



NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A BASIC COURSE
ON ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION
ANKARA, TURKEY
25 – 29 JUNE 2018**

1. The Director-General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) wishes to invite States Parties to nominate representatives to participate in a basic training course on assistance and protection, which will take place from 25 to 29 June 2018 in Ankara, Turkey.
2. The course is jointly organised by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) and the Government of Turkey, and will provide training for up to 20 professionals who are involved in responding to chemical emergency incidents. The course will cover the following topics:
 - (a) protection of personnel during a chemical emergency;
 - (b) rescue-and-decontamination operations in contaminated areas; and
 - (c) appropriate responses and countermeasures in the event of incidents involving chemical-warfare agents or toxic chemicals.
3. The course will also provide an overview of the kinds of assistance the OPCW can provide, and will help participating States Parties to better equip responders in their countries to propagate knowledge on the protection against chemical weapons and other toxic chemicals, as well as in how to manage chemical incidents.
4. The course will offer an introduction to the use of individual and collective protective equipment; to monitoring, detection, and decontamination; and to sampling techniques. It will also facilitate the exchange of information and experiences regarding the implementation of Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”), and provide a forum for States Parties to discuss how they can cooperate in the future and what further offers they might make to the OPCW under Article X. The course will include a field emergency-response exercise.
5. Given the purpose of the course and its technical nature, candidates will be carefully selected according to the following criteria:
 - (a) All participants should be first responders and/or instructors/trainers, or be involved in developing an emergency-response system in their own countries.



- (b) All participants must have a good oral and written command of English, as all activities during the course will be conducted in English and no interpretation services of any kind will be available.
 - (c) Preference will be given to instructors from emergency-response units, such as firefighters, emergency medical personnel, hazardous materials response personnel, and police officers.
 - (d) Participants must be physically fit and capable of wearing individual protective gear for several hours at a time. Some practical experience with protective equipment is desirable.
6. Applications will be carefully screened on the basis of the criteria specified in paragraph 5 above. Only the most suitable applicants will be selected.
 7. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor a limited number of participants from States Parties. For sponsored participants, it will cover the costs of accommodation and meals. Further details regarding accommodation, the course venue, and transport will be issued to all confirmed participants at a later date.
 8. In order for the Secretariat to keep costs to a minimum, sponsored participants are expected to arrive no earlier than Sunday, 24 June 2018, and to depart no later than Saturday, 30 June 2018.
 9. Sponsored participants shall bear all costs not related to the course, or resulting from any itinerary changes made without explicit approval from the Secretariat. Participants who have not been sponsored are requested to make their own travel arrangements in accordance with paragraph 8 above. All participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas before travelling to Turkey.
 10. Interested applicants are invited to register their nomination online **no later than 2 May 2018** through Eventus—the OPCW event management system. The Eventus registration link is accessible via the OPCW website at: <http://apps.opcw.org/eventus>. Please note that all questions denoted with an asterisk (*) must be answered in order for the nomination to be received and for the candidate to be considered for this event. Interested applicants who, for technical reasons, are unable to submit their application online via Eventus are requested to contact the Assistance and Protection Branch at EmergAssistBr@opcw.org with reference to the name and location of the event in the subject line of the message. Those who have been selected to participate will be contacted no later than two weeks after the submission deadline.
 11. Additional information on the course may be obtained from the International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact person is Mr Guy Valente, who can be reached at +31 (0)70 416 3423.

Annex: Provisional Programme

Annex

**BASIC COURSE ON ASSISTANCE-AND-PROTECTION
ANKARA, TURKEY**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
<i>Sunday, 24 June 2018</i>	Arrival of participants
<i>Monday, 25 June 2018</i>	
09:15 – 09:45	Welcoming address
09:45 – 10:00	Group photo
10:00 – 10:15	<i>Coffee / tea break</i>
10:15 – 10:45	Overview of the course and introduction of the participants
10:45 – 11:30	Introduction to CBRN management system of Turkey (Disaster and Emergency Management Authority – AFAD)
11:30 – 12:15	Lecture: The history of chemical weapons and of chemical non-proliferation; introduction to the Convention (OPCW)
12:15 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:30	Lecture: Assistance and protection, Article X of the Convention (OPCW)
14:30 – 15:15	Lecture: Chemical-warfare agents (CWAs) and toxic industrial chemicals (TICs): Their types, their effects, and their chemical properties
15:15 – 16:00	Lecture: CWAs and TICs: Signs and symptoms (Health Sciences University)
16:00 – 16:45	Medical aspects of chemical incidents (Ministry of Health)
18:30 – 21:00	<i>Official dinner</i>
<i>Tuesday, 26 June 2018</i>	
09:00 – 09:30	Transfer to AFAD Headquarters
09:30 – 10:30	Lecture: Emergency Response Guidebook and Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders
10:30 – 11:30	Lecture: The principles of protection against chemicals (AFAD)
11:30 – 11:45	<i>Coffee / tea break</i>
11:45 – 12:30	Lecture: The principles of self-protection; respiratory protection; body protection; heat stress (AFAD)
12:30 – 13:15	<i>Lunch</i>
13:15 – 13:45	Transfer to Training Centre
13:45 – 17:00	Practical session (individual protection)
<i>Wednesday, 27 June 2018</i>	
09:30 – 10:30	Lecture: The principles of detection and detection techniques (AFAD)
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee / tea break</i>
10:45 – 11:30	Demonstration (chemical detectors)
11:30 – 12:30	Demonstration (stand-off chemical detection)

Time	Activity
12:30 – 13:45	<i>Lunch</i>
13:45 – 14:30	Lecture: Reconnaissance & sampling
14:30 – 16:30	Practical session (detection & sampling)
17:00 – 20:00	Excursion
<i>Thursday, 28 June 2018</i>	
09:30 – 10:15	Lecture: The principles of decontamination and establishment of decontamination line
10:15 – 10:30	<i>Coffee / tea break</i>
10:30 – 12:00	Practical session (decontamination of personnel)
12:00 – 12:45	<i>Lunch</i>
12:45 – 13:15	Transfer to Health Sciences University
13:15 – 14:00	Lecture: First aid of chemical casualties
14:00 – 15:00	Health Sciences University decontamination system
15:00 – 18:00	Excursion
<i>Friday, 29 June 2018</i>	
09:30 – 12:30	Field exercise
12:30 – 13:45	<i>Lunch</i>
13:45 – 14:15	Course evaluation
14:15 – 15:15	Presentation of certificates and closing ceremony
<i>Saturday, 30 June 2018</i>	
	Departure of participants

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