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भारत सरकार / Government of India
मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय / Cabinet Secretariat
राष्ट्रीय प्राधिकरण रासायनिक हथियार समझौता / National Authority Chemical Weapons Convention

प्रथम तल, राष्ट्रपति भवन / 1st Floor, Rashtrapati Bhawan
नई दिल्ली-04/ New Delhi-04

Dated the 23rd July, 2026

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Invitation to apply for a Workshop on Artificial Intelligence and Chemical Safety and Security Management Hangzhou, China from 1-4 September 2026 – reg.

The undersigned is directed to refer to Technical Secretariat's S/2543/2026 dated 26th June, 2026 (**copy enclosed**), seeking nominations on the above-mentioned subject.

2. The NACWC being the national focal point seeks nominations of suitable and qualified professionals who are senior representatives from government institutions, the chemical industry, chemical industry associations, or academia having are senior representatives from government institutions, the chemical industry, chemical industry associations, or academia. Candidates should have background in scientific, technological, and regulatory fields and experience in managing matters related to chemical safety, chemical security, or the non-proliferation of chemical weapons.

3. The relevant documents supporting the above-mentioned requirements and following the 'Guidelines for the OPCW sponsored events' issued by NACWC may please be sent to this office **latest by 19th July, 2026** through online portal - OPCW Training Management System (<https://nacwc.gov.in/tms/>).

3. The Head of the concerned Department/Organization may also certify that the applicant is clear from vigilance angle and no departmental proceeding against the nominee is contemplated or inquired into. Further, it may also please be ensured that nominated individuals have good command of English, both written and oral.

4. After attending the course, nominated individuals shall be expected to make a report and a brief presentation to the National Authority.

Encl.: 1

V 03/7/26

(Vivek Prakash)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

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To

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Indira Paryavaran Bhawan Jorbagh Road, New Delhi – 110 003
2. The Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Electronics Niketan, 6, CGO Complex Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110003
3. The Director, Defence Research & Development Establishment (DRDE), Jhansi Road, Gwalior – 474002. (Old Campus: Tansen Road, Gwalior – 474002.)
4. The Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Parivesh Bhawan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi - 110032
5. The Director, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), C.V. Raman Road, Bengaluru, Karnataka – 560012.

6. The Director, National Chemical Laboratory, Dr. Homi Bhabha Road, Pune, Maharashtra – 411008.
7. The Director, CSIR - Indian Institute of Chemical Technology – Uppal Road, Tarnaka Hyderabad, Telangana - 500 007
8. The Vice Chancellor, Institute of Chemical Technology – Nathalal Parekh Marg, Matunga East, Mumbai, Maharashtra 400019.



NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**INVITATION TO APPLY FOR A WORKSHOP ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
AND CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT
HANGZHOU, CHINA
1 – 4 SEPTEMBER 2026**

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 1 to 4 September 2026 in Hangzhou, China. Senior representatives from government institutions and the chemical industry who are responsible for overseeing the application of AI technology in 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 “Trustworthy AI for Responsible Use”, this workshop aims to foster international cooperation among States Parties by providing a platform to gain valuable tools and knowledge to leverage AI technology for the peaceful use of chemistry. It will also address potential security and non-proliferation threats. The workshop will highlight best practices in the host country, focusing on chemical safety and security management.

BACKGROUND

3. AI is developing at an unprecedented pace and is now widely applied, becoming a major driver of new technological advances and industrial transformation. Its powerful data analysis and predictive modelling capabilities offer innovative solutions to complex global challenges. In the field of chemistry, AI presents opportunities to enhance chemical synthesis, toxicity prediction, and risk assessment, while accelerating the digital transformation of the industry.
4. At the same time, AI also introduces significant risks, including the potential for misuse and malfunction. This rapidly evolving landscape poses critical security challenges, including the potential for the unauthorised development of toxic substances, threats to chemical facility operations, cybersecurity vulnerabilities, and risks arising from the absence of a unified global regulatory framework. Addressing these challenges is essential to ensure the safe, secure, and beneficial use of AI in chemistry.
5. In response to concerns raised by States Parties, the Secretariat has been taking proactive steps to better understand both the opportunities and the risks associated with AI relevant to the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention). To explore potential implications for the Convention, the Secretariat convened a series of expert meetings, which culminated in the Global Conference on



the Role of AI in Advancing the Implementation of the Convention, co-organised with Morocco in 2024. This trailblazing conference examined the implications of AI within the framework of the Convention, produced key recommendations (S/2360/2025, dated 29 January 2025), and highlighted the importance of international cooperation in the field of AI.

6. To further advance this work, the Secretariat has pursued complementary approaches, including by deepening its research on the implications of AI for the implementation of the Convention and piloting capacity-building initiatives. In 2025, the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) established its Temporary Working Group (TWG) on AI. The mandate of the TWG, which comprised 15 experts, was to assess the implications of AI for chemical science and the associated opportunities and risks for the work of the Organisation. On 3 March 2026, the TWG issued its end-of-mandate report (SAB/REP/1/26), detailing the Group's comprehensive findings and recommendations on AI, and how it may impact the implementation of the Convention.
7. In parallel, to promote international cooperation and the peaceful application of AI in chemistry, in June 2025 the Secretariat and China co-organised a workshop on AI and chemical safety and security management in Shanghai. This initiative facilitated discussions and an exchange of best practices and policies on the use of AI in chemical research and industrial applications. The Secretariat issued a Note (S/2444/2025, dated 17 September 2025) summarising the key findings and outcomes of the workshop.
8. Building on this momentum, in April 2026 the Secretariat organised the Seoul Workshop on the Peaceful Development and Use of Chemistry: A Special Edition on AI and the Chemical Industry. This workshop focused on the application of AI in the chemical industry and its relevance to the implementation of the Convention and the work of the OPCW.
9. In continuing these efforts, the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Government of China, is organising the second edition of the workshop on AI and chemical safety and security management.

OBJECTIVES

10. This workshop aims to raise awareness among States Parties of the impact of AI on the chemical industry within the framework of the Convention. It will provide an overview of AI, highlight both the opportunities and potential risks associated with the use of AI in chemical safety and security, and focus on promoting its responsible, secure, and trustworthy use. The workshop will examine governance perspectives and real-world industry contexts to highlight potential risks, emerging challenges, and practical approaches to ensure that AI systems are used securely and responsibly, particularly in sensitive and high-risk environments.

FOCUS AREAS AND TOPICS

11. Under the theme of "Trustworthy AI for Responsible Use", this workshop will cover topics relating to the following focus areas:
 - (a) governance and risk management for trustworthy AI;
 - (b) safe and trustworthy AI applications in the chemical industry; and
 - (c) dual-use risks and responsible AI use.

SELECTION CRITERIA

12. 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.
13. The workshop will be held in English. Participants must therefore have a good command of English.
14. The Secretariat strongly encourages States Parties and National Authorities to seek, support, and endorse applications from qualified women candidates.

APPLICATION/NOMINATION PROCEDURE

15. All applications/nominations should be submitted online individually through Eventus, the OPCW event management system (<https://eventus.opcw.org>).
16. 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 26 July 2026**. Late applications will not be accepted.
17. Personal information provided in the application must match the details as shown in the passport, as this information will be used for the issuance of flight tickets should an application be successful. Participants are responsible for ensuring the accuracy of their personal information. Any inaccuracies may result in exclusion from the course or additional charges that will need to be borne by the participants.
18. 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.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

19. 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. A detailed programme will be sent to all registered participants in due course.

20. 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, 31 August 2026** and to depart no later than **Saturday, 5 September 2026**. 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.
21. 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), Ms Jo Eun Kim, Associate Programme Officer (Email: joeun.kim@opcw.org), and Ms Rufaro Kambarami, Project Assistant (Email: rufaro.kambarami@opcw.org).

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