



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

International Cooperation and Assistance Division

S/982/2012

6 February 2012

ENGLISH and SPANISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
FOR THE FIRST ADVANCED REGIONAL
ASSISTANCE-AND-PROTECTION COURSE
ON CHEMICAL-EMERGENCY RESPONSE
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
16 – 20 APRIL 2012**

1. On behalf of the Government of Argentina and the OPCW, the Director-General wishes to invite Member States in the Latin American and Caribbean region to nominate participants for the First Advanced Regional Assistance-and-Protection Course on Chemical-Emergency Response for States Parties in Latin America and the Caribbean, which will take place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 16 to 20 April 2012.
2. The course is related to assistance and protection against chemical weapons under Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”), and will be jointly organised by the Government of Argentina and the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”).
3. The course objectives are to:
 - (a) facilitate the exchange of information and experience regarding the implementation of Article X of the Convention;
 - (b) provide a forum to discuss future cooperation among participating Member States and what further offers Member States might make to the OPCW under Article X;
 - (c) 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; and
 - (d) provide training on appropriate responses and countermeasures in complex emergency operations, and rescue techniques during incidents involving chemical-warfare agents.



The provisional programme for the course is set out in Annex 1 to this Note.

4. Given the purpose of the course and its technical nature, potential participants will be carefully selected. They 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. Participants will also need to be physically fit and able to wear protective gear for several hours during the practical sessions of the course.
5. To be accepted on this course, applicants should have taken one or more OPCW basic courses on assistance and protection against chemical weapons and/or participated in the OPCW protective capacity-building training provided by the Secretariat at the national level.
6. The course will be conducted in Spanish; no interpretation services of any kind will be provided. Participants are therefore expected to have a good command of the Spanish language, written and oral.
7. Only applicants supported by their National Authority 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 Argentina.
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 Argentina, 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, 15 April 2012**, and to depart **no later than Saturday, 21 April 2012**. 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.
13. Participants who have not been sponsored are requested to make their own travel arrangements and to inform the Secretariat accordingly.

14. Further details regarding accommodation, the course venue, and transport will be issued to participants in due course.
15. Potential participants are invited to complete the nomination form in Annex 2 to this Note, making sure to provide all the necessary contact details, including an email address. Completed forms should be sent, along with the endorsement information from the applicant's National Authority or Permanent Representation and a brief curriculum vitae, to the Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. Nominations may also be submitted by fax to +31 (0)70 416 3209, or e-mail to EmergAssistBr@opcw.org. All materials must be received by the Secretariat **no later than 2 March 2012**. Please be advised that participants must present an OPCW acceptance letter in order to register for the course.
16. Additional information may be obtained from the Assistance and Protection Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division:

Telephone	Mr Alexander Studenikin	+31 (0)70 416 3261
	Ms Maria Elena Bruno Pousadela	+31 (0)70 416 3217
E-mail	EmergAssistBr@opcw.org	
Fax	+ 31 (0)70 416 3209	

Annexes:

- Annex 1: Provisional Programme
Annex 2: Nomination Form

Annex 1

**FIRST ADVANCED REGIONAL
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PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
<i>Sunday, 15 April 2012</i>	
	Arrival of participants
18:00 – 18:30	Registration
<i>Monday, 16 April 2012</i>	
09:00 – 09:30	Administrative/practical information about the course
09:30 – 10:30	Opening ceremony
10:30 – 10:45	Official photo
10:45 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00 – 11:45	Lecture: The Chemical Weapons Convention and Article X
11:45 – 12:30	Lecture: The Argentine National Authority
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 15:00	Lecture: The history of chemical weapons
15:00 – 16:00	Lecture: Types of chemical weapons and agents
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:15 – 17:15	Lecture: Routes of absorption, effects, and treatments
17:15 – 18:00	Lecture: The Argentine Emergency Response System
18:30	<i>Reception</i>
<i>Tuesday, 17 April 2012</i>	
09:00 – 09:45	Revision: Personal protective equipment
09:45 – 10:45	Revision: Detection
10:45 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00 – 11:45	Revision: Sampling
11:45 – 12:30	Revision: Decontamination
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 15:00	Advanced personal protective equipment and detectors
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:30 – 16:30	Revision: Scene control/Planning
16:30 – 17:30	Exercise explanation and scenario description
17:30 – 18:30	Return to hotel
<i>Wednesday, 18 April 2012</i>	
08:00 – 09:00	Transfer to the Federal Police Cadet Academy
09:00 – 09:45	Description of tasks and equipment handover
09:45 – 11:45	Practical training: Personal protective equipment
11:45 – 12:30	Visit to the facility and equipment presentation
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>

Time	Activity
14:00 – 14:45	Field practical training: Detection
14:45 – 15:30	Field practical training: Sampling
15:30 – 16:30	Field practical training: Decontamination
16:30 – 17:30	Victim rescue
17:30 – 18:30	Return to hotel
<i>Thursday, 19 April 2012</i>	
08:00 – 09:00	Transfer to the Federal Police Cadet Academy
09:00 – 09:30	Exercise description
09:30 – 11:30	Exercise Part 1 (2 scenarios, 2 teams)
11:30 – 12:00	Hygiene break
12:00 – 12:30	Debriefing Part 1
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 16:00	Exercise Part 2 (2 scenarios, 2 teams)
16:00 – 16:30	Hygiene break and return of equipment
16:30 – 17:30	Return to hotel
<i>Friday, 20 April 2012</i>	
09:00 – 09:45	Debriefing Part 2
09:45 – 10:30	Discussion and experience exchange about the exercises
10:30 – 11:00	Course wrap-up
11:00 – 11:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:15 – 12:30	Closing ceremony and presentation of diplomas
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 17:00	Social event (Buenos Aires sightseeing tour)
19:00 – 21:30	<i>Official dinner</i>
<i>Saturday, 21 April 2012</i>	
	Departure of participants

Annex 2

**FIRST ADVANCED REGIONAL
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ON CHEMICAL-EMERGENCY RESPONSE
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
16 – 20 APRIL 2012**

NOMINATION FORM

Please submit the completed form, with a brief curriculum vitae, **by 2 March 2012** to:
The Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW
Attention: Assistance and Protection Branch
Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands
Fax: + 31 (0)70 416 3209; e-mail: EmergAssistBr@opcw.org

Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS.

1.	Family name of nominee ¹			
2.	First name(s)			
3.	Date of birth	Day	Month	Year
4.	Citizenship			
5.	Gender ²	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	
6.	Passport number			
7.	Date of issue	Day	Month	Year
8.	Expiry date	Day	Month	Year
9.	Place of issue			
10.	Areas of expertise			
11.	Employer			
12.	Position			
13.	Contact address (Please do not give a post-office box number)	Street		
		Number	Post code	
		City		
		Country		
14.	Airport of departure			
15.	E-mail address			
16.	Telephone numbers, including country and city codes	Home		
		Work		
		Mobile		
17.	Fax numbers, including country and city codes	Home		
		Work		

¹ Please give the family name and the first name exactly as they appear in the nominee's passport.
² For this and similar items, please tick the appropriate box.

18.	Has the nominee taken part in a course of this kind before?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
		If so, when and where?	
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:	

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