



S/2293/2024
27 May 2024
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY AND NATIONAL AUTHORITIES
OF STATES PARTIES TO THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
DOHA, QATAR
15 – 17 OCTOBER 2024**

1. On behalf of the Government of Qatar, the OPCW Technical Secretariat (the Secretariat) wishes to invite National Authorities and representatives from national chemical industry associations to submit applications for the Eleventh Annual Meeting of Representatives of the Chemical Industry and National Authorities of States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention, to be held in Doha, Qatar, from 15 to 17 October 2024.
2. The event seeks to enhance cooperation between the chemical industry and National Authorities to support the full and effective implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention).
3. The chemical industry has been recognised as a key stakeholder in the implementation of the Convention. The Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention highlighted the important role that the chemical industry has to play in the implementation of the Convention, and encouraged the Secretariat to continue to strengthen its relations with regional and international chemical industry associations.
4. The objectives of the meeting are to:
 - (a) promote cooperation between National Authorities and the chemical industry;
 - (b) provide a forum to share experiences, challenges, and good practices in relation to the implementation of the Convention at the national, regional, and global level; and
 - (c) enhance awareness of particular requirements in relation to the Convention among representatives of the chemical industry and National Authorities, and thereby enhance the capacity of both stakeholders to implement relevant provisions in a timely and effective manner.



5. The provisional programme for the meeting is attached as the Annex to this Note. The meeting will focus on:
 - (a) supporting the resolution of transfer discrepancies;
 - (b) chemical security legislation and Responsible Care[®] and Responsible Distribution[™] in the chemical industry; and
 - (c) preventing the illicit production and transfer of toxic chemicals.
6. Participants in the meeting may be invited to deliver presentations in order to share experiences or information on any of the above topics.
7. States Parties with relevant chemical industry activities and stakeholders are invited to nominate **two participants** for this meeting, one from the National Authority and one from a national chemical industry or chemical trade association. Nominations of only one participant from a State Party (either from the National Authority or a chemical industry representative) will not be considered.
8. States Parties are urged to nominate candidates who have not participated in previous meetings of this kind. The meeting will host a maximum of 50 participants from 25 States Parties, with priority given to those States Parties that have not previously participated. States Parties and National Authorities are **strongly encouraged to support and endorse nominations of suitable female candidates for the event**.
9. The meeting will be conducted in English. All participants are therefore expected to have a good command of English.
10. The Secretariat will sponsor two participants per State Party. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, accommodation, meals, and medical insurance for the duration of the meeting, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses. The Secretariat will not pay for medical assistance. Participants should therefore be fit to travel. All participants taking prescribed medication should arrive with sufficient supplies for the duration of the event.
11. Applications by the nominated participants should be submitted online through Eventus—the OPCW event management system (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>)—**no later than Tuesday, 13 August 2024**. Applications must be reviewed and endorsed digitally in Eventus by the respective National Authority **no later than Friday, 16 August 2024** in order to be considered by the Secretariat for final review.
12. Additional information about the meeting may be obtained from the Implementation Support Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the OPCW. The contact persons are Mr Solomon Haile (Tel.: +31 65007 4096; Email: solomon.haile@opcw.org) and Mr Alberto Fernandez (Tel.: +31 70 416 3850; Email: alberto.fernandez@opcw.org).

Annex: Provisional Programme

Annex

**ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHEMICAL
INDUSTRY AND NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES
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PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

	Activity
<i>Tuesday, 15 October 2024</i>	
	Welcome address by the Chairman of the Qatar National Committee for the Prohibition of Weapons (NCPW)
	Opening remarks by the OPCW
	Objectives of the meeting and programme overview – OPCW
	National presentation by Qatar – NCPW
	Update on selected capacity-development activities of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division – OPCW
	Overview of science and policy-related developments – OPCW
	Update on Article VI verification matters – OPCW
	Updates from industry and trade organisations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) – International Chemical Trade Association (ICTA)
	Theme 1 – Supporting the resolution of transfer discrepancies
	Introductory presentation – OPCW
	Chemical industry perspective on transfer discrepancies
	Plenary discussion

	Activity
	<i>Wednesday, 16 October 2024</i>
	Break-out group discussion: “Emerging challenges to implementing the Chemical Weapons Convention from the chemical industry perspective”
	Reporting back from break-out groups
	Plenary discussion
	Theme 2 – Synergies between chemical security legislation and the Responsible Care[®]/Responsible Distribution[™] initiatives
	Brief introductions: ICCA and ICTA
	Interactive panel discussion:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Two national chemical industry representatives – International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) – OPCW – Representatives of two States Parties (National Authorities)
	<i>Thursday, 17 October 2024</i>
	Theme 3 – Preventing the illicit production and transfer of toxic chemicals
	The Convention’s transfer regime for scheduled chemicals: lessons and good practices from countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (National presentations)
	Plenary discussion
	Presentation of the meeting outcome to the Chairman of the NCPW
	Closing remarks