



NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**EVALUATION OF THE RESULTS
OF THE FORTY-FIRST OFFICIAL OPCW PROFICIENCY TEST**

1. The Director-General wishes to inform the Member States of the results of the Forty-First Official OPCW Proficiency Test, which was conducted by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) from April to August 2017. The OPCW Laboratory is accredited by the Raad voor Accreditatie (RvA), the Netherlands, to conduct proficiency testing in compliance with the criteria laid down in ISO/IEC 17043. The test was conducted according to the following quality management system documents:
 - (a) “Standard Operating Procedure for the Organisation of OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/SOP/PT01 (Issue 3, Revision 1, dated 18 April 2017));
 - (b) “Work Instruction for the Preparation of Samples for OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/PT02 (Issue 3, Revision 1, dated 18 April 2017));
 - (c) “Work Instruction for the Evaluation of the Results of OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/PT03 (Issue 3, Revision 3, dated 7 April 2017)); and
 - (d) “Work Instruction for the Reporting of the Results of the OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/PT04 (Issue 2, Revision 3, dated 7 April 2017)).
2. Designated laboratories must, in order to retain their designation, demonstrate once per calendar year that they have maintained their capabilities in a proficiency test organised by the Secretariat, unless the additional guidelines in decision C-20/DEC.4 (dated 2 December 2015) are applicable.
3. The OPCW Laboratory prepared and sent the test samples to test participants. The Verification Laboratory, Defence Medical and Environmental Research Institute, DSO National Laboratories, Singapore, assisted the Secretariat in evaluating the results of the Forty-First Proficiency Test.
4. The preliminary evaluation report was discussed at a meeting between Secretariat staff and the test participants on 19 July 2017. The participants were given two weeks to comment on the results and to inform the Secretariat whether they accepted their performance evaluation.
5. The evaluating laboratory submitted its final evaluation report to the Secretariat on 16 August 2017.



6. The principal results of the Forty-First Official OPCW Proficiency Test can be summarised as follows:
 - (a) All 12 regular test participants submitted their analytical report within the test period.
 - (b) Five regular participants identified and reported all of the spiked chemicals with sufficient analytical data for all of the spiked chemicals.
 - (c) Two false positive chemicals were reported.
 - (d) Six non-scoring chemicals were reported.
 - (e) The evaluating laboratory submitted its report and is awarded the maximum performance rating of "A".
 - (f) There are six As, five Bs, one D and one F in the final score for the test participants, including the A for the evaluating laboratory.
7. The final results for all of the laboratories participating in the test are presented in the table annexed hereto.
8. The participating laboratories are reminded that if they have made any errors or reported false positives or false negatives (arising from a failure to find a spiking chemical or to provide sufficient supporting data for a chemical that is found), they should take immediate remedial action. Before participating in the next test, each such laboratory is required to submit a detailed follow-up report to the Secretariat stating the cause of the problem and any remedial action it has taken. Any such laboratory failing to submit the required report, including details of the remedial action it has taken, will not be permitted to participate in the next proficiency test.

Annex: Final Results of the Forty-First Official OPCW Proficiency Test

Annex

**FINAL RESULTS OF THE FORTY-FIRST
OFFICIAL OPCW PROFICIENCY TEST**

Participant Laboratory Code	No. of Spiking¹ Chemicals Reported	No. of Chemicals Scored	Rating	Comments
Australia Defence Science and Technology Group (12)	7	6	B	Insufficient data for reported spiking chemical E; reported three non-scoring chemicals I, K and M
Brazil CTEx, Laboratório de Análises Químicas (11)	7	6	B	Insufficient data for reported spiking chemical B
India Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Centre for Analysis of Chemical Toxins (05)	7	7	A	-
India Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology (09)	7	6	B	Insufficient data for reported spiking chemical A
Iran (Islamic Republic of) Defense Chemical Research Laboratory (04)	7	7	A	Reported two non-scoring chemicals I and N
Pakistan Analytical Lab, DESTO Laboratories Complex (08)	6	6	B	Spiking chemical A was not reported; reported one non-scoring chemical L

¹ The spiking chemicals were as follows:

Sample 411:	(E)	2-Hydroxyethyl disulphide-10 ppm
Sample 411:	(F)	1,2-Bis(2-hydroxyethylthio)ethane-10 ppm
Sample 411:	(H)	1,3-Bis(2-hydroxyethylthio)propane-10 ppm
Sample 412:	(B)	Thiodiglycol-10 ppm
Sample 414:	(A)	Pinacolyl alcohol-10 ppm
Sample 416:	(C)	1,4-Dithiane-10 ppm
Sample 416:	(D)	1,4-Oxathiane-10 ppm

Participant Laboratory Code	No. of Spiking¹ Chemicals Reported	No. of Chemicals Scored	Rating	Comments
Republic of Korea Chemical, Biological and Radiological Defense Research Institute (07)	6	6	B	Spiking chemical A was not reported; reported one non-scoring chemical I
Romania Scientific Research Centre for CBRN Defense and Ecology, Chemical Analysis and Special Synthesis Laboratory (06)	7	7	A	-
Singapore Verification Laboratory, Defence Medical and Environmental Research Institute, DSO National Laboratories	-	-	A	Evaluating laboratory
Spain LAVEMA (Laboratorio de Verificación de Armas Químicas), INTA Campus La Marañosa (03)	7	7	A	Reported one non-scoring chemical J
South Africa Protechnik Laboratories, a division of Armscor Defence Institutes (Pty) Ltd. (10)	7	7	F	Reported two false positive chemicals O and P
United States of America Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center (01)	7	7	A	Reported three non-scoring chemicals I, J and K
Viet Nam Centre of Technology Environmental Treatment (13)	1	0	D	Insufficient data for reported spiking chemical B; spiking chemicals A, C, D, E, F and H were not reported