

**OPCW****Technical Secretariat**

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S/2362/2025  
29 January 2025  
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**NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT****CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD**

1. The Technical Secretariat (the Secretariat) wishes to inform States Parties that seven members of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) will end their term of office on the Board in 2025. These Board members are listed in Annex 1 to this Note.
2. In light of the above, the Secretariat invites States Parties to nominate experts for consideration for selection to the SAB. Each State Party may nominate up to two candidates. In its continued quest for gender equality, the Secretariat requests that, should any given State Party wish to put forward two nominations, one of the two nominated candidates be female. The final appointments will be made by the Director-General after an internal selection process. The terms of reference (TOR) of the SAB, which are annexed to a decision of the Conference of the States Parties at its Second Session (C-II/DEC.10/Rev.1, dated 2 December 2004), stipulate in paragraph 6 that “[t]he term of office of members of the Board shall be three years. A Board member may serve for two consecutive terms”.
3. With reference to paragraph 4 of the aforementioned TOR, nominees to be proposed should be eminent persons who serve in research institutions, universities, scientific industries, and/or defence and military organisations, who will be selected on the basis of their expertise in one or more of the particular scientific fields relevant to the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention). The Secretariat encourages States Parties and their National Authorities to further disseminate this call to the appropriate industrial, academic, and government entities so that interested qualified candidates can be better identified. Paragraph 4 of the TOR further stipulates that “[p]reference shall be given to persons who are knowledgeable about the relevant scientific and technological developments, and who are familiar with the implementation of the Convention. Efforts shall be made to maintain a balance between the areas of research, development and applications”. Nominees should be proposed on the basis of their qualifications and experience, with States Parties taking into account their publication record, scientific, academic or professional activities, distinctions, and international and scientific advisory experience.
4. When selecting candidates for nomination, States Parties are encouraged to take into consideration that transdisciplinary (“convergent”) scientific practices are a driver for innovation and rapid technological evolution. Candidates whose areas of expertise reach across traditional disciplinary boundaries are particularly well suited to serve on the Board.



5. In light of the expertise held by those leaving the SAB in 2025, the considerations mentioned in paragraphs 3 and 4 above, and the need for technical expert advice on issues that have both immediate and long-term implications for the implementation of the Convention, States Parties may wish, this year in particular, to nominate candidates with expertise in chemical industry, artificial intelligence, chemical analysis and detection, molecular design and synthesis, high-throughput experimentation, chemical weapons destruction, central nervous system-acting chemicals, forensic science, chemical safety and security, and big data/informatics and analytics. The Board's report to the Fifth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (RC-5/DG.1, dated 22 February 2023) serves as a resource for the breadth of issues the SAB has recently considered.
6. Nominees should be ready to make substantive contributions at SAB meetings, during the intersessional periods, and at other relevant science and technology events. All nominees are requested to submit a written statement describing how they intend to have a substantial impact on the work of the SAB and the OPCW. The OPCW provides simultaneous interpretation in all six of the OPCW official languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish) during official SAB sessions.
7. The Secretariat requests States Parties to submit nominations via email to the Secretary to the SAB ([peter.hotchkiss@opcw.org](mailto:peter.hotchkiss@opcw.org)) using the attached nomination form (Annex 2), **by 31 August 2025**. The completed form should be accompanied by the curriculum vitae of the nominee and by the written statement in English (up to 500 words) mentioned in paragraph 6 above. All nominations must be endorsed by either a State Party's Permanent Representation to the OPCW or its National Authority, or both.

#### Annexes:

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| Annex 1:                | List of Scientific Advisory Board Members Whose Second Term of Office is Due to Finish in 2025 |
| Annex 2 (English only): | Nomination Form  |

**Annex 1****LIST OF SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS  
WHOSE SECOND TERM OF OFFICE IS DUE TO FINISH IN 2025**

<b>Name</b>	<b>State Party</b>	<b>Date of End of Current Term of Office</b>
Captain Elma Lilia Biscotti	Argentina	31 December 2025
Prof. Fengxia Sun	China	31 December 2025
Dr Anne Bossée	France	31 December 2025
Prof. Imee Su Martinez	Philippines	31 December 2025
Prof. Victor Kholstov	Russian Federation	31 December 2025
Dr Nomandla Magnificent Vela	South Africa	31 December 2025
Dr Norman Govan	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	31 December 2025

**Annex 2****CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD****NOMINATION FORM**

Please submit the completed form, together with the nominee's curriculum vitae and a statement by the nominee of how he/she intends to have a substantive impact on the work of the SAB and the OPCW, via email by **31 August 2025** to:

Peter Hotchkiss ([peter.hotchkiss@opcw.org](mailto:peter.hotchkiss@opcw.org))  
Secretary to the Scientific Advisory Board

**Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS**

1.	Title	
2.	Family name*	
3.	First name(s)*	
4.	Date of birth	Day                      Month                      Year
5.	Citizenship	
6.	Gender	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>
7.	Relevant areas of expertise** and how these would support the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention	
8.	Work/roles similar to those of a Scientific Advisory Board member that the nominee has successfully undertaken previously***	
9.	Employer	
10.	Position	
11.	Contact address	
12.	Email address	
13.	Telephone numbers, including country and city codes	Work:  Mobile:

\* Please give the first and family names exactly as they appear in the nominee's passport.

\*\* See paragraphs 3 to 5 of the cover Note above, to which this nomination form is attached.

\*\*\* See paragraph 6 of the cover Note above, to which this nomination form is attached. The nominee should be prepared to provide contact details of referees from such work.