Email: l.blacha@umt.tarnow.pl

25. The substantive preparations for the meeting are being coordinated by:

Per Runn
OPCW Consultant
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Email: perrunn@gmail.com

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International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security in Tarnów
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Email: lstarostin@hotmail.com

- Annex 1: Provisional Programme
Annex 2: Nomination Form

Annex 1

**INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY
TARNÓW, POLAND
8 AND 9 NOVEMBER 2012**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity	Location
<i>Wednesday, 7 November 2012</i>		
18:00 – 20:00	Registration of participants	Cristal Hotel/Tarnów
<i>Thursday, 8 November 2012</i>		
08:00 – 08:30	Registration of participants	Tarnów Theatre
08:30 – 10:30	Plenary Session: Chemical, biological, nuclear, and radiological (CBRN) safety and security as a key component of international security	Tarnów Theatre
10:30 – 11:00	Opening of the thematic exhibition and photo opportunity	Tarnów Theatre Lounge
11:00 – 13:00	Working session 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of national and international frameworks for enhancing chemical safety and security • Resource centres and promoting a culture of global chemical security 	Tarnów Theatre
13:00 – 15:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
15:30 – 18:30	Working session 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laboratory, chemical plant, and transportation security • National experiences • International and chemical industry experiences 	Tarnów Theatre
19:00 – 21:30	Concert; followed by an official reception hosted by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland	Tarnów Theatre
<i>Friday, 9 November 2012</i>		
09:30 – 13:00	Working session 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemistry for sustainability • National and industry experiences in implementing chemical safety • International experiences and assistance in sound management of chemicals 	Tarnów Theatre
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00 – 15:00	Transportation of participants to Wieliczka Salt Mine	Wieliczka
15:00 – 16:00	Tour of the Wieliczka Salt Mine	
16:00 – 17:00	Concluding Plenary Session Presentation on the Tarnów Declaration on the development of international cooperation to enhance chemical safety and security and the promotion of a global culture of chemical security Closure of the meeting	Wieliczka Salt Mine
17:00 – 18:00	Reception	Wieliczka Salt Mine
18:00 – 19:00	Return to Tarnów	

Annex 2

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NOMINATION FORM

Please submit the completed form by **19 October 2012** to Mr Krzysztof Paturej, Director of Special Projects, OPCW, Address: Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands, Fax: +31 (0)70 416 3499; e-mail: nadezda.malyutina@opcw.org. In addition, a copy should be sent to Ms Vanessa Rehn, email: vanessa.rehn@opcw.org.

Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS.

1.	Family name of nominee [†]			
2.	First name(s) [*]			
3.	Date of birth	Day	Month	Year
4.	Citizenship			
5.	Gender ^{**}	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	
6.	Passport number			
7.	Date of issue	Day	Month	Year
8.	Expiry date	Day	Month	Year
9.	Place of issue			
10.	Employer (affiliation)			
11.	Official title			
12.	Employer's address (Please do not give a post-office box number)	Street		
		Number	Post code	
		City		
		Country		
13.	E-mail address			
14.	Telephone number			
15.	Fax number			
16.	Is sponsorship a condition of participation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
17.	Place and date of departure to Tarnów			
18.	Date of departure from Tarnów			
19.	I request the Secretariat to reserve hotel accommodation	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	

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[†] Please give the first and family names exactly as they appear in the nominee's passport.

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