



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

S/2077/2022

15 July 2022

ENGLISH and SPANISH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR AN OPCW
ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION TRAINING COURSE FOR INSTRUCTORS
FROM LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STATES PARTIES
ASUNCIÓN, PARAGUAY
17 – 21 OCTOBER 2022**

1. On behalf of the Government of Paraguay and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General wishes to invite States Parties from the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC) to nominate representatives to participate in an assistance and protection course for instructors from the GRULAC region, which will take place from 17 to 21 October 2022 in Asunción, Paraguay.
2. This course will help participating States Parties enhance the knowledge and skills of their national instructors involved in training first responders to cases of chemical attacks or incidents involving toxic industrial chemicals, and will be jointly organised by the Government of Paraguay and the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”).
3. The course will provide training for up to 20 instructors from institutions in the GRULAC region involved in the provision of regional assistance and protection and emergency response training under Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention.
4. The course is expected to contribute to the enhancement of regional response capabilities as a whole, and is aimed at consolidating the Secretariat’s regional approach to assistance and protection capacity building within the GRULAC region by enhancing the training skills of regional instructors. Participants will also have the opportunity to engage in extensive information exchange and networking, specifically targeting the practices and procedures related to the conduct of assistance and protection training.
5. The course will cover the following topics, among others:
 - (a) chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals (theoretical segment);
 - (b) protection of personnel and equipment in a chemical emergency;
 - (c) rescue and decontamination operations in contaminated areas;
 - (d) appropriate responses and countermeasures during incidents involving chemical warfare agents or toxic industrial chemicals; and
 - (e) the didactics of emergency response training.



6. Given the purpose of the course and its technical nature, candidates will be carefully selected according to the following criteria:
 - (a) Applicants should be first responders, instructors or trainers, or be involved in the implementation of emergency response policies in their own countries. They should preferably belong to the staff of training institutions in the GRULAC region. Ideally, applicants should also have passed courses provided by the OPCW at the exercise level.
 - (b) Participants must be physically fit and capable of wearing individual protective equipment (IPE) for several hours at a time.
 - (c) As the course will be conducted in Spanish, participants must have a good command of the Spanish language. No interpretation services of any kind will be provided.
7. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor a limited number of participants. For sponsored participants, it will cover the costs of accommodation, travel, medical insurance, and meals, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses. Participants will arrive in Asunción on Sunday, 16 October 2022 and depart on Saturday, 22 October 2022. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the course or that result from unauthorised changes to travel arrangements. Participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to Paraguay.
8. Interested applicants are invited to register their nomination online through the Eventus platform—the OPCW event management system—**no later than 20 August 2022**. The Eventus registration link is accessible via the OPCW website at: <https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>. Please note that all questions marked with an asterisk (*) must be answered in order for the nomination to be received and for the candidate to be considered for this event.
9. Candidates who have been selected to participate in the course will be contacted no later than two weeks after the submission deadline. States Parties are requested to inform the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of any administrative or other problems that may arise in connection with the attendance of any participant.
10. The provisional programme of the course is included as the Annex to this Note. Further details regarding accommodation, the course venue, transport, and an updated version of the programme will be provided to all selected participants at a later date. Any questions should be addressed to the Assistance and Protection Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact persons are Mr Miguel Albaladejo Pomares (Tel: +31(0)70 416 3775) and Ms María Elena Bruno-Pousadela, (Tel: +31(0) 40 416 3217).

Annex: Provisional Programme

Annex

**OPCW ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION TRAINING COURSE FOR INSTRUCTORS
FROM LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STATES PARTIES
ASUNCIÓN, PARAGUAY
17 – 21 OCTOBER 2022**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
<i>Sunday, 16 October 2022</i>	
	Arrival of participants
<i>Monday, 17 October 2022</i>	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:45	Opening ceremony
09:45 – 10:00	Group photo
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Presentation: Article X of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)
11:00 – 11:30	Presentation: Implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention by the National Authority of Paraguay
11:30 – 12:00	Explanation of objectives and introduction
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
Module I: Technical considerations	
13:00 – 14:00	Topic: Physicochemical properties I
14:00 – 15:00	Topic: Physicochemical properties II
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:30 – 16:30	Table-top exercise: Application of physicochemical properties
16:30 – 17:00	Discussions and conclusions
<i>Tuesday, 18 October 2022</i>	
08:45 – 09:00	Presentation
09:00 – 09:45	Topic: Concentration of toxic substances in the environment
09:45 – 10:30	Table-top exercise: Application of concentrations in the air
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00 – 11:45	Good practices in IPE and decontamination
11:45 – 12:30	Integrative table-top exercise: IPE and decontamination
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
Module II: Lesson plan	
13:30 – 14:15	Topic: Introduction to the teaching-learning process.
14:15 – 15:00	Topic: Training modes
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:30 – 16:30	Topic: Learning environment and instructional support
16:30 – 17:00	Discussions and conclusions

<i>Wednesday, 19 October 2022</i>	
08:45 – 09:00	Presentation
09:00 – 09:45	Topic: Preparing goals
09:45 – 10:30	Topic: Didactic educational resources
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00 – 11:45	Topic: Evaluation techniques
11:45 – 12:30	Topic: Planning of a theoretical lesson
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
Module III: Participant presentations	
13:30 – 14:30	Group work–session 1
14:30 – 14:45	Instructors question section
14:45 – 16:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:15 – 17:15	Group work–session 2
17:15 – 17:30	Instructors question section
17:30 – 17:45	Discussions and conclusions
<i>Thursday, 20 October 2022</i>	
08:45 – 09:00	Presentation: Introductory session
09:00 – 10:00	Group work–session 3
10:00 – 10:15	Instructor questions section
10:15 – 10:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:45 – 11:45	Group work–session 4
11:45 – 12:15	Instructor questions section
12:15 – 12:30	General conclusions
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:30 – 14:30	Planning a practical lesson
14:30 – 16:00	Group presentations
16:00 – 16:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:30 – 17:00	Written evaluation
17:00 – 17:30	Discussions and conclusions
<i>Friday, 21 October 2022</i>	
09:00 – 10:30	Discussion and evaluation of the course
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00 – 12:00	Closing ceremony and distribution of certificates
Afternoon	Departure of the participants