



**OPCW**

**Technical Secretariat**

---

International Cooperation and Assistance Division

S/600/2006

14 November 2006

ARABIC, ENGLISH, and FRENCH only

**NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT**

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS  
FOR THE THIRD REGIONAL ASSISTANCE-AND-PROTECTION COURSE  
FOR AFRICAN STATES PARTIES  
TSHWANE, SOUTH AFRICA  
21 – 25 MAY 2007**

1. On behalf of the Government of South Africa and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General wishes to invite States Parties in Africa to nominate representatives to participate in the third regional assistance-and-protection course for African States Parties, which will take place from 21 to 25 May 2007 in Tshwane, South Africa.
2. The course will be jointly organised by the Government of South Africa and the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”), and will provide training to up to 25 participants from the region on how to plan for and build a support team for civilian protection and defence, for rescue and decontamination operations in contaminated areas, and for appropriate responses and countermeasures in the event of incidents involving chemical-warfare agents or toxic chemicals. The course will also give an overview of the kinds of assistance the OPCW, the host country, and other States Parties in Africa can provide, and will also help participating States Parties to establish a basic chemical weapons-protection capability that will directly benefit their civilian populations.
3. The course will offer a basic introduction to the use of individual and collective protective equipment, to monitoring, detection, and decontamination, and to sampling techniques. It will also facilitate the exchange of information and experiences regarding the implementation of Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention and provide a forum for States Parties to discuss how they can cooperate in the future and what further offers they might make to the OPCW under that Article. The course will conclude with a practical emergency-response exercise.
4. Given the purpose of the course and its technical nature, candidates will be carefully selected according to the following criteria:
  - a) All activities during the course will be conducted in English, and no interpretation services of any kind will be available. All participants are therefore expected to have a good oral and written command of English.



- b) Preference will be given to first responders from emergency-response units, such as fire-fighters, ambulance personnel, and police officers.
  - c) Participants must be physically fit, and should be no older than 50 years of age, because they will have to wear individual protective gear for several hours at a time in hot weather during the practical sessions of the course. Some practical experience with protective equipment is desirable.
5. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor a limited number of participants from States Parties. For sponsored participants, it will cover the costs of accommodation, breakfast, and dinner. The National Authority of South Africa will also provide all participants with course materials, local transport, and lunch at no cost to either the participants or the OPCW. Further details regarding accommodation, the course venue, and transport will be issued to all confirmed participants at a later date.
  6. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most-economical options. Sponsored participants will be allowed to purchase tickets locally only if this leads to further savings for the Secretariat and if the Secretariat authorises it. In order for the Secretariat to keep costs to a minimum, sponsored participants are expected to arrive no earlier than Sunday, 20 May 2007, and to depart no later than Saturday, 26 May 2007. The Secretariat's approval is required for any changes to the arrival and departure dates of sponsored participants. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the course or that result from changes it has not authorised to travel arrangements. Sponsored participants shall bear all costs resulting from changes they make, including cancellations, once the Secretariat has purchased their tickets. Participants who have not been sponsored are requested to make their own travel arrangements.
  7. Participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to South Africa.
  8. Interested applicants are invited to complete the nomination form that is included as Annex 2 to this Note, making sure to provide all contact details and to indicate their dietary preferences, especially if they require halal or vegetarian meals. Completed forms should be sent, **along with a brief curriculum vitae**, to the Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. Nominations may also be submitted by fax to +31 (0)70 416 3209, or by e-mail to [EmergAssistBr@opcw.org](mailto:EmergAssistBr@opcw.org). All materials must be received by the Secretariat **no later than 1 February 2007**. Please be advised that participants must present an OPCW acceptance letter in order to register for the course.
  9. Additional information may be obtained from the Assistance and Protection Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, at the contact address given above.

Annexes:

- Annex 1: Provisional Programme
- Annex 2 (English only): Nomination Form

## Annex 1

**THIRD REGIONAL ASSISTANCE-AND-PROTECTION COURSE  
FOR AFRICAN STATES PARTIES  
TSHWANE, SOUTH AFRICA  
21 – 25 MAY 2007**

**PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

| Time                                 | Activity                                              |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><i>Monday, 21 May 2007</i></b>    |                                                       |
| 08:00 – 08:40                        | Opening                                               |
| 08:45 – 09:30                        | Introduction to the course                            |
| 09:30 – 10:10                        | Introduction to the OPCW                              |
| 10:10 – 10:30                        | <i>Tea</i>                                            |
| 10:30 – 11:10                        | Lecture: the Chemical Weapons Convention              |
| 11:15 – 11:50                        | Lecture: chemical-warfare agents                      |
| 11:55 – 12:35                        | Lecture: toxic industrial chemicals                   |
| 12:35 – 13:30                        | <i>Lunch</i>                                          |
| 13:30 – 14:10                        | Lecture: assessing threats and recognising attacks    |
| 14:15 – 14:55                        | Lecture: individual protection                        |
| 15:00 – 15:40                        |                                                       |
| 15:40 – 16:00                        | <i>Tea</i>                                            |
| 16:00 – 16:40                        | Practical: individual protection                      |
| 16:45 – 17:30                        |                                                       |
| <b><i>Tuesday 22 May 2007</i></b>    |                                                       |
| 08:00 – 08:40                        | Practical: individual protection                      |
| 08:45 – 09:30                        |                                                       |
| 09:30 – 10:10                        | Lecture: detection                                    |
| 10:10 – 10:30                        | <i>Tea</i>                                            |
| 10:30 – 11:10                        | Lecture: detection and sampling                       |
| 11:15 – 11:50                        | Practical: detection                                  |
| 11:55 – 12:35                        |                                                       |
| 12:35 – 13:30                        | <i>Lunch</i>                                          |
| 13:30 – 14:10                        | Lecture: decontamination                              |
| 14:15 – 14:55                        |                                                       |
| 15:00 – 15:40                        | Practical: decontamination                            |
| 15:40 – 16:00                        | <i>Tea</i>                                            |
| 16:00 – 16:40                        | Practical: decontamination (continued)                |
| 16:45 – 17:30                        |                                                       |
| <b><i>Wednesday, 23 May 2007</i></b> |                                                       |
| 08:00 – 08:40                        | Practical: decontamination (continued)                |
| 08:45 – 09:30                        |                                                       |
| 09:30 – 10:10                        |                                                       |
| 10:10 – 10:30                        | <i>Tea</i>                                            |
| 10:30 – 11:10                        | Lecture: incident scenarios and possible consequences |
| 11:15 – 11:50                        | Lecture: incident layout                              |

| <b>Time</b>                         | <b>Activity</b>                            |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 11:55 – 12:35                       | Lecture: command and control               |
| <b><i>Wednesday (continued)</i></b> |                                            |
| 12:35 – 13:30                       | <i>Lunch</i>                               |
| 13:30 – 14:10                       | Tabletop exercise: incident management     |
| 14:15 – 14:55                       |                                            |
| 15:00 – 17:30                       | Excursion                                  |
| <b><i>Thursday, 24 May 2007</i></b> |                                            |
| 08:00 – 08:40                       | Practical: incident management             |
| 08:45 – 09:30                       |                                            |
| 09:30 – 10:10                       |                                            |
| 10:10 – 10:30                       | <i>Tea</i>                                 |
| 10:30 – 11:10                       | Practical (continued)                      |
| 11:15 – 11:50                       |                                            |
| 11:55 – 12:35                       |                                            |
| 12:35 – 13:30                       | <i>Lunch</i>                               |
| 13:30 – 14:10                       | Practical (continued)                      |
| 14:15 – 14:55                       |                                            |
| 15:00 – 15:40                       |                                            |
| 15:40 – 16:00                       | <i>Tea</i>                                 |
| 16:00 – 16:40                       | Practical (continued)                      |
| 16:45 – 17:30                       |                                            |
| <b><i>Friday, 25 May 2007</i></b>   |                                            |
| 8:00 – 08:40                        | Practical: incident management (continued) |
| 8:45 – 09:30                        |                                            |
| 9:30 – 10:10                        |                                            |
| 10:10 – 10:30                       | <i>Tea</i>                                 |
| 10:30 – 11:10                       | Emergency-response exercise                |
| 11:15 – 11:50                       |                                            |
| 11:55 – 12:35                       |                                            |
| 12:35 – 13:30                       | <i>Lunch</i>                               |
| 13:30 – 15:40                       | Visit to Protechnik Laboratories           |
| 15:40 – 16:00                       | <i>Tea</i>                                 |
| 16:00 – 16:40                       | Exercise feedback                          |
| 16:45 – 17:30                       | Closure                                    |

## Annex 2

**THIRD REGIONAL ASSISTANCE-AND-PROTECTION COURSE  
FOR AFRICAN STATES PARTIES  
TSHWANE, SOUTH AFRICA  
21 – 25 MAY 2007**

**NOMINATION FORM**

Please submit the completed form, **along with a brief curriculum vitae, by 1 February 2007** to:

The Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW

Attn: Assistance and Protection Branch

Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands

Fax: + 31 (0)70 416 3209; e-mail: [EmergAssistBr@opcw.org](mailto:EmergAssistBr@opcw.org).

**Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS.**

|     |                                                                  |                                                               |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.  | Family name of nominee                                           |                                                               |
| 2.  | First name(s)                                                    |                                                               |
| 3.  | Date of birth                                                    | Day                      Month                      Year      |
| 4.  | Citizenship                                                      |                                                               |
| 5.  | Gender*                                                          | Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6.  | Passport number                                                  |                                                               |
| 7.  | Date of issue                                                    | Day                      Month                      Year      |
| 8.  | Expiry date                                                      | Day                      Month                      Year      |
| 9.  | Place of issue                                                   |                                                               |
| 10. | Areas of expertise                                               |                                                               |
|     |                                                                  |                                                               |
|     |                                                                  |                                                               |
| 11. | Employer                                                         |                                                               |
|     |                                                                  |                                                               |
| 12. | Position                                                         |                                                               |
| 13. | Contact address<br>(Please do not give a post-office box number) | Street                                                        |
|     |                                                                  | Number                      Post code                         |
|     |                                                                  | City                                                          |
|     |                                                                  | Country                                                       |
| 14. | E-mail address                                                   |                                                               |
| 15. | Telephone numbers, including country and city codes              | Home                                                          |
|     |                                                                  | Work                                                          |
|     |                                                                  | Mobile                                                        |
| 16. | Fax numbers, including country and city codes                    | Home                                                          |
|     |                                                                  | Work                                                          |

\* For this and all like items, please tick the appropriate box.

|     |                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 17. | Has the nominee previously taken part in a course of this kind? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/><br>If so, when and where?                                                                                         |
| 18. | Is sponsorship a condition of participation?                    | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                                   |
| 19. | Dietary preferences                                             | None <input type="checkbox"/> Halal <input type="checkbox"/><br>Vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/><br>Other (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/> :<br>-----<br>----- |