

Delegation of Kenya
Delegation of Poland

CSP-19
The Hague, 1-5 December, 2014

Developing and sustaining a program on chemical safety and security in Kenya to build synergies between development, disarmament and the CWC national implementation

**Invitation for the African Forum on Chemical Safety and Security (AFCSS)
Nairobi, 09-11 February, 2015**

I. Introduction

1. The importance of chemical industry and chemical activities in Kenya and countries in Africa is on the rise. To ensure that safety and security is kept at the forefront, all sectors of the chemical industry should understand and adopt the best practices in this field to ensure that chemistry is used only for peaceful purposes. Chemical safety and security are the areas which are of increasing importance for both the chemical industry as well as governments.
2. The ease with which some commonly available toxic chemical compounds can be used for nefarious purposes, using rudimentary but widely available knowledge to weaponise them, makes it incumbent on all States to be aware of and address the existing dangers of chemical terrorism.
3. The safe management of chemicals and CBRN security are primary concern for Kenya as for the developing and emerging economies. Lack of proper provisions and practical solution in chemical management and security seriously hampers sustainable economic growth, deter chances of reducing poverty margins and leave their habitat contaminated with toxic substances. Therefore it serves the development.
4. The important achievements of the OPCW Third Review Conference which offered consensus support to enhance chemical safety and security and promote global chemical safety and security culture should be maintained and developed in practice.

II. The Kenyan program - an example of building synergies between the development, disarmament, non-proliferation and the CWC national implementation

5. **The Kenyan and their international partners from public and private sectors have over last years developed a project on chemical safety and security in Kenya (hereafter the Kenyan program).**
6. The overall objective of the Kenyan program is to assist Kenya in creating a national potential for chemical safety and security for the ongoing and future peaceful uses of chemistry and for structural/infrastructural projects, supporting the development of national needs in chemical safety and security, and to provide assistance in the implementation of international efforts to counter terrorism with use of chemical weapons or toxic chemicals. The goals of the project are to assist Kenya and African nations to establish a foundation for

effective and coordinated approach to chemical safety and security by providing assistance in:

- (a) Developing the relevant personal resources, legal and administrative provisions, technical support, etc. to enhance chemical safety and security in a wide spectrum of activities including: chemical production, transport, handling, trade, supply chain, and end use of chemicals;
- (b) Developing an integrated training framework to strengthen national capacities in dealing with chemical safety and security and release of toxic chemicals;
- (c) Offering capacity building for the users of chemistry and officials in Kenya and African countries in the sphere of management of chemicals, and protection of human health and the environment from the misuse of the toxic chemicals and toxic wastes;
- (d) Implementing the relevant international obligations, including the Chemical Weapons Convention and the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540

6. The Kenyan program, owned by the Kenyan authorities, involves all stakeholders, including governments, international organisations, research centres and companies, and the chemical industry, with a view to supporting capacity building to enhance chemical safety and security in a wide spectrum of tasks including: chemical production, laboratory and academic research, transport and handling of chemicals, trade, supply chain, end use of chemicals, and the implementation of the relevant laws. It will also assist in strengthening the capacities in Kenya and other African countries for toxic chemicals management.

7. The development of the Kenyan program has confirmed the importance and the relevance of the chemical safety and security for Kenya and the African countries from the perspective of **development, disarmament, non-proliferation and efforts against terrorism**.

8. The implementation of the Kenyan project will be conducted in modules. The Working Package 1, financed by the grant from the Government of Norway, will cover the most immediate Kenyan needs which include the training and education on chemicals in transit and chemical awareness to enable security measures in supply chain management and transport of chemicals topics. The implementation of the Working Package 1 will assist to involve and train all the relevant stakeholders from Kenyan government, industry and academia. The implementation of the Working Package 1 will result in a creation of a solid training basis in Kenya and group of competent trainers/implementers.

9. The Kenyan program is coordinated internationally by the International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security (ICCSS) - an independent non-governmental organization, situated in Warsaw, Poland.

10. **The expected outcome of the Kenyan project is to create national and regional potentials for chemical safety and security for the peaceful uses of chemistry and for structural and infrastructure projects.** The Kenyan project, if successfully developed and implemented in Kenya, will be promoted in countries of Eastern Africa and other developing countries. The Kenyan project will assist in implementing the UNSC Resolution 1540 and other international commitments.

III. Relevance of the Kenyan program to the Chemical Weapons Convention implementation

11. The Kenyan program will assist the development of the practical concepts how to efficiently assist Kenya and the countries of the region to accomplishing of the goals and provisions of the CWC in relation to the national implementation, assistance and protection against chemical weapons.

12. A special emphasis within the Kenyan program is placed to assist the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention. By supporting the introduction of direct cooperation between the different Kenyan stakeholders on the use of toxic chemicals, the Kenyan program promotes the Art. VII (national implementation). By supporting the development of effective measures to prevent and respond to misuse of toxic chemicals, the Kenyan program implements provisions of Art. X (assistance and cooperation). By promoting an active exchange of peaceful uses of chemistry, creating training schemes and national capacity building for Kenya and countries of Eastern Africa, the Kenyan program implements the Article XI (international cooperation). The most characteristic feature is that the Kenyan program offers an approach from down to top. It is based on the development of local responsibilities to enhance chemical safety and security and to ensure that the CWC and other relevant national and international obligations are implemented by the direct users of chemistry.

13. The Kenyan program was highly assessed at the African National Authorities meeting in May, 2014, in Nairobi, and supported as the African program. The African National Authorities supported the Kenyan program as an African platform for excellence and cooperation in peaceful uses of chemistry and offer education and training for professionals from developing countries in chemical safety and security.

IV. Chemical safety and security – an important dimension to support the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention and the OPCW work

14. The OPCW, given the comprehensive prohibition against chemical weapons and support for the protection and international cooperation, that fall within its remit, has an important contribution to make in the areas of chemical safety and security.

15. In accordance with the core goals and objectives of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), Chemical Safety and Security is relevant to a number of areas of the work of the OPCW, including: (i) Achieving full and effective national implementation of the CWC; (ii) Preventing the re-emergence of chemical weapons and the misuse of toxic chemicals; (iii) Retaining expertise regarding the destruction of chemical weapons and being prepared to respond to the use or threat of use of chemical weapons; and (iv) Promoting the peaceful uses of chemistry.

16. **The OPCW policy-making organs have offered over last years a clear recognition by States Parties and provided a policy guidance that the OPCW is well suited and appropriate for concerted action in the field of chemical safety and security.**

17. Following concerns expressed at both the First and Second Review Conferences that chemical facilities may become subject to attacks or other incidents that could lead to the release or theft of toxic chemicals, States Parties have been encouraged to exchange

experiences and discuss related issues. At its Sixteenth session (resulting in Decision /C-16/DEC.1 of 1 December 2011, on the components of an agreed framework for the full implementation of Article XI), the Conference of the States Parties decided that a series of concrete measures should be taken, including in the area of chemical safety and security.

18. During the Third Review Conference the Delegations of Kenya, Poland and the Netherlands has introduced a **Working Document (RC-NAT 40, dated 16 April, 2013)** on: “Promoting the OPCW as a platform for cooperation on chemical safety and security. Developing and sustaining a program on Chemical safety and security in Kenya”. The working paper combined with a major side-event on the Kenyan project, has discussed and developed draft language on chemical safety and security which was then introduced in the final document of the Third Review Conference. The working paper has presented a unique project on the development and sustaining a program on Chemical safety and security in Kenya.

19. A strong message for the active engagement of the OPCW in chemical safety and security was made by the OPCW Third Review Conference conducted in April 2013. In a consensus Final Document, in the area of chemical safety and security, the Conference welcomed the role of the OPCW as a platform of cooperation between relevant stakeholders. The Conference in particular welcomed the establishment by States Parties of national and international centers of excellence in the areas of international cooperation and assistance.

V. Invitation for the African Forum on Chemical Safety and Security (AFCSS) - Nairobi, 09-11 February 2015

20. **African Forum on Chemical Safety and Security (AFCSS)** continues the development and implementation of the Kenyan program. AFCSS follows the requests and understandings reached at the meeting of African National Authorities on the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (Nairobi, May 2014) in support of the Kenyan program as African program and to extend it to the countries East Africa. The AFCSS responds also to proposals from the national stakeholders in East Africa and the international organizations to share the methodology and practices of the Kenyan program to East Africa stakeholders.

21. As a result of the AFCSS networks of contacts within the East Africa will be established to facilitate the communication and cooperation to reduce threats and mitigate the risks. The AFCSS will assist the implementation of the Kenyan program through developing links with the relevant counterparts from East Africa. The AFCSS will assist in developing the demand for enhancing chemical safety and security in East Africa and establishing and strengthening the relevant contacts and cooperation among the officials to stem proliferation and terrorism threats.

The rationale behind the African Forum on Chemical Safety and Security (AFCSS)

22. As the development of the Kenyan program has proved, the critical areas for enhancing peaceful chemical activities and preventing misuse of toxic chemicals are introducing border and customs controls, and control of transportation and transit of toxic chemicals and their use at small and medium companies (SMI). **Therefore the issue of introducing the relevant national and industry chemical safety and security measures,**

with an emphasis on the development of the effective border and customs controls, and control of transportation and transit of toxic chemicals, should become a priority for the governments and require the intensification of the international support efforts.

23. AFCSS objectives

- a) The AFCSS will promote an integrated approach to chemical safety and security covering the entire cycle of development, production, use, and disposal of chemicals, introduced within the Kenyan program.
- b) The AFCSS will assist in the development of cooperation of between specialists in the field of chemical security, with emphasis on border, customs, industry and transportation officials from East Africa.
- c) The AFCSS will strengthen the effectiveness of the Kenyan program by creating a forum of exchanging expertise and national capacities between the Kenyan stakeholders and their East Africa counterparts in the areas of border, customs, industry and transportation of toxic chemicals.
- d) The AFCSS will assist in the translation of the Kenyan program modalities and practices into a concrete national and regional cooperative activities which should explain and present legal, administrative and institutional issues which should be dealt with, in order to introduce successful mechanisms against misuse of toxic chemicals, required actions by local and central authorities, description of the external and internal infrastructures and capabilities, discuss issues of trans-border co-operation, and promote establishment of the contact points to promote sharing expertise and information.

24. What are the expected tangible outcomes of the AFCSS?

- a) The AFCSS will bring more institutions, organizations and stakeholders to participate in development of chemical safety and security issues in Africa. The AFCSS will gather together broad spectrum of Kenyan stakeholders, what will give opportunity to renew commitment of already involved stakeholders as, well as will open opportunity of enrolling new participants. It will promote the Kenyan program further.
- b) The AFCSS will assist to improve African countries capabilities in the prevention of, preparedness for and response to a misuse of toxic chemicals and provision of guidance and assistance to help Member States establish sound non-proliferation policies and chemical security culture. The AFCSS will trigger establishment of the network of participants and end-users within Kenya for effective implementation of the results of the AFCSS and the Kenyan program.
- c) The AFCSS will further develop concepts of the training and education scheme for rising awareness, teaching principles, required training skills and know-how and best practices transfer in areas of chemical safety and security, and will trigger training curricula preparation.

25. AFCSS Draft Agenda

First Day

Exhibition and best practices exchanges sessions

To exchange of experience, ideas and knowledge between national and relevant international organisations mandated with chemical safety and security

To exhibit various solutions and options to meet the rapid development of the chemical industry and increase in accidents involving release of toxic chemicals

To familiarise the participants with the latest equipment available in the market and to educate the participants with various items of equipment and training opportunities in the areas of chemical safety and security.

Second Day

09.00 - 1030 Opening session

- Opening statement by the Kenyan authorities
- Keynote statement on strengthening the African nations' security and potential to respond to the growing threat of terrorism, as well as to increase their capacity to deal with toxic chemicals and wastes
- International efforts to support chemical safety and security, importance of the CWC, UNSCR 1540 (2004) and the relevant national and international arrangements
- Presentation of the Kenyan program

10.30 – 12.00 Session 1: Importance of building sustainable and continued approaches for national and international efforts to enhance chemical safety and security, mitigate the proliferation threats and enhance CBRN security

Presentations from the key stakeholders, international organisations, NGOs, relevant industries and science and academia, followed by discussion

14.00 – 17.00 Session 2: Recent trends and developments in the areas of chemical safety and security and national and industry responses; promoting development of national and international expertise and training in the areas of chemical security

Presentations of the teaching and training programmes on chemical security

Third Day

09.00 – 12.00 Session 3: programmes and practices and their cooperation with the staff of international and regional organisations; capacity building and training needs

14.00 – 16.00 Brainstorming session: Development of the modular courses for personnel engaged in supervising chemical activities as well as the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention and UNSCR 1540 implementation on issues related to chemical non-proliferation and enhancing chemical security

Bilateral discussions between the participants.

26. Participation and Registration:

Those wishing to participate in the AFCSS are invited to contact directly the International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security (ICCSS), Leszno 8/1, 01-192 Warsaw, Poland, Phone: (office) +48 22 4362044 or by e-mail: iccss@eu or Amb. Krzysztof Paturej – ICCSS President of the Board, e-mail: k.paturej@iccss.eu

More information about the AFCSS, including the registration forms, will be available on the ICCSS website: www.iccss.eu

27. Counterparts and contact points

Responsible and Lead Implementing Organization for the AFCSS:

The International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security (ICCSS)

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