



S/1500/2017

31 May 2017

ENGLISH and SPANISH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A SEMINAR
ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION AND CHEMICAL SAFETY
AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT FOR MEMBER STATES OF THE OPCW
IN THE GRULAC REGION
MEXICO CITY, MEXICO
17 – 19 JULY 2017**

1. On behalf of the Government of Mexico and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General is pleased to invite National Authorities and/or governmental representatives responsible for chemical-safety and chemical-security management, representatives from chemical-industry associations, and managers involved in chemical-industry safety and security and in Responsible Care® to submit applications for a seminar for Member States of the OPCW in the GRULAC¹ region on the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) and chemical safety-and-security management, to be held in Mexico City, Mexico, from 17 to 19 July 2017.
2. The seminar is being organised in order to further promote international-cooperation programmes that focus on chemical-industry outreach and industry-related aspects of the implementation of Article XI of the Convention. The aim of this seminar is to support chemical safety-and-security management in the chemical industry in GRULAC countries. The overall goal is to sensitise States Parties to the new approaches that can be adopted in relation to chemical safety-and-security management, with a particular focus on providing assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises. By promoting and disseminating standardised and best practices in chemical safety, the seminar will benefit chemical-industry personnel who are involved in safety-and-security management issues, enhance the capacities of National Authorities and chemical industry associations in Member States of the OPCW in the GRULAC region, and indirectly benefit the general public as a whole.
3. The objectives of the seminar include the following:
 - (a) to provide an opportunity for participating States Parties to consider and discuss specific chemical safety-and-security management issues related to

¹ GRULAC = Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.



chemical processes that have a direct bearing on the effective implementation of the Convention;

- (b) to contribute to the sharing of information and the exchange of experiences on the practical implementation of chemical safety-and-security management programmes;
 - (c) to review best practices in regard to the safety-and-security management of chemicals and to generate, through interactions and discussions, recommendations on the structure for future standardised seminars to promote these practices in small and medium-sized enterprises in GRULAC countries;
 - (d) to foster wider cooperation between States Parties on issues related to the chemical industry in order that the objectives of Article XI of the Convention of promoting the peaceful uses of chemistry can be achieved; and
 - (e) to enhance and promote the safe handling of chemicals at the national level.
4. This seminar will allow ample time for question-and-answer sessions, and will include theoretical and practical components. The seminar topics will include an overview of international-cooperation programmes, of the Convention, and of the OPCW. During the seminar, participants will be provided with updated information on, inter alia, current practices and concepts relating to the safety-and-security management of chemical processes, the history of the subject, modern safety strategies, current trends in safety-and-security management in the chemical industry, and chemical-site security management and safety-and-security culture. The best practices from the chemical industry will also be presented. Leading experts in chemical-safety management will give presentations and facilitate the discussions.
5. The following issues will be discussed:
- (a) security and protection during transportation, storage and use of chemicals at plant sites;
 - (b) hardware and software available for chemical safety and security management;
 - (c) best practices of the local chemical industry and/or chemical industry association;
 - (d) safe handling of chemicals at the regional and international level;
 - (e) chemical process safety and security; and
 - (f) Models for risk assessment, safety management, and emergency management for industrial incidents.
6. Seminar participants will be expected to prepare brief presentations on current safety-and-security management practices based on their experience, including

suggestions for improving the safety-management culture in their respective countries or in the companies for which they work.

7. The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) expects to be able to sponsor a limited number of participants. Applications from Member States should be forwarded through their respective National Authorities. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, meals, and medical insurance, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses. The Secretariat will also arrange and pay for accommodation for sponsored participants. A letter with the detailed programme will be sent to all the sponsored/registered participants.
8. Applications from Member States should be forwarded through their respective National Authorities. Each application should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of the participation of the nominee. Member States are welcome to nominate participants for whom sponsorship is not required. The Secretariat strongly encourages applications from qualified female candidates.
9. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. It will purchase tickets and send them to participants. Participants will be allowed to purchase tickets locally only if this leads to further savings for the Secretariat and if the Secretariat authorises it. In order for the Secretariat to keep costs to a minimum, participants are expected to arrive no earlier than **Sunday, 16 July 2017** and to depart no later than **Thursday, 20 July 2017**. The agreement of the Secretariat is required for any changes to the arrival and departure dates. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the seminar or that result from changes to 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 tickets. Participants who have not been sponsored are requested to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.
10. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to the seminar. When applying for an entry visa, they should present the Embassy or Consulate of Mexico with a copy of the acceptance letter from the OPCW. Only selected candidates will be notified by the Secretariat.
11. The seminar will be conducted in English with interpretation into Spanish available. All participants are therefore expected to have a good written and oral command of one of the languages.
12. Interested National Authorities are invited to complete the nomination form that is included as an annex to this Note, making sure to provide all the contact details requested, in particular an e-mail address or a fax number. Nominations from those who have not as yet participated in an OPCW chemical safety and security management seminar are especially encouraged.
13. The completed form, together with a curriculum vitae and a recommendation from the National Authority of the applicant’s country, should be posted to the Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands, or sent via email to icb@opcw.org. All applications must be received by the Secretariat no later than 23 June 2017.

14. Additional information about the seminar may be obtained from the International Cooperation Branch in the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the OPCW. The OPCW contact persons for the seminar are Mr Rohan Perera, who can be reached at +31 (0)70 416 3615, and Ms Julia González, who can be reached at +31 (0)70 416 3239.

Annex: Nomination Form

Annex

**SEMINAR ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
AND CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT
FOR MEMBER STATES OF THE OPCW IN THE GRULAC REGION
MEXICO CITY, MEXICO
17 – 19 JULY 2017**

NOMINATION FORM

Please submit the completed form by 23 June 2017 to:
The Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW
Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands
Email: icb@opcw.org

Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS

| | |
|--|---|
| Family name of nominee* | |
| First name(s)* | |
| Date of birth | Day Month Year |
| Citizenship | |
| Gender** | Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Passport number | |
| Date of issue | Day Month Year |
| Expiry date | Day Month Year |
| Place of issue | |
| Areas of expertise (please attach the applicant's curriculum vitae, passport size photograph and the title of the planned presentation (including a one-paragraph abstract)) | |
| | |
| | |
| Employer | |
| Position | |
| Contact address (please do not give a post-office box number) | Street |
| | Number Postcode |
| | City |
| | Country |
| Departure city | |
| Email address | |
| Telephone numbers, including country and city codes | Home |
| | Work |
| | Mobile |
| Fax numbers, including country and city codes | Home |
| | Work |
| Is sponsorship a condition of participation? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |

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

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