Activity Overview

“Chemical Weapons Convention Workshop”
CSE-C2-W-20

RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, HR-10437 Bestovje, CROATIA
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Dates 24-27 February 2020
Venue RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, HR-10437 Bestovje, Republic of Croatia

Background Workshops focusing on the provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) have been organized annually since 2004 thanks to RACVIAC cooperation with the OPCW. The 2020 Workshop is a continuation of fruitful cooperation between RACVIAC and the OPCW in promoting the implementation of the CWC in South-Eastern Europe, which directly helps enhance regional stability, transparency and trust. It is essential to have a complex picture about the issues, the players – multiple agencies, military and civilian – as well as the most burning issues which may affect the present and the future of the CWC/OPCW. There are numerous challenges to be faced in terms of the implementation of the CWC and the prevention of the intentional misuse of chemicals. Chemical safety and security is an essential first step to prevent accidental or intentional misuse of these materials. This year the main focus will be put on the issue of “Chemical Security Management through Scenario Based Strategies - an Advanced Approach". The activity will build upon last year’s conclusions with a more advanced approach to the topic.

Purpose and Objectives The purpose of this Workshop is to discuss relevant issues related to the CWC and provide a broad overview of the Convention and its implementation procedures with a specific focus on chemical safety and security. OPCW seeks to gain a clear understanding of the measures that are currently in place in the different countries in the region and of the mechanisms deployed by them.

The specific Workshop objectives are:

- To provide an overview of the CWC, major achievements and challenges included
- To inform the participants about the implementation of the Convention, the roles and capabilities of the OPCW as well as the most burning present and future issues
- To understand the chemical threat, threat analysis, chemical safety and security management concepts and mitigation strategies
- To analyse the human factor in terms of chemical safety and security by means of a table top exercise
- To gain an understanding of how to better achieve chemical safety and security by means of a table top exercise, and
- To collect information on good practices in relation to safety and security by the States Parties in the sub-region.

Participation The participants should be either senior/junior military or civilian recommendation-makers dealing with CWC issues and/or responsible for chemical safety and security issues. Since the Workshop will build upon last year’s theme, participation can be worthwhile for those who already took part in it last year. Participants are kindly asked to deliver a short presentation on their agency's core tasks considering the focus of the Workshop: safety and security - good practices.

Methodology The Workshop will comprise presentations, discussions as well as a table top exercise. The working language will be English.

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