



**NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

**EVALUATION OF THE RESULTS  
OF THE THIRD OFFICIAL OPCW BIOMEDICAL PROFICIENCY TEST**

1. The Director-General wishes to inform the Member States of the results of the Third Official OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Test, which was conducted by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) from February to June 2018. The test was conducted according to the following quality management system documents:
  - (a) “Standard Operating Procedure for the Organisation of OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/SOP/BioPT01 (Issue 1, Revision 2, dated 4 January 2018));
  - (b) “Work Instruction for the Preparation of Samples for OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/BioPT02 (Issue 1, Revision 2, dated 4 January 2018));
  - (c) “Work Instruction for the Evaluation of Results of OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/BioPT03 (Issue 1, Revision 2, dated 4 January 2018)); and
  - (d) “Work Instruction for the Reporting of the Results of the OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/BioPT04 (Issue 1, Revision 2, dated 4 January 2018)).
2. Designated laboratories must, in order to retain their designation, demonstrate that they have maintained their capabilities by participating in every biomedical proficiency test organised by the Secretariat, unless the additional guidelines in the annex to decision C-20/DEC.4 (dated 2 December 2015) are applicable.
3. One laboratory, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Laboratory in Atlanta, Georgia, the United States of America, offered to assist the Secretariat in conducting the Third Official OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Test, and helped evaluate the test results.
4. The preliminary evaluation report was discussed at a meeting between Secretariat staff and the test participants on 20 June 2018. The participants were given two weeks to comment on the results and to inform the Secretariat whether they accepted their performance evaluation.



5. The final evaluation report was prepared by the OPCW Laboratory, together with the evaluation laboratory, and sent to all of the participants on 23 July 2018.
6. The principal results of the Third Official OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Test can be summarised as follows:
  - (a) Seventeen Member States nominated 22 laboratories, including the assisting laboratory, to participate in the test.
  - (b) Three laboratories participated in the test on a trial basis; no performance rating was provided for these participants.
  - (c) One test participant did not submit its test analysis report within the test deadline.
  - (d) One test participant withdrew from the test.
  - (e) The assisting laboratory was awarded a performance rating of A.
  - (f) Fifteen test participants identified and reported, with sufficient analytical data, all of the five spiked chemicals and received a rating of A.
  - (g) One test participant identified and reported insufficient data for all of the chemicals and received a rating of D.
  - (h) Three test participants did not report any spiking chemicals and received a rating of D.
  - (i) One test participant did not submit its test analysis report and received a rating of F.
  - (j) There were 13 As, four Ds, and one F in the test performance ratings for the regular participants, including the assisting 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 biomedical proficiency test.

Annex: Final Results of the Third Official OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Test

## Annex

**FINAL RESULTS OF THE THIRD OFFICIAL  
OPCW BIOMEDICAL PROFICIENCY TEST**

<b>Laboratory (Participant Code)</b>	<b>No. of Spiking Chemicals Reported<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>No. of Chemicals Scored</b>	<b>Performance Rating</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Australia</b> Defence Science and Technology Group <b>(13)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>A</b>	-
<b>Brazil</b> Laboratório de Análises Químicas – Instituto de Defesa Química, Biológica, Radiológica e Nuclear (IDQBRN) <b>(04)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>D</b>	None of the spiking chemicals were reported
<b>China</b> Laboratory of Toxicant Analysis, Academy of Military Medical Sciences <b>(05)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>A</b>	-
<b>China</b> Laboratory of Analytical Chemistry, Research Institute of Chemical Defence <b>(10)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>A</b>	-
<b>Czech Republic</b> Katedra toxikologie a vojenské farmacie <b>(06)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>D</b>	None of the spiking chemicals were reported
<b>France</b> DGA Maîtrise NRBC, Département d'analyses chimiques <b>(14)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>A</b>	-
<b>Germany</b> Bundeswehr Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology <b>(02)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	-	Laboratory analysed samples without grading. Maintains designation by other means.

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The spiking chemicals were as follows: P302, P303, P304, P305 - Ethyl N,N-dimethylphosphoramidocyanidate, GA.

Laboratory (Participant Code)	No. of Spiking Chemicals Reported <sup>1</sup>	No. of Chemicals Scored	Performance Rating	Comments
<b>India</b> Vertox-Biochemistry Division, Defence Research and Development Establishment (16)	5	5	A	-
<b>Iran (Islamic Republic of)</b> Defense Chemical Research Laboratory (21)	5	5	A	-
<b>Malaysia</b> Department of Chemistry Malaysia (15)	5	0	D	Data provided were insufficient for scoring
<b>Morocco</b> National Institute of Hygiene –Toxicology Department (20)	0	0	F	Test report not submitted
<b>Republic of Korea</b> Chemical, Biological and Radiological Defense Research Institute (18)	5	5	-	Trial participant
<b>Russian Federation</b> Laboratory for the Chemical and Analytical Control of Military Research Centre (08)	5	5	A	-
<b>Russian Federation</b> Laboratory of Chemical Analytical Control and Biotesting, Research Institute of Hygiene, Occupational Pathology and Human Ecology (22)	5	5	A	-
<b>Singapore</b> Verification Laboratory, Defence Medical and Environmental Research Institute, DSO National Laboratories (12)	5	5	A	-

<b>Laboratory (Participant Code)</b>	<b>No. of Spiking Chemicals Reported<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>No. of Chemicals Scored</b>	<b>Performance Rating</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Switzerland</b> Spiez Laboratory, Chemistry Division, Analytical Chemistry Branch <b>(19)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>	Trial participant
<b>Turkey</b> University of Health Sciences (UHS), Department of Medical CBRN Defense, CBRN Analysis Laboratory <b>(01)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>D</b>	None of the spiking chemicals were reported
<b>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</b> Defence Science and Technology Laboratory, Chemical and Biological Systems, Porton Down <b>(07)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	Withdrew from test
<b>United States of America</b> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention <b>(11)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>A</b>	Evaluating laboratory
<b>United States of America</b> Edgewood Chemical and Biological Forensic Analytical Center <b>(03)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>A</b>	-
<b>United States of America</b> Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory <b>(17)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>A</b>	-
<b>United States of America</b> U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense <b>(09)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>A</b>	-