



International Cooperation and Assistance Division

S/1179/2014

1 May 2014

ENGLISH and SPANISH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE FIRST
REGIONAL ASSISTANCE-AND-PROTECTION EXERCISE COURSE
FOR STATES PARTIES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL
18 – 22 AUGUST 2014**

1. On behalf of the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil and the OPCW, the Director-General wishes to invite Member States in the Latin American and Caribbean region to nominate participants for the First Regional Assistance-and-Protection Exercise Course for States Parties in Latin America and the Caribbean, which will take place in Río de Janeiro, Brazil, from 18 to 22 August 2014.
2. This exercise course is related to assistance and protection against chemical weapons under Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) and constitutes the third and summarising stage of the OPCW assistance-and-protection pilot project for the GRULAC¹ region for 2014. The related basic course took place in Santiago de Chile, Chile, in March 2014 and the advanced course is to take place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in May 2014. The exercise course will be jointly organised by the Government of Brazil and the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”).
3. The course objectives are to:
 - (a) provide advanced training on the proper use of individual and collective protective equipment, and the monitoring, detection, sampling, and decontamination techniques used in different scenarios during field exercises with chemical-warfare agents;
 - (b) provide training on appropriate responses and countermeasures in complex emergency operations, and rescue techniques during incidents involving chemical-warfare agents;
 - (c) integrate knowledge obtained during the basic and advanced phases of the project;

¹ GRULAC = Group of Latin American and Caribbean States



- (d) facilitate the exchange of information and experience regarding the implementation of Article X of the Convention; and
 - (e) provide a forum to discuss issues related to regional cooperation under Article X.
4. Given the objectives of the exercise course and its technical nature, applicants should have a solid background in the chemistry associated with protection against chemical weapons; they should also belong to national emergency-response agencies involved in dealing with chemical-related incidents. It is of particular importance for the success of the training that participants be physically fit and able to wear protective gear and SCBA² for several hours during the practical sessions of the exercise course.
 5. Participants in the above-mentioned courses in Chile and Argentina are strongly encouraged to apply. Other interested individuals are also encouraged to apply, provided they have passed a basic and an advanced assistance-and-protection course provided by the Secretariat not before 2011.
 6. The course will be conducted in Spanish and Portuguese; no interpretation services will be provided. Participants are expected to have a good command of the Spanish language, both written and oral.
 7. Only applicants supported by their National Authority and/or their Permanent Representation to the OPCW will be considered.
 8. Participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to Brazil.
 9. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor the participation of a limited number of participants. Applicants should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of the nominee's participation. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, medical insurance, accommodation, and meals, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses.
 10. Course materials, equipment, and local transport during the course will be provided by the Government of Brazil, at no cost to participants or to the OPCW.
 11. 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 advance.
 12. To keep costs to a minimum, sponsored participants are expected to arrive no earlier than **Sunday, 17 August 2014** and to depart no later than **Saturday, 23 August 2014**. The Secretariat's approval is required for any changes to the arrival or 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 the costs resulting from any changes they make, including cancellations, once the Secretariat has purchased their tickets. Participants who will

² SCBA = Self-contained breathing apparatus

attend the course on a non-sponsored basis are requested to make their own travel arrangements and to inform the Secretariat accordingly.

13. Further details regarding accommodation, the course venue, and transport will be communicated to participants in due course.
14. Interested applicants are invited to complete their nomination form as provided in Annex 2 and to send it, along with a brief curriculum vitae to the e-mail address EmergAssistBr@opcw.org. In this case, the subject line of the e-mail should contain the words "Brazil Exercise Course 2014". Applications can also be sent by fax to +31 (0)70 416 3209. All information must be received at the Secretariat **no later than 27 June 2014**.
15. Please be advised that participants must present an OPCW acceptance letter in order to be able to register for the course.
16. Additional information may be obtained from the Assistance and Protection Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division:

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Annexes:

Annex 1: Provisional Programme
Annex 2: Nomination Form

Annex 1

**FIRST REGIONAL ASSISTANCE-AND-PROTECTION EXERCISE COURSE
FOR STATES PARTIES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL
18 – 22 AUGUST 2014**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
<i>Sunday, 17 August 2014</i>	
	Arrival of participants
<i>Monday, 18 August 2014</i>	
08:00 – 08:40	Registration
08:40 – 09:00	Administrative and practical information on the course
09:00 – 09:40	Opening ceremony
09:40 – 09:50	Official photograph
09:50 – 10:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:00 – 11:00	Presentation: The Brazilian National Authority for the Chemical Weapons Convention
11:00 – 12:00	Presentation: The Chemical Weapons Convention and its Article X
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00 – 14:30	Presentation: Chemical Defence – Chemical-Warfare Agents and their Effect – First Aid
14:30 – 14:50	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
14:50 – 16:20	Presentation: Brazilian CBRN Equipment: Detection, Analytical and Personal Protection
16:20 – 17:20	Presentation: Incident Zone Delimitation in Chemical Emergencies
18:00	Cocktails, hosted by the Brazilian National Authority
<i>Tuesday, 19 August 2014</i>	
07:00	Departure for a training facility (to be determined)
08:40 – 09:40	Presentation: Sampling in a CBRN scenario
09:40 – 10:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:00 – 11:00	Presentation: Analytical Methods in Chemical-Warfare Agent Identification
11:00 – 12:00	Division into groups: Group A: Practical session on chemical-warfare agent detection and identification Group B: Practical session on sampling
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00 – 14:30	Group A: Practical session on sampling Group B: Practical session on CWA detection and identification
14:30 – 16:00	Group A: Demonstration of the use of level A and B personal protection suit in a chemical-incident scenario Group B: Demonstration of the use of level C personal protection suit in a chemical-incident scenario

Time	Activity
16:00 – 16:20	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:20 – 17:50	Group A: Demonstration of the use of level C personal protection suit in a chemical-incident scenario Group B: Demonstration of the use of level A and B personal protection suit in a chemical-incident scenario
Wednesday, 20 August 2014	
07:00	Departure for the Technological Centre, Brazilian Army (CTEx)
08:40 – 09:40	Presentation: Triage and Medical Management of Chemical-Warfare Agent Casualties
09:40 – 10:40	Demonstration: Triage and Medical Management of Chemical-Warfare Agent Casualties
10:40 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00 – 12:00	Presentation: Decontamination
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00 – 14:00	Demonstration: Operation of a Company-Level Decontamination Module
14:00 – 15:00	Exercise: Decontamination
15:00 – 15:20	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:20 – 16:50	Presentation: Contingency Planning, Command and Control – Real-Time CBRN Surveillance Using the Cobra System
16:50 – 17:50	Table-top exercise: Contingency Planning – Scenario 01
Thursday, 21 August 2014	
07:00	Departure for CTEx
08:40 – 09:40	Table-top exercise: Group presentation and discussion on the development of a contingency plan
09:40 – 10:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:00 – 12:00	Table-top exercise: Emergency response – Scenario 01
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00 – 13:30	Presentation: Description of Emergency Scenario 02
13:30 – 14:30	Exercise: Emergency response – Scenario 01
14:30 – 14:40	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
14:40 – 16:00	Exercise: Emergency response – Scenario 01 (participants)
16:00 – 17:00	Discussion: Evaluation of the response to emergency scenarios 01 and 02
17:00 – 18:00	Table-top exercise: Planning of the final exercise
Friday, 22 August 2014	
07:00	Departure for CTEx
08:40 – 12:30	Final exercise: Scenario 03
12:30 – 13:00	Hygiene break and return of the equipment
13:00 – 13:30	Evaluation of the course
13:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>

Time	Activity
14:30 – 15:00	Closing ceremony and presentation of certificates
15:15	City tour organised by the Brazilian National Authority
<i>Saturday, 23 August 2014</i>	
	Departure of participants

19	Is sponsorship a condition of participation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
20	Does the nominee have any special dietary requirements?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
		If so, please describe:	
21	Sizes	Gloves	S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/>
		Boots (number):	
		Height (m):	
		Weight (kg):	

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