



NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR OFFICIAL OPCW PROFICIENCY TESTS
IN 2017 AND 2018**

1. The Director-General wishes to inform Member States of the tentative schedule for official OPCW proficiency tests in both 2017 and 2018.
2. The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) organises two different proficiency tests—one for environmental samples (PT) and the other for biomedical samples (BioPT). These two programmes are separate, and laboratories are welcome to participate in one or both of them.
3. Both proficiency testing programmes may be conducted with the assistance of designated laboratories. The tables that follow indicate the laboratories and Member States that have volunteered to assist the Secretariat with the proficiency test. If the “Assisting Laboratory” column is blank, the Secretariat would welcome designated laboratories to volunteer.
4. Prior to each proficiency test, the Secretariat will issue an official Note announcing the test with instructions on how to participate.
5. The tentative test schedule and the laboratories that will be assisting are listed in the following two tables.



TABLE 1: TENTATIVE SCHEDULE AND THE LABORATORIES THAT WILL BE ASSISTING IN OPCW PROFICIENCY TESTS IN 2017 AND 2018

Proficiency Test (PT)	Assisting Laboratory: Sample Preparation	Assisting Laboratory: Evaluation	Sample Dispatch Date	Meeting to Discuss the Preliminary Evaluation of the Results
Forty-First (PT-41)	OPCW Laboratory, Netherlands	Verification Laboratory, Defence Medical and Environmental Research Institute, DSO National Laboratories, Singapore	28 April 2017	19 July 2017
Forty-Second (PT-42)	DGA Maîtrise NRBC Département Analyse Chimique, France	Defence Research & Development Establishment (DRDE), VERTOX Laboratory, India	20 October 2017	7 February 2018
Forty-Third (PT-43)		Defence Chemical Research Laboratory, Iran (Islamic Republic of)	13 April 2018	27 June 2018
Forty-Fourth (PT-44)	CBR Directorate, Agency for Defense Development, Republic of Korea	Forensic Center, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, United States of America	19 October 2018	13 February 2019

TABLE 2: TENTATIVE TEST SCHEDULE FOR OFFICIAL OPCW BIOMEDICAL PROFICIENCY TESTS IN 2017 AND 2018

Biomedical Proficiency Test (BioPT)	Assisting Laboratory: Sample Preparation	Assisting Laboratory: Evaluation	Sample Dispatch Date	Meeting to Discuss the Preliminary Evaluation of the Results
Second (BioPT-2)	Verification Laboratory, Defence Medical and Environmental Research Institute, DSO National Laboratories, Singapore	TNO Defence, Security and Safety, Netherlands	17 February 2017	23 May 2017
Third (BioPT-3)		US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Environmental Health, United States of America	23 February 2018	23 May 2018

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