



NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**INVITATION TO APPLY FOR AN ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY COURSE
UNDER THE OPCW PROGRAMME TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION WITH
AFRICA ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA
8 – 19 MAY 2017**

Purpose of the course

1. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) wishes to inform Member States that it will hold an analytical chemistry course in 2017 under the OPCW Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention. The course will be supported jointly by the Secretariat and Protechnik Laboratories (Pty) Ltd in South Africa, and will be held at the Protechnik Laboratories.
2. The course is intended for chemistry professionals from industry, government, or academia who are involved in the analysis, synthesis, or quality control of chemicals related to the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”). The course will enable participants to gain a sound working knowledge of the principles, procedures, and applications of gas chromatography and gas chromatography-mass spectrometry for the analysis of chemicals related to the Convention. The course will accommodate 20 international participants.

Duration of the course

3. The course will be held from 8 to 19 May 2017. Successful candidates should arrive one day before the course begins in order to be able to register and complete pre-course formalities in a timely manner.

Content

4. The first part of the course will concentrate on teaching the participants the basic principles of chromatography, particularly gas chromatography, with a basic introduction to gas chromatography principles. This will include hardware and variations of hardware, inlet possibilities, column dimensions and varieties, introduction to detectors that can be used, maintenance of a gas chromatograph, and practical demonstrations during which participants will be afforded hands-on-training.
5. The second part of the course will focus on preparing environmental samples for analysis with gas chromatography and gas chromatography-mass spectrometry. The



basic principles of mass spectrometry will be introduced. Hands-on-training will be provided to prepare the participants to handle different sample matrices for preparation to analyse with gas chromatography and gas chromatography-mass spectrometry. The different detectors and ionisation modes (chemical and electron) will be used in analysing the samples prepared by the participants. Extraction and derivatisation techniques will also be taught. The use of libraries, software, and identification techniques will also be demonstrated to identify compounds related to the Convention. At least half of the time will be spent on hands-on training.

Sponsorship

6. The cost of the course, and of accommodation for all participants, will be covered by the Secretariat. In addition, the Secretariat will pay for international travel and visas, and provide a daily subsistence allowance and medical and travel insurance for all participants for the duration of the course.
7. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas, including transit visas, before travelling to South Africa. As noted above, the Secretariat will cover the costs of these visas by reimbursing participants upon production of the original receipts. The Secretariat will also send information to the selected participants on how to apply for South African visas.

Admission requirements

8. Participants should:
 - (a) hold a degree or diploma in chemistry or analytical chemistry from a recognised university or institution;
 - (b) have at least three years of work experience in analytical chemistry or in other relevant fields;
 - (c) have experience working with either gas chromatography or gas chromatography-mass spectrometry techniques; and
 - (d) be citizens of African Member States.
9. All course activities will be conducted in English, and no interpretation services of any kind will be provided. Participants are therefore expected to have a good command of both written and spoken English.
10. Participants will be required to sign a set of terms and conditions for participation in the course as well as a confidentiality agreement with the OPCW.

Selection procedure

11. Applications will be carefully screened on the basis of the criteria specified in paragraph 8 above. Only the most suitable applicants will be interviewed. Eligible candidates from laboratories that have sought or are receiving support under the Laboratory Assistance Programme are especially encouraged to apply.

Application procedure

12. Applicants from laboratories in African Member States are invited to complete the application form that is included as the Annex to this Note, making sure in particular to provide all the contact details it requests. To facilitate communication with the Secretariat and with Protechnik Laboratories, each applicant must provide an email address. The completed form, together with a curriculum vitae and a recommendation from the National Authority or the Permanent Representation of the applicant's country, should be submitted by email to the Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW (Email: icb@opcw.org). The subject line of the email should contain the words "Analytical chemistry course 2017".
13. Female candidates are encouraged to apply.
14. All applications must be received by the Secretariat no later than 10 March 2017. Additional information may be obtained from the International Cooperation Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact persons are Mr Dawsar Drissi (Tel: +31 (0)70 416 3592) and Ms Rufaro Kambarami (Tel: +31 (0)70 416 3272). Both Mr Drissi and Ms Kambarami can also be contacted by email at icb@opcw.org.

Annex: Application Form

Annex

**ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY COURSE UNDER THE
OPCW PROGRAMME TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION
WITH AFRICA ON THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA
8 – 19 MAY 2017**

APPLICATION FORM

Please submit the completed form, together with a brief curriculum vitae,
by email attachment **no later than 10 March 2017** to:
The Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW
(Email: icb@opcw.org)

Before completing this form, applicants should read the guidelines presented in the cover Note to confirm their eligibility.

Applicants should complete sections 1 to 4, attach the documents listed in section 5 and sign the form at section 6. The form should then be sent either to their National Authority or to the Permanent Representation of their country to the OPCW in The Hague, with a request to complete section 7.

The National Authority or the Permanent Representation should complete section 7 and forward the form to the International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW (Email: icb@opcw.org). The completed form, together with the nominee's curriculum vitae and the required recommendation, must be received by the Secretariat **no later than 10 March 2017**.

Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS

SECTION 1. PERSONAL AND CONTACT DETAILS			
Family name of nominee ¹			
First name(s) ¹			
Work address			
Home address			
Date of birth	Day	Month	Year
Citizenship			
Gender ²	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	
Passport number			
Date of issue	Day	Month	Year
Date of expiry	Day	Month	Year
Place of issue			
Email address			
Telephone numbers, including country and city codes	Home		
	Work		
	Mobile		
Fax numbers, including country and city codes	Home		
	Work		
SECTION 2. EDUCATION AND TRAINING			
Please list each degree or other qualification you have obtained, starting with the most recent.			
1.	Name and location of institution		
	Main field(s) of study		
	Dates attended	From	To
	Degree or qualification obtained		
2.	Name and location of institution		
	Main field(s) of study		
	Dates attended	From	To
	Degree or qualification obtained		

¹ Please give the first and family names exactly as they appear in the applicant's passport.

² For this and all like items, please tick the appropriate box.

3.	Name and location of institution		
	Main field(s) of study		
	Dates attended	From	To
	Degree or qualification obtained		
4.	Name and location of institution		
	Main field(s) of study		
	Dates attended	From	To
	Degree or qualification obtained		
5.	Name and location of institution		
	Main field(s) of study		
	Dates attended	From	To
	Degree or qualification obtained		
SECTION 3. EMPLOYMENT HISTORY			
What is your profession?			
Please give a brief description of your current work.			
Please list below all posts you have held, starting with the most recent.			
1.	Employer		
	Title		
	Dates	From	To
2.	Employer		
	Title		
	Dates	From	To
3.	Employer		
	Title		
	Dates	From	To
4.	Employer		
	Title		
	Dates	From	To
5.	Employer		
	Title		
	Dates	From	To

6.	Employer		
	Title		
	Dates	From	To
Have you received financial or other support from the OPCW within the past three years?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		No <input type="checkbox"/>
	If so, please give details.		
Have you applied for any other support from the OPCW?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		No <input type="checkbox"/>
	If so, please give details.		
Would you like your name to be placed on our database for other courses?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		No <input type="checkbox"/>
SECTION 4. SUPPORTING STATEMENT			
Please state briefly why you are applying for the course, and indicate both what you expect to gain from it and how it would benefit your work, your institution, and your country.			
SECTION 5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION			
Please attach the following documents to your application:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a letter of recommendation from your supervisor, which confirms your qualifications in the light of paragraph 8 of the Note to which this form is annexed, and that attests to the relevance of this course to the work of the institution at which you are working; • an up-to-date curriculum vitae; • a one-page description of your practical experience; and • a photocopy of the personal identification pages of your passport. 			
Applications without full supporting documentation cannot be accepted.			

SECTION 6. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

Signature: _____ Date: _____

SECTION 7. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY OR THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATION

Signature, with seal or stamp, of an authorised representative of the National Authority or of the Permanent Representation to the OPCW

_____ Date: _____