

F. No. M-21012/1/2025-TECH
Government of India
Cabinet Secretariat
National Authority Chemical Weapons Convention

1st Floor, Chanakya Bhawan, Chanakya Puri,
New Delhi, dated 03rd March, 2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: - Invitation for a Workshop on Artificial Intelligence and Chemical Safety and Security Management to be held in Shanghai, China from 17th to 20th June 2025- Regarding.


The undersigned is directed to inform that India is a signatory to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), headquartered at The Hague, The Netherlands is the implementing body of CWC. National Authority Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC) being the National Focal Point facilitates, participation of its officials, other Indian officials and other Indian national in training courses conducted by OPCW in the field of the Convention.

2. The Technical Secretariat, of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), has invited nominations for the Workshop on Artificial Intelligence and Chemical Safety and Security Management to be held in Shanghai, China from 17th to 20th June 2025.

3. Accordingly, nomination of suitable qualified and experienced candidates fulfilling the above requirements of the course, along with relevant supporting documents following the 'Guidelines for OPCW sponsored events issued by NACWC (enclosed) may please be sent to this office latest by **20th April, 2025** through the online portal – OPCW Training Management System (<https://training.nacwc.gov.in/Login.aspx>). Applicants who have already participated in the similar previous programme(s) may not be nominated for the course.

4. If selected, the participant must submit a report and a copy of the OPCW certificate to the National Authority after attending the course/training/workshop/event.

Encl: As above


(Dr Arjun Singh)
Joint Director, NACWC
Telephone: +91-11-24675465
Email: jd-nacwc@gov.in

To,

1. Shri Abhishek Singh, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, (Government of India), Electronics Niketan, 6, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi: 110003

2. The Chairman, Defence Research & Development Organisation, DRDO Bhawan, Rajaji Marg, Vijay Chowk Area, Central Secretariat, New Delhi-110004.
3. The Director General, CSIR & Secretary DSIR, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Anusandhan Bhawan, 2 Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Marg, New Delhi-110001.
4. The Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Krishi Bhawan, Raisina Road, Opposite Rail Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
5. The Joint Secretary (Chemicals), Dept. of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemical and Fertilizers, 341-(C), A-wing, 3rd Floor, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
6. The Joint Secretary (Plant Protection, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer welfare, A-wing, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
7. The Joint Secretary, Department of Science & Technology, Technology Bhawan, New Mehrauli Road, Block C, Adchini, New Delhi-110016.
8. The Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC), Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002.
9. The Deputy Commissioner (Training), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Nirman Bhawan, Room no. 404, D-wing, Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi-110001.
10. The Joint Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, 6th – 8th Floor, Block 2, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
11. The Director General, Indian Chemical Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Post box no. 4911, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi-110011.
12. The Joint Secretary (Higher Education), 107-C, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
13. The President, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), 1, Federation House, Tansen Marg, Todermal Road Area, Mandi House, New Delhi-110001.
14. The President, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), the Mantosh Sondhi Centre, 23, Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
15. The Director General, Indian Chemical Council (ICC), Sir Vithaldas Chambers, 6th Floor, 16, Mumbai Samachar Marg, Mumbai, Maharashtra-400001.



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

S/2373/2025
25 February 2025
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**INVITATION TO APPLY FOR A WORKSHOP ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
AND CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT
SHANGHAI, CHINA
17 – 20 JUNE 2025**

1. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (the Secretariat) is pleased to inform States Parties that the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Government of China, is organising a workshop on artificial intelligence (AI) and chemical safety and security management from 17 to 20 June 2025 in Shanghai, China. Senior representatives from government institutions and the chemical industry who are responsible for overseeing the impact of AI technology on chemical safety and security management, and who are from States Parties with a developing or transitioning economy are invited to submit applications for the workshop.
2. With the theme of “AI for Good and for All: Enhancing the Role of Artificial Intelligence in the Implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention”, this workshop aims to foster international cooperation among States Parties by providing a platform to learn about valuable tools and knowledge for leveraging AI technology within the context of the peaceful use of chemistry. It will also address potential security and non-proliferation threats. The event will highlight best practices in the host country, focusing on chemical safety and security management.

BACKGROUND

3. AI is rapidly developing and now widely applied, becoming a significant driving force for a new technological revolution and industrial transformation. Its advanced capabilities in data analysis, pattern recognition, and prediction offer innovative solutions to numerous global challenges. However, AI also presents significant risks, such as algorithmic bias, data security vulnerabilities, and potential data breaches, which could result in malicious exploitation, undermining its intended benefits.
4. In the field of chemistry, AI has introduced new opportunities and challenges. AI is enhancing the efficiency and accuracy of chemical synthesis, toxicity prediction, and risk assessment, improving the detection and monitoring capabilities of chemical weapons, and driving the digital transformation of the chemical industry. However, the misuse of AI brings new security risks, such as the development of new toxic substances, threats to chemical facility operations through cyberattacks and the malicious use of automated weapon systems. Additionally, the lack of a global unified regulatory framework for AI exacerbates these security challenges. Ensuring the safe, reliable, and beneficial development of AI in chemistry has become an increasingly urgent issue.



5. Concerns over the potential threats and opportunities posed by AI technology in chemistry and their implications for the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention) have been raised by States Parties in recent years. To address these concerns, the Secretariat has taken steps to broaden its understanding of this novel technology. In April 2024, the Director-General hosted a meeting on AI with external experts to explore its potential implications for the Convention and the work of the OPCW. Following this, the Secretariat issued a Note detailing key takeaways and the path forward (S/2289/2024, dated 23 May 2024). In June, the Secretariat launched the OPCW AI Challenge, inviting States Parties to submit innovative proposals on AI to benefit the implementation of the Convention. In October, Morocco and the OPCW co-hosted the Global Conference on the Role of Artificial Intelligence in Advancing the Implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in Rabat, Morocco. This groundbreaking conference explored the implications of AI technology within the framework of the Convention. As a result, the Secretariat issued a Note (S/2360/2025) on 25 January 2025, summarising key discussions, opportunities, associated risks, and next steps.
6. One of the key recommendations from the Global Conference in Morocco was the importance of the peaceful application of AI and its use for international cooperation within the framework of the Convention. To follow up on this recommendation and further strengthen the efforts of States Parties to enhance chemical safety and security management, the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Government of China, is proposing a pilot project focusing on the various applications of AI in chemical safety and security management.

OBJECTIVES

7. The workshop aims to raise awareness among States Parties of the impact of AI on the chemical industry within the framework of the Convention. The workshop will address both the opportunities and the risks associated with AI technology in chemical safety and security management.
8. To this end, the workshop will feature sessions that showcase the use of AI in improving production and safety practices within the industry. Additionally, it will raise awareness about the potential misuse of AI technology, which could lead to negative outcomes such as weakened security measures or chemical terrorism.

FOCUS AREAS AND TOPICS

9. The workshop will cover, inter alia, the following focus areas and topics:
 - (a) Development of AI technology and the global governance landscape:
 - (i) general developments with AI in chemistry; and
 - (ii) current trends in AI governance and best practices in China.
 - (b) Impact of AI on the chemical industry:
 - (i) development of AI technology in chemical industry and research;
 - (ii) AI-driven improvements in production and safety in the chemical industry; and
 - (iii) digital transformation in chemical enterprises.

- (c) Challenges posed by AI in chemical security and opportunities for implementing the Convention:
- (i) AI and chemical security and supply chain security management;
 - (ii) prevention of chemical terrorism and of the illicit transfer of chemicals; and
 - (iii) AI as a facilitator of international cooperation to implement the Convention.
10. An updated, detailed programme will be shared at a later stage; subtopics are subject to change. The workshop will be conducted in English.

SELECTION CRITERIA

11. To help ensure a diverse and knowledgeable representation at the workshop, States Parties are encouraged to nominate participants who:
- (a) are senior representatives from government institutions, the chemical industry, chemical industry associations, or academia;
 - (b) have expertise in or professional affiliation with AI and its subfields (such as machine learning and deep learning), or related technologies;
 - (c) have experience managing matters related to chemical safety, chemical security, or the non-proliferation of chemical weapons; and
 - (d) have an interdisciplinary background in scientific, technological, and regulatory fields.
12. The Secretariat strongly encourages States Parties and National Authorities to seek, support, and endorse applications from qualified women candidates.

APPLICATION/NOMINATION PROCEDURE

13. All applications/nominations should be submitted online individually through Eventus, the OPCW event management system (<https://eventus.opcw.org>).
14. Only applications endorsed by the respective National Authority or Permanent Representation of the applicant's country to the OPCW will be considered. Applications and endorsements should be received no later than 30 April 2025. Late applications will not be accepted.
15. All applications must be accompanied by the following attachments:
- (a) a detailed curriculum vitae; and
 - (b) a photocopy of the personal identification pages of the candidate's passport.
16. Further information on the workshop programme may be obtained from the OPCW International Cooperation Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division (icb.events@opcw.org).

ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

17. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor a limited number of participants, for whom it will cover the costs of travel, meals, and medical insurance, and provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses. The Secretariat will also arrange and pay for accommodation for sponsored participants. The detailed programme will be sent to all registered participants in due course.
18. 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 Monday, 16 June 2025 and to depart no later than Saturday, 21 June 2025. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the workshop or that result from changes to travel arrangements that it has not authorised. Sponsored participants must 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.
19. Additional information about the workshop may be obtained from the International Cooperation Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the OPCW. The OPCW focal points for this workshop are Mr Taeon Kim, Programme Officer (Email: taeon.kim@opcw.org), and Ms Ting Zhang, Senior Project Assistant (Email: ting.zhang@opcw.org).



सत्यमेव जयते

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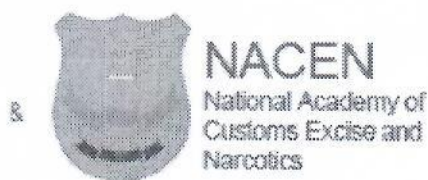
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Guidelines For OPCW Sponsored Events

1. Organization for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, Technical Secretariat (OPCW-TS) identifies requirements of different States Parties and invites nominations every year for Safety and Security of Chemical Industries, Laboratory Skill Development, Customs, Assistance and Protection against the use of Chemical Weapons and internship for University Students.
2. The event calendar for training/workshop/seminar/meeting etc. provided by the OPCW annually is being uploaded on the National Authority Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC) website seeking nominations from various stakeholders. The aforesaid training calendar and related Office Memo's (OMs) are uploaded on NACWC's website along with OPCW-TS Note. Several subject specific trainings are also communicated to concerned Central/ State Departments and Private Institutions for seeking nominations.
3. The nominations of Central Government Departments/Institutions/Organizations while sending the nominations (in the format provided by TS, OPCW) are requested to adhere to the NACWC stated deadlines. Nominations of Central Government officials should invariably be accompanied with Departmental vigilance clearance certificate. The nominations from Central Government Departments/Institutions/Undertakings should fill the details through OPCW training management system, routing the application through the concerned Ministry. The details to be filled online are stated in Annexure-I.
4. The nominations of State Government Institutions/private entities/individuals should be routed through concerned Department/Ministry under the respective State Government filling the details online through OPCW training management system. The details to be filled online are stated in Annexure-II.

5. The nominations of Central/State/Private entities/individuals for the OPCW sponsored events on Chemical Emergencies/Disaster Management should be sent through proper channel and routed through concerned Department/Ministry under the respective Central/State Government by filling the details through OPCW training management system. The details to be filled online are stated in Annexure-III.
6. For chemical facilities Private entities/individuals for the OPCW sponsored events other than Chemical Emergencies/Disaster Management are required to be filled on line through OPCW training management system. The details to be filled online are stated in Annexure-IV.
7. The details of nominations for the OPCW sponsored events can be filled online through OPCW Training Management System (<https://training.nacwc.gov.in>) available on the NACWC web portal (<https://nacwc.nic.in>).
8. The nomination by NACWC for the concerned training/workshop/seminar/meeting etc. will be purely on the basis of merit i.e. preference will be given to Schedule-2 and 3 chemical facilities as well as candidates working with the National Authority or other Government Agency responsible for implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention. The Endorsement letter, subsequent to the approval of Chairman, NACWC will be issued to nominee of Central/State/Private Entities. If the OPCW requests that the nominations are to be submitted online then it will be the responsibility of nominated individual(s) to fill the personal and other details on-line on the OPCW website (<http://apps.opcw.org/eventus>) and the nominee(s) should ensure that Performa prescribed in the Format of EVENTUS also is filled by them and the prescribed guidelines are required to be fulfilled by the nominee(s). The OPCW will communicate the invitation to the nominee(s) subject to fulfilling the requirement.
9. It is expected that the Nominee(s) exhibit excellent conduct while attending the concerned event. After completion of the training/seminar/workshop, a detailed report along with presentation is required to be submitted to the NACWC.
0. While proceeding to attend the concerned event organized by the OPCW, the nominee:
 - Should have basic knowledge of the CWC Act, 2000.
 - Make sure about the passport i.e. valid and protect the passport and report it promptly if it is lost, stolen or damaged during the period of a specific program.
 - Must familiarize with the visiting countries.
 - Make sure about the proper visas for the countries the participant is visiting or transiting and check any other entry or exit requirements.
 - Take personal responsibility for travel choices, safety, finances and behavior overseas, including obeying the laws of the visiting country.

- If get arrested or detained for some reason, insist on Consular access (under the Vienna Convention) to a representative from the nearest Indian Embassy/Consulate.
- Make sure of proper coordination with the NACWC (contact point JS/JD Tel. No: 24675763/24675691) and the Indian Embassy in the concerned visiting country.
- Presentation may be given in the specific event by the participant(s) should be in consultation with the NACWC.
- Should not illuminate irrelevant information which has national concern during the program.
- Who is outside from the Government Sector should adhere to the instructions given by the representative from the NACWC.
- From the Government Sector should adhere to the instructions given by the NACWC.
- Should focus on the subject matter for which the event is being organized.
- Are expected to implement the lessons learnt from the event attended in his day-to-day working/duties.
- Should share their lessons/experiences acquired during the event attended with the NACWC and parent institution.
- Must submit individual tour report to the NACWC within one week period after returning from the program attended.



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