



102nd Session  
14 – 17 March 2023

EC-102/DG.11  
16 February 2023  
Original: ENGLISH

**NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL****THE SIXTH PHASE OF THE PROGRAMME TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION  
WITH AFRICA ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION****INTRODUCTION**

1. The Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Africa Programme”) was instituted by the Director-General in 2007 (EC-50/DG.17, dated 26 September 2007) to give strategic direction to the engagement of the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) with Member States of the OPCW in Africa regarding implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”).
2. The Director-General’s latest Note on the Africa Programme (EC-101/DG.12 C-27/DG.8, dated 7 September 2022) details the delivery of the Programme in 2022 and reports on the implementation of its fifth phase, which ended on 31 December 2022. The document was considered and noted by the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) at its 101st Session, and subsequently submitted to the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) at its Twenty-Seventh Session, where it was also noted.
3. As part of the unwavering commitment of the Secretariat to address the specific needs and priorities of the African Member States in relation to the Convention, and in light of the experience gained over the course of the previous phases, the Director-General affirmed the intention of the Secretariat to continue with the implementation of the Africa Programme in a sixth phase, commencing on 1 January 2023.
4. As part of the preparation for this sixth phase, the Secretariat engaged, beginning in early 2022, in a needs assessment exercise, followed by wide and inclusive consultations with the African States Parties to the Convention. This led to a consensual identification of the region’s current needs and priorities in relation to the Convention.
5. The sixth phase has been formulated in line with the core objectives of the OPCW and its Medium-Term Plan for the period 2020–2024 (EC-92/S/1 C-24/S/1, dated 22 July 2019). It has been also designed in a manner that strengthens the implementation of the relevant decisions and recommendations of the OPCW’s policy-making organs, including the recommendations of the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (RC-3/3\*, dated 19 April 2013) and Conference decision C-16/DEC.10 (dated 1 December 2011) entitled “Components of an Agreed Framework for the Full Implementation of Article XI”.



6. The sixth phase seeks to build on the achievements of the previous five phases of the Programme and to further streamline the OPCW's cooperation with Africa in regard to the Convention. It has been designed using a strengthened results-based management approach, allowing for enhanced programme effectiveness and improved monitoring, evaluation, and impact assessment framework.
7. In view of its stated objectives, the sixth phase is also aimed at assisting African States Parties in achieving their aspirations for inclusive and sustainable development and for a safe and secure Africa, in accordance with the relevant agreed regional and international frameworks for the continent.

### **KEY OBJECTIVES OF THE SIXTH PHASE**

8. Preparations for the sixth phase of the Africa Programme were initiated by the Secretariat in early 2022. From March to May, the Secretariat conducted a needs assessment survey among the African States Parties to update the list of Africa's needs and priorities in the context of the Convention. The feedback received on the survey was analysed and thoroughly discussed with the African States Parties, in June, during the Twentieth Regional Meeting of National Authorities of States Parties in Africa. The discussions led to a consensual agreement on the objectives to be assigned to the sixth phase of the Africa Programme (2023–2025), considering the needs identified. A subsequent series of consultations held by the Secretariat from September to November with the Permanent Representations of the African States Parties determined the approach and planning to be followed in order to achieve the objectives of the sixth phase. The concept, as detailed in this Note, represents the result of these consultations, and was endorsed by the African States Parties during the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting of National Authorities held in The Hague in November. Throughout the process, the Programme Steering Committee has been kept updated on the details and progress of the consultations.
9. The analysis of the feedback received from the African States Parties, either through the needs assessment survey or the consultations held thereafter, highlighted Africa's current needs and priorities in relation to the Convention. These range from further domesticating the Convention, to improving controls over cross-border transfers of toxic chemicals, to enhancing protection and response capabilities in chemical emergencies, and to promoting chemical safety and security as well as the capabilities of chemical laboratories. African States Parties also highlighted the continuous need for the transfer of knowledge in areas of peaceful chemistry. The promotion of Programme visibility, stakeholder engagement, and partnerships were maintained as an objective for the sixth phase, in view of this objective's added value during the fifth phase. These conclusions confirmed the insights of the Secretariat and the lessons learned from its past cooperation with Africa.

10. Accordingly, the following seven objectives have been assigned to the sixth phase of the Africa Programme:
- (a) advance national implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in Africa;
  - (b) strengthen controls over cross-border transfers of toxic chemicals in order to prevent access to such chemicals, including by non-State actors, for purposes prohibited under the Convention;
  - (c) enhance protection and response capabilities against chemical incidents and attacks;
  - (d) advance chemical safety and security culture, standards, and practices in Africa;
  - (e) strengthen the capabilities of chemical laboratories in Africa;
  - (f) promote knowledge of peaceful chemistry and its exchange in Africa; and
  - (g) foster Programme visibility, stakeholder engagement, and partnerships.

#### **TIME FRAME**

11. As with the previous phases, and in order to address the Programme objectives outlined above, a time frame of three years has been established. Accordingly, the sixth phase of the Africa Programme covers the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025.

#### **PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH**

12. In line with results-based management principles, the sixth phase of the Africa Programme will focus on achieving the targeted impact (the seven objectives of the programmes) rather than just the output delivery (conducting capacity-building activities). Accordingly, the Programme has been designed as a joint venture between the Secretariat and the relevant stakeholders in the African States Parties, namely the National Authorities and Permanent Representations, and the participants (individuals and institutions). Key stakeholders also include Programme partners and donors.
13. Each stakeholder is consequently required to play a distinct role with a view to achieving the identified objectives. These roles are specified below.
- (a) The Secretariat will deliver activities and projects for the benefit of African States Parties, in line with the objectives of the sixth phase, with a view to supporting the development of the targeted capacities. For each capacity-building activity, the Secretariat will share with the participants a basic post-training plan aimed at guiding and encouraging them to follow up on their participation. The aim of this approach is to strengthen the impact of the activities in the African States Parties and to continuously monitor their progress. The Secretariat will facilitate and support the effective implementation of these post-training plans, as requested and when feasible. Furthermore, the Secretariat will also continue to promote the visibility of Programme activities and the continued engagement of all stakeholders; mobilise resources for extrabudgetary projects and implement the projects that are funded; and report periodically to the policy-making organs and the Programme Steering Committee on the progress in Programme implementation and on the results achieved.

- (b) The participants are expected to follow up on their participation in OPCW capacity-building activities and projects (reporting to their respective National Authorities, disseminating the knowledge acquired, implementing and/or contributing to relevant national activities, etc.). The participants are also required to maintain coordination with their respective National Authorities as required during the post-training phase, and collaborate with them and the Secretariat within the framework of a Programme impact assessment exercise, in due course.
- (c) The National Authorities are expected to ensure the designation/endorsement of the most relevant national participants to attend OPCW capacity-building activities and to sustain their engagement and leverage the mass of expertise and skills gained by them (individual and institutions) to achieve the targeted objectives of the Programme (long-term results). This implies: (1) ensuring the existence and regular maintenance of a database of national individual participants and institutions trained by the OPCW, and (2) following up, supporting, and/or coordinating, as appropriate, the activities of national beneficiaries of OPCW capacity-building activities. The National Authorities are also expected to report to the Secretariat on follow-up activities and national achievements resulting from the Africa Programme (including within the framework of an impact assessment exercise, to be conducted in due course).

## **PROGRAMME PLANNING**

### **Objective 1: Advance national implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in Africa**

- 14. The support provided by the Secretariat during the sixth phase of the Africa Programme will aim at further facilitating the enactment of national Convention implementing legislation in Africa, as well as at building and sustaining the capacity of African States Parties to fully and effectively implement the Convention at the national level. In addition, the Secretariat will continue to promote, through advocacy and awareness-raising activities, the importance of the implementation of the Convention among national stakeholders in the African States Parties.
- 15. The long-term results (outcomes) targeted under Objective 1 are as follows:
  - (a) African States Parties with national implementing legislation covering all initial measures (28 States Parties by the end of the sixth phase); and
  - (b) African States Parties supporting one another in areas of national implementation of the Convention, including through the sharing of best practices (15 States Parties).

16. The table below highlights (in Column 1) the activities that will be undertaken by the Secretariat during the sixth phase of the Africa Programme to advance the implementation of the Convention in Africa. Column 2 lists the immediate results of these activities (output), which are expected to be used by the National Authorities of the beneficiary States Parties to achieve the desired outcome (Column 3), thus serving the overall objective.<sup>1</sup>

Activities	Short-term results (Output)	Long-term results (Outcome)
Provision of support for the enactment of national Convention implementing legislation in Africa: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) national legislative review forums (6 States Parties)</li> <li>(b) workshops on the role of Convention legislation in addressing threats by non-State actors (15 States Parties)</li> <li>(c) advocacy and awareness-raising for executive and parliamentary stakeholders (15 States Parties)</li> <li>(d) regional and subregional stakeholder forums (15 States Parties)</li> <li>(e) Influential Visitors Programme (3 States Parties)</li> </ul>	Participating African States Parties with the sustained/increased technical expertise and political awareness necessary for the enactment and effective implementation of national Convention implementing legislation	African States Parties with national implementing legislation covering all initial measures (28 States Parties by the end of the sixth phase) As at 31 January 2023: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) 23 African States Parties have national Convention implementing legislation covering all initial measures</li> <li>(b) 10 African States Parties have national Convention implementing legislation covering some initial measures</li> <li>(c) 19 African States Parties with no national Convention implementing legislation reported</li> </ul>

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Tables with the same structure are used below to describe the planning for the other Programme objectives.

Activities	Short-term results (Output)	Long-term results (Outcome)
<p>Provision of support to build and sustain the capacity of African States Parties for the full and effective national implementation of the Convention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) general training on the Convention for National Authorities and other relevant stakeholders (30 States Parties)</li> <li>(b) provision of assistance with the Convention National Implementation Framework (3 States Parties)</li> <li>(c) training course on Article VI requirements (declarations and inspections) (10 States Parties)</li> <li>(d) Mentorship and Partnership Programme (ongoing projects + 2 new beneficiary States Parties)</li> <li>(e) regional and global meetings of National Authorities (45 States Parties)</li> <li>(f) meeting of National Authorities and chemical industry representatives (10 States Parties)</li> </ul>		

Activities	Short-term results (Output)	Long-term results (Outcome)
<p>Advocacy and awareness-raising for national stakeholders on the importance of full and effective implementation of the Convention:</p> <p>(a) regional and global meetings of National Authorities (45 African States Parties)</p> <p>(b) meeting of National Authorities and chemical industry representatives (10 African States Parties)</p> <p>(c) advocacy and awareness-raising for executive and parliamentary stakeholders (15 African States Parties)</p> <p>(d) global, regional, and subregional stakeholder forums (15 African States Parties)</p> <p>(e) Influential Visitors Programme (3 African States Parties)</p>		<p>African States Parties supporting one another in areas of national implementation of the Convention, including through sharing best practices (15 States Parties)</p>

**Objective 2: Strengthen controls over cross-border transfers of toxic chemicals in order to prevent access to such chemicals, including by non-State actors, for purposes prohibited under the Convention**

17. The Secretariat will assist African States Parties in developing robust capacities to enforce the transfers regime for scheduled chemicals under the Convention. It will also provide support to customs training institutions in Africa to facilitate the inclusion in their curricula of a module containing information on the Convention's transfers regime for scheduled chemicals, and to ensure that their trainers are ready to teach this module to frontline customs officers. Furthermore, the Secretariat will provide training to African customs laboratories to improve their capabilities in relation to the identification and analysis of Convention-related substances.

18. The long-term results (outcomes) targeted under Objective 2 are as follows:
- (a) African States Parties have robust capacities to enforce the Convention transfers regime for scheduled chemicals (15 States Parties);
  - (b) African States Parties train their customs officers on the Convention transfers regime (8 States Parties); and
  - (c) African States Parties have laboratories that effectively support customs authorities in the analysis and identification of Convention-related chemicals (15 States Parties).

Activities	Short-term results (Output)	Long-term results (Outcome)
Provision of specialised training to African customs officials on the transfers regime for scheduled chemicals under the Convention (training course on the Convention transfers regime) (15 States Parties)	Participating African States Parties equipped with the necessary knowledge and capacities to implement the Convention transfers regime (15 States Parties)	African States Parties have robust capacities to enforce the Convention transfers regime for scheduled chemicals (15 States Parties)
Provision of capacity building to African customs training institutions on the technical aspects of Convention transfers regime, using the training-of-trainers approach (course for representatives of customs training institutions on the Convention transfers regime) (8 States Parties)	Participating African customs training institutions equipped with improved/sustained capacities to devise a module on the Convention transfers regime for scheduled chemicals (8 States Parties)	African States Parties train their customs officers on the Convention transfers regime (8 States Parties)
Provision of specialised training in analytical chemistry for African laboratories supporting customs services (customs laboratory course) (15 States Parties)	Participating African laboratories supporting customs services equipped with improved/sustained knowledge and skills required for the analysis and identification of Convention related-chemicals (15 States Parties)	African States Parties having laboratories effectively supporting customs authorities in the analysis and identification of Convention-related chemicals (15 States Parties)



### **Objective 3: Enhance protection and response capabilities against chemical incidents and attacks**

19. During the sixth phase of the Africa Programme, the Secretariat will further support African States Parties and subregions in developing and sustaining their state of preparedness and response capabilities against incidents and attacks involving chemical warfare agents or toxic industrial chemicals. In this context, the Secretariat will collaborate with partner training institutions and African regional economic communities to deliver capacity-building activities in relevant areas, with a view to maximising the impact of these activities and ensuring the sustainability of their results.
20. The Secretariat will continue to facilitate the development of a pool of qualified African instructors that are able to independently deliver training.
21. In addition, through specialised training and technical assistance, the Secretariat will also provide support to African States Parties to design/improve their National Protective Programmes for Protective Purposes (in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article X).
22. Moreover, the Secretariat will organise specialised capacity-building activities focusing on specific areas of needs of African States Parties. These include the development and/or sustainment of capacities of national hospitals to receive casualties from chemical emergencies, as well as the building of national capabilities in the field of investigation of chemical incidents and attacks.
23. The long-term results (outcomes) targeted under Objective 3 are as follows:
  - (a) African States Parties and subregions having enhanced/sustained state of preparedness and expertise to respond to chemical incidents or attacks (35 States Parties);
  - (b) African States Parties having (improved) national programmes for protective purposes (15 States Parties);
  - (c) African States Parties having hospitals with developed/sustained capacities to receive casualties of chemical emergencies (10 States Parties); and
  - (d) African States Parties with developed/sustained investigative capabilities in the area of chemical incidents and attacks (10 States Parties).

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Short-term results (Output)</b>	<b>Long-term results (Outcome)</b>
Provision of training in areas of assistance and protection against chemical incidents and attacks (300 African first response professionals from 35 African States Parties trained)	Participating African States Parties equipped with necessary capacities to effectively respond to national or regional chemical emergencies (35 States Parties)	African States Parties and subregions having enhanced/sustained state of preparedness and expertise to respond to chemical incidents or attacks (35 States Parties)

Activities	Short-term results (Output)	Long-term results (Outcome)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Provision of assistance and guidance for the use of the Assistance and Protection Online Self-Assessment Tool (15 African States Parties assisted through workshops and/or bilateral consultations)</li> <li>– Provision of training in chemical emergency planning and preparedness for major events (15 African States Parties)</li> <li>– Provision of technical assistance and advice in response to individual requests from States Parties in areas of planning of assistance and protection (100% of States Parties' requests addressed)</li> </ul>	<p>Participating African States Parties equipped with necessary assistance to assess chemical safety and security risks at the national level, audit existing response capacities, and identify necessary improvement measures (15 States Parties)</p>	<p>African States Parties having (improved) national programmes for protective purposes (15 States Parties)</p>
<p>Provision of training aimed at improving hospital preparedness for large-scale chemical emergencies (10 African hospitals/States Parties)</p>	<p>Participating hospitals/African States Parties equipped with necessary knowledge and skills to improve hospital readiness to receive chemical casualties (10 hospitals/States Parties)</p>	<p>African States Parties having hospitals with developed/sustained capacities to receive casualties from chemical emergencies (10 States Parties)</p>
<p>Provision of specific training on aspects related to investigation of chemical emergencies (10 African States Parties)</p>	<p>Participating African States Parties equipped with improved capacities to investigate chemical incidents or attacks (10 States Parties)</p>	<p>African States Parties with developed/sustained investigative capabilities in the area of chemical incidents and attacks (10 States Parties)</p>

**Objective 4: Advance chemical safety and security culture, standards, and practices in Africa**

24. The support provided by the Secretariat under this objective will aim at further developing the awareness, knowledge, and capabilities of African States Parties in the area of chemical safety and security management. The activities will benefit relevant national stakeholders at various levels (technical, managerial, and executive). In this context, the Secretariat will continue to promote the indicative guidelines for chemical safety and security in small and medium-sized enterprises as well as those on road transportation of hazardous chemicals. In addition, the Secretariat will continue to provide support to African States Parties in relation to the development of a legislative and regulatory framework on chemical security.
25. The long-term result (outcome) targeted under Objective 4 is as follows:

African States Parties with improved chemical safety and security management, from a technical and legal point of view (15 States Parties with improved chemical safety and security management practices and measures, including relevant laws or regulations on chemical security).

Activities	Short-term results (Output)	Long-term results (Outcome)
Provision of awareness-raising and capacity-building support to African States Parties in the areas of chemical safety and security management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) course on chemical safety and security management (50 African participations)</li> <li>(b) Executive Programme on Integrated Chemicals Management (15 African participants)</li> <li>(c) Wuppertal Course on Explosion Protection and Error Management (30 African participants)</li> <li>(d) Associate Programme (39 African participants)</li> <li>(e) promotion and assistance, as required, in regard to the indicative guidelines for chemical safety and security in small and medium-sized enterprises (100% of requests for assistance addressed)</li> </ul>	Participating African States Parties with enhanced awareness regarding the importance of chemical safety and security management and with developed capacities to improve chemical safety and security management at the national level (30 States Parties)	African States Parties with improved chemical safety and security management, from a technical and legal point of view (15 States Parties with improved chemical safety and security management practices and measures, including relevant laws or regulations on chemical security)

Activities	Short-term results (Output)	Long-term results (Outcome)
(f) promotion and assistance, as required, of the indicative guidelines for road transportation of hazardous chemicals, once finalised (100% of requests for assistance addressed)		
Provision of support in relation to the development of a legislative and regulatory framework on chemical security (workshop on best practices in the development of a legislative and regulatory framework on chemical security) (15 African States Parties)	Participating African States Parties equipped with enhanced/sustained knowledge and understanding of chemical security legal and regulatory issues and with developed capacities to adopt a legal framework on chemical security (15 States Parties)	

**Objective 5: Strengthen the capabilities of chemical laboratories in Africa**

26. The Secretariat's support in this area will aim at improving the technical competence of laboratories in African States Parties that are involved in chemical analysis, particularly in relation to the implementation of the Convention and the identification of related scheduled chemicals. In addition, the Secretariat will assist identified chemical laboratories in Africa to build the capacities required to pass the official OPCW proficiency tests and subsequently join the Organisation's network of designated laboratories. The Secretariat's activities will also aim at improving laboratory infrastructure in Africa through the delivery of training on the maintenance of laboratory equipment and the facilitation of transfers of equipment from donor laboratories.
27. The long-term results (outcomes) targeted under Objective 5 are as follows:
- (a) African States Parties having chemical laboratories performing reliable analysis and identification of Convention-related chemicals (20 States Parties);
  - (b) African States Parties having chemical laboratories with improved performance in OPCW proficiency tests (3 African laboratories, with one African laboratory gaining OPCW designation status); and
  - (c) African States Parties having chemical laboratories with sustained/improved equipment infrastructure, including by conducting preventive and curative maintenance of laboratory equipment (10 States Parties).

Activities	Short-term results (Output)	Long-term results (Outcome)
<p>Provision of training to analytical chemists in African laboratories –analytical skills development courses, including basic chemistry courses, courses for women chemists, courses on liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry, courses on laboratory quality management, etc. (20 States Parties, 90 chemists)</p>	<p>Participating African laboratories with improved/sustained knowledge and skills to analyse and identify chemicals related to the Convention (20 States Parties)</p>	<p>African States Parties having chemical laboratories performing reliable analysis and identification of Convention-related chemicals (20 States Parties)</p>
<p>Provision of tailor-made support to interested and eligible African laboratories in the area of proficiency testing with a view to gaining OPCW designation status:</p> <p>(a) courses on proficiency testing to support laboratories interested in passing the proficiency tests (at least 2 interested laboratories + any other eligible laboratories)</p> <p>(b) Laboratory Twinning Programme (3 current laboratory twinning projects + 1 new project for another interested and eligible laboratory)</p>	<p>Participating African laboratories with improved/sustained capacities required in the context of the OPCW proficiency tests (3 laboratories)</p>	<p>African States Parties having chemical laboratories with improved performance in OPCW proficiency tests (3 laboratories, with 1 laboratory gaining OPCW designation status)</p>

Activities	Short-term results (Output)	Long-term results (Outcome)
Provision of technical support to African laboratories in areas of laboratory equipment: (a) course on maintenance of laboratory equipment (30 chemists/laboratory technicians from 10+ laboratories trained to ensure maintenance and troubleshooting of laboratory equipment) (b) Equipment Exchange Programme (3 equipment transfers to African States Parties)	Participating African laboratories equipped with necessary capacities to maintain an operational laboratory equipment infrastructure (10 laboratories)	African States Parties having chemical laboratories with sustained/improved equipment infrastructure, including by conducting preventive and curative maintenance of laboratory equipment (10 States Parties)

**Objective 6: Promote knowledge of peaceful chemistry and its exchange in Africa**

28. Under this objective, the Secretariat will continue and streamline its efforts aimed at developing scientific and technological knowledge and skills in areas of peaceful chemistry in Africa. Areas of peaceful chemistry applications include industry, medicine, pharmacy, agriculture, and environmental protection. The Secretariat will also further promote the transfer of peaceful chemistry knowledge and skills from other regions to African States Parties. By doing so, the Secretariat will contribute to promoting ethics and sustainable development involving the use of chemicals.
29. The Secretariat's activities in this context will include capacity-building programmes, the sponsorship of research, fellowships, and conferences, the promotion of the exchange of knowledge and good practices, and the provision of technical advice and assistance.
30. The long-term result (outcome) targeted under Objective 6 is as follows:
 

Knowledge in areas of peaceful uses of chemistry, including in industry, medicine, pharmacy, agriculture, and environmental protection, promoted in African States Parties (500 scientists trained by the OPCW are using/disseminating the knowledge gained from OPCW activities).

Activities	Short-term results (Output)	Long-term results (Outcome)
<p>Provision and sponsorship of activities aimed at promoting knowledge in peaceful chemistry and its exchange:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) capacity-building programmes focused on the development of capacities in areas of analytical chemistry and industrial chemistry (140 African participants)</li> <li>(b) forum on peaceful uses of chemistry; Symposium on Women in Chemistry; educational training programme on peaceful uses of chemistry for youth (60 African participants)</li> <li>(c) sponsorship of African scientists under the OPCW Fellowship Programme (12 fellowships sponsored)</li> <li>(d) sponsorship of African scientists under the OPCW Conference Support Programme (300 scientists sponsored)</li> <li>(e) Sponsorship of African scientists under the OPCW Programme for Support of Research Projects (15 research projects sponsored)</li> </ul>	<p>Increased number of African scientists with enhanced knowledge and expertise in peaceful areas of chemistry (500+ scientists)</p>	<p>Knowledge in areas of peaceful uses of chemistry, including in industry, medicine, pharmacy, agriculture, and environmental protection, promoted in African States Parties (500 scientists trained by the OPCW are using /disseminating the knowledge gained from OPCW activities)</p>

**Objective 7: Foster Programme visibility, stakeholder engagement, and partnerships**

31. In light of the proven added value of the implementation of this objective during the fifth phase of the Programme, during the sixth phase the Secretariat will continue to promote the engagement of Convention stakeholders and their ownership of the Programme. An important enabler in this regard is the promotion in Africa of the visibility and understanding of the Programme, the Convention, and the work of the Organisation.

32. In terms of partnerships, the Secretariat will continue to weave relevant partnerships around the Programme. It will continue to revitalise cooperation between the OPCW and the African Union for the benefit of the Africa Programme, in line with the memorandum of understanding signed by the two organisations in 2006.

33. The long-term result (outcome) targeted under Objective 7 is as follows:

Increased participation and contributions of stakeholders in the Programme, leading to enhanced effectiveness in its implementation and further expansion of its potential. This outcome will translate into:

- (i) Africa receiving a fair share of OPCW capacity-building support (number of participants in capacity-building events);
- (ii) expansion of Africa Programme potential and depth using voluntary in-kind and financial contributions from donors;
- (iii) continued and further enhanced collaboration and synergies with other national, regional, and international organisations for the effective implementation of the Programme; and
- (iv) continued support and guidance received from the Programme Steering Committee in the implementation of the Programme.

Activities	Short-term results (Output)	Long-term results (Outcome)
Promotion of Programme visibility and stakeholder engagement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) OPCW Africa Network (300 additional members)</li> <li>(b) OPCW Africa Bulletin (3 annual bulletins)</li> <li>(c) continued alumni engagement through post-training communication (all alumni during the sixth phase to receive post-training letters with basic action plans)</li> <li>(d) maintenance and support to the Africa Programme Steering Committee (6 meetings + continuous coordination)</li> </ul>	Sustained and improved Programme visibility and understanding, leading to increased stakeholder engagement for its effective implementation (beneficiaries, partners, and donors)	Increased participation and contributions of stakeholders in the Programme, leading to enhanced effectiveness in its implementation and further expansion of its potential. This outcome will translate into: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Africa receiving a fair share of OPCW capacity-building support (number of participants in capacity-building events);</li> <li>(ii) expansion of Africa Programme potential and depth using voluntary in-kind and financial contributions from donors;</li> </ul>



Activities	Short-term results (Output)	Long-term results (Outcome)
		<p>(iii) continued and further enhanced collaboration and synergies with other national, regional, and international organisations for the effective implementation of the Programme; and</p> <p>(iv) continued support and guidance received from the Programme Steering Committee in the implementation of the Programme.</p>
<p>Mobilisation and effective use of voluntary in-kind and financial contributions within the framework of the Africa Programme: implementation of the extrabudgetary projects that have already received funding and continued channelling of voluntary contributions for the regular capacity-building projects and activities</p>		
<p>Maintenance and further development of relevant partnerships: relevant partnerships maintained and developed</p>		

## **GUIDELINES**

34. The guidelines below have been identified jointly by the Secretariat and the African States Parties for the implementation of the sixth phase of the Africa Programme.
- (a) The sixth phase will not break from, but will build on the progress achieved during the fifth phase. Accordingly, successful projects and initiatives such as the national legislative review forums and laboratory proficiency trainings will continue to be implemented.
  - (b) The Secretariat will use in-person, online, and hybrid modalities to deliver capacity-building support to African States Parties.
  - (c) The OPCW Centre for Chemistry and Technology will be leveraged to scale up OPCW activities under the Programme, both qualitatively and quantitatively.
  - (d) Bilateral (including South-South) cooperation between States Parties will continue to be leveraged and further encouraged during the sixth phase, with the Secretariat's facilitation. Good examples of fruitful South-South cooperation include the Mentorship/Partnership Programme for National Authorities and the assistance and protection Instructor Exchange and Development Programme.
  - (e) The regional and subregional scoping of projects and activities will continue to guide the implementation of the Programme during the sixth phase.
  - (f) By improving chemical security in Africa (in view of implementation of objectives 1 to 5 relating to: advancing national implementation of the Convention; control over cross-border transfers of toxic chemicals; assistance and protection against chemical incidents or attacks; and strengthening chemical safety and security management and the capacities of chemical laboratories), the sixth phase will continue to contribute to building knowledge, skills, and resilience to counter chemical terrorism in Africa.

## **PROGRAMME FUNDING**

35. The implementation of the Africa Programme will be undertaken primarily within the resources provided under the regular budget of the Organisation.
36. Extrabudgetary funds provided by States Parties or other donors, if any, will also be used with a view to promoting the further achievement of the objectives under the sixth phase, through additional projects and activities.
37. The Africa Programme will continue to be implemented without compromising the capacity-building support required for the other regional groups.

## **MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

38. The Secretariat will monitor, evaluate, and report annually to the Council and to the Conference on the progress achieved in the implementation of the Programme and the delivery of its activities. The results of the monitoring and evaluation will be also used for the implementation of lessons learned in order to provide for continuous improvement.
39. The Programme Steering Committee will also continue to be briefed on the progress in Programme implementation and results achieved.
40. The Secretariat will also monitor the impact of the Programme by:
  - (a) continuously tracking the changes in each area of activity/project; and
  - (b) conducting an impact assessment exercise in collaboration with African National Authorities, one year after completion of the sixth phase.

## **RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

41. The successful implementation of the sixth phase of the Africa Programme is based on a number of risks and assumptions, which are described below.
  - (a) African States Parties will engage and involve the appropriate stakeholders at the national level. The Africa Programme is based on the assumption that there is a desire for greater Programme ownership on the part of African States Parties.
  - (b) Conditions conducive to the effective implementation of the Africa Programme are in place at the national, regional, and international levels (e.g., the public health context).
  - (c) The Secretariat will be provided with the necessary human and financial resources required to implement and coordinate the components of the sixth phase of the Programme, as planned.
  - (d) The participants will actively endeavour to follow up on their participation in Programme activities and report on their progress and achievements in this regard.
  - (e) The National Authorities will support, as necessary, the implementation of the post-training activities by the participants. The National Authorities, supported by the respective Permanent Representations, will actively use the expertise gained by participants in OPCW capacity-building activities to achieve the Programme objectives at the national level. Conducive actions to that end include the establishment and maintenance by the National Authorities of databases of national experts and institutions trained by the OPCW.
  - (f) Participants' employers will facilitate the implementation of post-training activities by providing necessary authorisations and, where required and possible, logistical support (venues for activities, equipment, etc.).

## **EXTERNAL DEPENDENCIES**

42. The Programme's effectiveness will continue to be enhanced through the maintenance and further development of relevant partnerships and collaboration with national, subregional, regional, and international organisations.
43. At the continent level, the active support and engagement of key regional actors will continue to be sought and leveraged, including from the African Union and the regional economic communities.
44. The Secretariat will continue to engage with other organisations or States Parties outside Africa, as required, to channel more support, where this is beneficial to the expected outcomes of the sixth phase of the Africa Programme.

## **GOVERNANCE**

45. The Programme Steering Committee, which was reactivated in the fifth phase, will continue to provide support, advice, and guidance for the implementation of the Africa Programme.
46. The composition of the Steering Committee is as follows:
  - (a) two National Authorities from each African subregion, to serve on an annual rotating basis, designated by the Group of African States Parties to the Convention. A member National Authority may be represented by the State Party's respective Permanent Representation, or by another proxy, during Committee meetings.
  - (b) interested organisations partnered with the OPCW in the implementation of the Programme, such as the African Union and the regional economic communities, as observers;
  - (c) interested donors, as observers; and
  - (d) the Coordinator of the Africa Programme at the Secretariat, as Secretary.
47. The Committee will meet twice a year. The Secretariat will provide the Committee members with the provisional programme and any related documents in advance of the meeting.