



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

International Cooperation and Assistance Division

S/1101/2013

5 June 2013

ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL
ASSISTANCE-AND-PROTECTION COURSE
ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN
28 OCTOBER – 1 NOVEMBER 2013**

1. On behalf of the Government of Pakistan and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General wishes to invite States Parties to nominate candidates to participate in the third international assistance-and-protection training course, which will take place from 28 October to 1 November 2013 in Islamabad, Pakistan.
2. The course, which will be jointly organised by the Government of Pakistan and the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”), will provide training to up to 20 participants in planning for and building a support team in civil protection, civil defence, and decontamination operations in contaminated areas, as well as in appropriate responses and countermeasures in the event of incidents involving chemical-warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals. It will also give an overview of what kind of assistance the OPCW, the host country, and Member States can provide, and will assist participating States Parties in establishing a basic capability in protection from chemical weapons, which will directly benefit their civilian populations.
3. The course will offer a basic introduction to the use of individual and collective protective equipment, and to monitoring, detection, and decontamination techniques. Participants completing the basic course will acquire a general knowledge of chemical-warfare agents, of individual protective equipment, and of detection and decontamination equipment, as well as an understanding of how all of the equipment is to be used. The course will also facilitate the exchange of information and experiences regarding the implementation of Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention, and will provide a forum for the discussion of future cooperation among participating Member States and of what further offers they might make to the OPCW under Article X. 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, and should have experience with assistance and protection against chemical weapons. Preference will be given to officers from emergency-response units involved in civilian protection. In addition, participants should be physically fit and



be able to wear individual protective gear for several hours at a time during practical sessions of the course. Some practical experience with protective equipment is desirable.

5. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor the participation of a limited number of participants. Each nomination should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of the nominee's participation. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel and medical insurance, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses. Accommodation for sponsored participants will be arranged by the National Authority of Pakistan and will be paid for by the Secretariat. Participants who are not sponsored are also expected to avail themselves of this accommodation, and to confirm the related arrangements with the Secretariat. The Secretariat will not cover the accommodation costs of non-sponsored participants. The course materials, training equipment, mid-day meals, and local transport during the course will be provided by the National Authority of Pakistan, at no cost to the participants or to 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. 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, 27 September 2013**, and to depart **no later than Saturday, 2 November 2013**. 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 unauthorised changes 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 and to inform the Secretariat accordingly.
7. All activities during the meeting will be conducted in English, and no interpretation services of any kind will be provided. Participants are therefore expected to have a good written and oral command of the English language.
8. Participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to Pakistan.
9. Interested applicants are invited to complete the nomination form that is included as Annex 2 to this Note, making sure in particular to provide all the contact details it requests. 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. All materials must be received by the Secretariat **no later than 31 July 2013**. Please be advised that participants must present an OPCW acceptance letter in order to attend the course. Only selected participants will be contacted within three weeks of the submission deadline.

10. A provisional programme for the course is included as Annex 1 to this Note; further details will be issued at a later date. Any questions may be addressed to the Assistance and Protection Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division:

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Ms Maria-Elena Bruno Pousedela +31 (0)70 416 3217
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Annexes:

Annex 1: Provisional Programme
Annex 2: Nomination Form

Annex 1

**THIRD INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE-AND-PROTECTION COURSE
ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN
28 OCTOBER – 1 NOVEMBER 2013**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
<i>Sunday, 27 October 2013</i>	
	Arrival of participants, and registration
<i>Monday, 28 October 2013</i>	
08:30 – 09:00	Keynote address
09:00 – 09:15	Group photo
09:15 – 10:00	Display of detection and protection equipment
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Break</i>
10:30 – 11:30	Overview of course
11:30 – 12:15	Lecture: Implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in Pakistan
12:15 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:15	Lecture: The provisions of Article X on assistance and protection
14:15 – 15:00	Lecture: The history of chemical-warfare agents
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Break</i>
15:30 – 16:15	Lecture: Types and effects of chemical-warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals
16:15 – 17:00	Lecture: Administering first aid; medical responses to, and the treatment of, victims in the event of a chemical incident
17:00 – 18:30	Distribution of individual protective equipment to participants
18:30 – 20:30	<i>Official dinner hosted by the Defence Science and Technology Organisation</i>
<i>Tuesday, 29 October 2013</i>	
08:30 – 09:15	Lecture: Individual protective equipment
09:15 – 10:00	Practical: Use of individual protective equipment (donning and doffing: MOPP ¹ levels 0-2)
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Break</i>
10:30 – 11:15	Practical: Use of individual protective equipment (continued) (donning and doffing: MOPP levels 3-4)
11:15 – 12:15	Lecture: Introduction and use of detection equipment
12:15 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:15	Lecture: Introduction and use of detection equipment (continued)
14:15 – 15:00	Practical: Removal of contaminated protective equipment (doffing)
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Break</i>
15:30 – 16:15	Lecture: Preparation for a response to an incident involving chemical weapons
16:15 – 17:00	Display: Familiarisation with detection and protection equipment
17:00 – 22:30	<i>OPCW official reception</i>

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MOPP = mission-oriented protective posture.

Time	Activity
Wednesday, 30 October 2013	
08:30 – 09:15	Demonstration: Detection, marking of contaminated area, and sampling techniques / procedure
09:15 – 10:00	Demonstration: Detection, marking of contaminated area, and sampling techniques / procedure (continued)
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Break</i>
10:30 – 11:15	Practical: Detection, marking of contaminated area, and sampling techniques / procedure
11:15 – 12:15	Practical: Detection, marking of contaminated area, and sampling techniques / procedure (continued)
12:15 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:15	Lecture: Introduction and use of decontamination equipment
14:15 – 15:00	Lecture: Activities of protection operations during various stages of a chemical weapons-related incident
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Break</i>
15:30 – 16:15	Discussion: National presentations on protection programmes against chemical weapons ²
16:15 – 22:30	<i>Excursion / dinner</i>
Thursday, 31 October 2013	
08:30 – 09:15	Practical: Decontamination concepts and use of decontamination equipment
09:15 – 10:00	Exercise: Detection, evacuation, and decontamination techniques / procedure
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Break</i>
10:30 – 12:15	Exercise: Detection, evacuation, and decontamination techniques / procedure (continued)
12:15 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:00	Exercise: Detection, evacuation, and decontamination techniques / procedure (continued)
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Break</i>
15:30 – 16:15	Evaluation of the course by participants; question-and-answer session
16:15 – 22:30	<i>Excursion / dinner</i>
Friday, 1 November 2013	
08:30 – 10:00	Exercise: Detection, evacuation, and decontamination techniques / procedure (continued)
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Break</i>
10:30 – 12:15	Official closing ceremony
12:15 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:15	Maintenance and equipment handover
14:15 – 22:30	<i>Excursion / dinner</i>
Saturday, 2 November 2013	
	Departure of participants

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All participants are required to prepare a seven-minute talk (in the form of a PowerPoint presentation, together with the submission of the text in a Portable Document Format (PDF) file) on the subject of the national-protection programmes in their country. Each presentation should be sent to the point of contact for Pakistan, Mr Muhammed Afzal Khan, Director, Chem-Bio Defence Cell (CBDC), via e-mail (dircbdc@desto.gov.pk) with copies to Mr Azfar Bilal Qureshi, Director of the National Authority (pakna_dsmat@yahoo.com), and to the Secretariat (EmergAssistBr@opcw.org) **by 11 October 2013**.