



S/2146/2023
3 March 2023
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A BASIC ANALYTICAL
CHEMISTRY COURSE FOR WOMEN CHEMISTS
AT THE OPCW CENTRE FOR CHEMISTRY AND TECHNOLOGY
11 – 13 JULY 2023**

Background

1. The OPCW Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) wishes to inform Member States that it will hold a basic analytical chemistry course for women chemists at the OPCW Centre for Chemistry and Technology in Nootdorp, the Netherlands, from 11 to 13 July 2023.
2. The aim of the analytical chemistry course is to assist qualified women analytical chemists from Member States whose economies are developing or in transition in acquiring further knowledge and experience, specifically as it relates to the analysis of chemicals related to the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”), and to facilitate the adoption of good laboratory practices and quality standards.

Content

3. The three-day course will focus on basic training in gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) and will include study/demonstration tours related to the use of these and other techniques for the analysis of chemicals related to the Convention.

Admission requirements

4. The analytical chemistry course is open to women who:
 - (a) have a minimum of a first degree (BSc or equivalent) in analytical chemistry, chemistry, or related chemical sciences from a recognised university or institution, with relevant practical and theoretical experience in analytical chemistry;
 - (b) have experience working with GC-MS techniques;
 - (c) are citizens of Member States whose economies are developing or in transition; and
 - (d) have been working in a chemical laboratory or research institution in their home country for **at least three years**.



5. All course activities will be conducted in English, and no interpretation services of any kind will be provided. Candidates must therefore have a strong command of both written and spoken English. Any candidate who is found upon arrival not to meet this requirement may not be allowed to continue their participation in the course.

Selection procedure

6. Applications will be carefully screened on the basis of the criteria specified in paragraphs 4 and 5 above. Applicants who have already participated in the OPCW Analytical Skills Development Course Programme will not be considered for the analytical chemistry course.

Sponsorship

7. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel and medical insurance and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover meals and sundry expenses. The Secretariat will also arrange and pay for the accommodation of sponsored participants.
8. The Secretariat will not pay for medical assistance. Therefore, participants should be fit for travel. All participants taking prescribed medication should arrive with supplies sufficient for the duration of the event.
9. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. It will purchase tickets and send them to the participants.
10. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to the Netherlands.

Application procedure

11. Interested candidates are invited to submit their applications through Eventus, the OPCW event management system (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>). Applicants must first create an account and then register for the event. Each application must be endorsed digitally on the Eventus platform by the nominee's respective National Authority. Only nominations **endorsed** by the National Authority or Permanent Representation will be considered. **States Parties and National Authorities are strongly encouraged to support and endorse applications from suitable female candidates for the event.**
12. The application must be accompanied by the following:
 - (a) a curriculum vitae;
 - (b) a photocopy of the personal identification pages of the candidate's passport;
 - (c) a one-page description of the candidate's practical experience; and
 - (d) a letter of recommendation from the supervisor of the candidate in his or her institution addressing the candidate's qualifications in line with paragraphs 4 and 5 above and attesting to the relevance of the course to the work of the institution.

13. Incomplete or improperly completed applications cannot be considered.
14. Applications must be submitted to the Secretariat **no later than Thursday, 30 March 2023**. Additional information may be obtained from the International Cooperation Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact person is Ms Rufaro Kambarami, Project Assistant (Email: rufaro.kambarami@opcw.org) and Mr Massimo de Rienzo, Senior Programme Officer (Email: massimo.derienzo@opcw.org).

--- 0 ---