

Workshop D: Enhancing Chemical Safety and Security for the Chemical Weapons Convention 18 July 2024

Workshop leaders:

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Operation of the workshop:

The workshop will use active learning approaches, which means that there will be continuous engagement with participants and many small group-work activities to encourage participants to talk, argue, and clarify issues.

Aim of the workshop:

To introduce participants to the Chemical Weapons Convention and how they can support it through good safety and security measures.

Objectives:

- (i) To explain the Chemical Weapons Convention;
- (ii) To demonstrate how and why safety and security measure by chemists are key to supporting the convention; and
- (iii) To showcase active learning approaches for teaching and understanding.

Workshop Program:

09.00 Talk on History of the Chemical Weapons Convention and introducing Hague Ethical Guidelines, the importance of choice in what chemists do, and role of safety and security measures. (The session will have many small group activities involving 2 -3 participants)

10.40 Coffee break

11.00 Safety and security measures. Participants will be presented with 10 key themes on safety and security, divided into groups on no more than 6 per group, and asked to describe to other group members what they have in place at present under each theme, but what they would consider desirable and how they might achieve this. To ensure all topics are covered groups will only be allocated 5 themes initially, invited to consider these first, and then to discuss the remining themes if time permits.

12.00 Plenary Lecture:

"The OPCW: Ridding the world from Chemical Weapons"

By Peter Hotchkiss, OPCW representative as 2013 Nobel Prize for Peace

12.40 Lunch

14.00 The main activity in this session will be around the issues involved in expanding a chemical factory which is sited in a residential area. Participants will be randomly allocated to groups, allocated to one stakeholder likely to be involved in considering this issue and asked to role play. Participants will then be mixed with each having to meet a participant representing every other stakeholder in a group session where they will discuss their position and concerns. Following this they will reconvene in their original group and see how their original position has changed and views modified. The exercise involves a jigsaw procedure. If time permits, groups can be brought together to consider drafting a code-of-conduct for how the factory might proceed.

15.40 Coffee break

16:00 Continuation of previous session, wrap -up and feedback.

17:00 Workshop concludes.
