Technical Secretariat



S/2389/2025 28 March 2025 ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE TWENTY-FOURTH REGIONAL MEETING OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES IN EASTERN EUROPE YEREVAN, ARMENIA 11 – 12 JUNE 2025

- 1. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (the Secretariat) wishes to invite National Authorities in Eastern Europe to nominate representatives to attend the Twenty-Fourth Regional Meeting of National Authorities of States Parties in Eastern Europe, which will be held in Yerevan, Armenia, on 11 and 12 June 2025.
- 2. At its Eighth Session, the Conference of the States Parties adopted a plan of action regarding the implementation of obligations under Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention) (C-8/DEC.16, dated 24 October 2003). On many occasions, States Parties have highlighted the value of a comprehensive and integrated approach to national implementation that is in line with each State Party's constitutional requirements, and aimed at filling gaps in national implementation and ensuring that national implementation measures address the specific needs of each State Party and are consistent with the provisions of the Convention.
- 3. This regional meeting of National Authorities, to be held on 11 and 12 June 2025, will serve as a forum in which the States Parties in the region can address various national implementation issues, the National Implementation Framework, capacity-building programmes and activities organised by the Secretariat, and other Convention-related issues. National Authorities will also share good practices and challenges in acting as focal points to effectively liaise with the OPCW for national implementation of the Convention.
- 4. The objectives of the meeting are to:
 - (a) discuss the challenges facing States Parties and share good practices in national implementation of the Convention;
 - (b) discuss approaches and means to further improve capacity-building programmes that meet the specific needs of States Parties in Eastern Europe and ways to enhance regional cooperation; and
 - (c) hold bilateral meetings with representatives of National Authorities on issues pertaining to national implementation.

- 5. The expected results of the meeting include the following:
 - (a) increased awareness among States Parties on modalities for further enhancing national implementation of the Convention;
 - (b) the collection of feedback on ways and means to further improve capacity-building activities for the region; and
 - (c) increased awareness among States Parties on the benefits and concrete results of participating in OPCW capacity-building programmes and activities, as well as the collection of feedback on the needs of States Parties and ways to improve programme delivery.
- 6. The provisional programme for the regional meeting is included in the Annex to this Note.
- 7. The Secretariat will sponsor one representative from the National Authority of each State Party in the region. States Parties may consider submitting self-funded nominations. However, in order to ensure the effectiveness of deliberations, a maximum of one non-sponsored nomination may be submitted. Each nomination should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of the nominee's participation. States Parties and National Authorities are strongly encouraged to seek, support, and endorse applications from qualified women candidates.
- 8. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, hotel accommodation, meals, and medical insurance, in addition to a limited subsistence allowance to cover terminal and sundry expenses. Sponsored participants who do not intend to use the accommodation arranged by the Secretariat are requested to indicate this as soon as possible to prevent the Secretariat from incurring hotel cancellation fees. The Secretariat will not cover the costs of any accommodation that it has not arranged.
- 9. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. The Secretariat will purchase tickets and send them to the participants. Participants will be allowed to purchase tickets locally only if this is authorised and leads to further savings for the Secretariat. In order to keep costs to a minimum, sponsored participants from National Authorities are expected to arrive no earlier than Tuesday, 10 June 2025 and to depart no later than Friday, 13 June 2025.
- 10. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to Armenia. When applying for any required entry visas, they should present the Embassy or Consulate of Armenia with a copy of the acceptance letter from the OPCW.
- 11. All meetings will be conducted in English. All participants are therefore expected to have a good oral and written command of English.
- 12. Interested National Authority representatives are invited to register their nominations online—no later than 18 April 2025—through Eventus, the OPCW event management platform (https://eventus.opcw.org). Each application must be endorsed digitally on the Eventus platform by the nominee's respective National Authority.

13. Any queries or additional information about this meeting or registration for it may be obtained from the Implementation Support Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the Secretariat. The contact persons are Ms Elena Gjoreska (Email: elena.gjoreska@opcw.org) and Mr Alberto Fernandez (Email: alberto.fernandez@opcw.org).

Annex: Provisional Programme

Annex

TWENTY-FOURTH REGIONAL MEETING OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES IN EASTERN EUROPE YEREVAN, ARMENIA 11 – 12 JUNE 2025

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
Wednesday, 11 June 2025	
	Opening remarks
	Overview of the meeting programme and objectives
	Follow-up on issues raised during the previous regional and annual meetings
	Update by the Secretariat on OPCW capacity-building support related to
	the implementation of Articles VII, X, and XI of the Convention
	Update by the Secretariat on obligations related to Article VI
	Host country presentation on Convention implementation: Experiences, challenges, and best practices
	Country presentations on Convention implementation and Article VI, specifically regarding declarations
	Update by the Secretariat on obligations related to Article VI: Inspections
	and current topics under discussion within the Industry Cluster
	Country presentations on Convention implementation and Article VI,
	specifically regarding inspections
Thursday, 12 June 2025	
	Presentation by the Secretariat on the role of Customs and OPCW support
	Convention implementation: Main successes and challenges in the engagement of the Eastern Europe region in Convention implementation and activities organised and offered by the International Cooperation and Assistance Division
	Panel discussion: Good practices and national experiences in
	inter-institutional coordination and the preparation of national
	programmes for protection against chemical weapons under Article X
	Global chemical security architecture and the role of the OPCW
	Preventing and resolving transfer discrepancies: Feedback and outcomes
	of regional workshops on the subject
	Developments related to the Mentorship/Partnership Programme and the
	National Implementation Framework
	Conclusions, next steps, and closing remarks