



S/1727/2019
26 February 2019
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR AN INTERNATIONAL BASIC COURSE ON
ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION
KRUŠEVAC, SERBIA
17 – 21 JUNE 2019**

1. The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the Government of Serbia wish to invite Member States to nominate candidates for an assistance and protection training course, which will be held from 17 to 21 June 2019 in Kruševac, Serbia.
2. This course is related to the offer made by Serbia under Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”), pertaining to assistance and protection against chemical weapons. The aim of the course is to provide training on the following:
 - (a) planning and establishing a support team for the protection of civilian populations against chemical weapons;
 - (b) conducting emergency operations in contaminated areas;
 - (c) responding to incidents involving chemical warfare agents;
 - (d) using individual protective equipment;
 - (e) using monitoring, detection, and decontamination techniques; and
 - (f) taking samples.
3. The course will also offer an overview of the kinds of assistance that the OPCW and Serbia can provide upon the request of a State Party and will facilitate the exchange of information and experiences regarding the implementation of Article X of the Convention.
4. Given the purpose of the course and its focus on practical skills, nominees should be first responders or other operational professionals who may be called upon to carry out technical duties on the scene of an incident involving chemical weapons. All participants are expected to be physically fit and able to wear individual protective gear for several hours.



5. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor the attendance of a limited number of participants. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, meals, and medical insurance, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses. Accommodation for sponsored participants will be arranged by the Government of Serbia and will be paid for by the Secretariat. Instruction materials, accommodation, and all meals during the course will be provided. Further details regarding accommodation, the course venue, and transport will be provided at a later date. Each nomination should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of the nominee's participation.
6. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. In order to coordinate with group travel arrangements within Serbia, all participants regardless of sponsorship are to arrive in Belgrade no earlier than **Sunday, 16 June 2019** and depart no later than **Saturday 22 June 2019**. Non-sponsored participants will be expected to coordinate their international travel and other logistic arrangements with the Technical Secretariat.
7. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to Serbia and will be solely responsible for determining whether or not visas are required for their travel.
8. All activities during the course will be conducted in English, and no interpretation services of any kind will be available. All participants are therefore expected to have a good command of English, both written and oral.
9. Interested applicants are invited to register their nomination online through Eventus—the OPCW event management system—no later than **29 April 2019**. The Eventus registration link is accessible via the OPCW website at: <http://apps.opcw.org/eventus>. Please note that all questions marked with an asterisk (*) must be answered in order for the nomination to be received and for the candidate to be considered for this event. The endorsement form attached as Annex 1 to this note must be completed and uploaded during the registration process. Interested applicants who, for technical reasons, are unable to submit their application online via Eventus are requested to contact EmergAssistBr@opcw.org with reference to the name and location of the event in the subject line, as well as a description of the technical problem.
10. The provisional programme for the course is included as Annex 2 to this Note. For additional information, please contact Mr Guy Valente of the Assistance and Protection Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division (Tel: +31 (0)70 416 3423; Email: EmergAssistBr@opcw.org).

Annexes:

- Annex 1: Endorsement Form
Annex 2: Provisional Programme

Annex 1

**INTERNATIONAL BASIC COURSE
ON ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION
KRUŠEVAC, SERBIA
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ENDORSEMENT BY THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY

This form needs to be signed, duly sealed and uploaded when an application is submitted
<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>

Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS

I, _____, Head/Chief Coordinator of the
National Authority of the State Party of _____, on behalf
of the Government of _____, hereby endorse the nomination
of Mr/Ms _____, holding the
position/designation of _____ in the
Office/Division/Branch of _____, as
indicated in the attached nomination form for participation in the Basic training on assistance
and protection to be held in Kruševac, Serbia from 17 to 21 June 2019.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Designation: _____

Official seal of the Organisation:

Annex 2

**INTERNATIONAL BASIC COURSE
ON ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION
KRUŠEVAC, SERBIA
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PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
Sunday, 16 June 2019	
	Participants arrive in Belgrade; lunch in Belgrade and transport to Kruševac
Monday, 17 June 2019	
09:00 – 10:00	Opening of the course Introduction to the course programme and the SAF ¹ CBRN ² Centre
10:00 – 10:15	Group photograph
10:15 – 10:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:45 – 12:00	Lecture on Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention
12:00 – 12:45	Lecture on chemical threats
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 15:30	Lecture on the properties and characteristics of Schedule 1 toxic chemicals
19:00 – 21:00	Official dinner
Tuesday, 18 June 2019	
09:00 – 10:00	Distribution and demonstration of individual protective equipment (practical session)
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:30 – 11:30	Lecture on the effects of toxic chemicals on populations and on medical protective measures, given by the MMA-NPCC ³
11:30 – 12:45	Lecture on the effects of toxic chemicals and the effectiveness of protective measures
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
15:00 – 17:00	Kruševac city tour (social event)
Wednesday, 19 June 2019	
09:00 – 10:30	The types, characteristics, and features of individual protective equipment
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00 – 11:45	Use of individual protective equipment (practical training)
11:45 – 12:45	Detection and identification of chemical weapons agents and toxic chemicals
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>

¹ SAF = Serbian Armed Forces.

² CBRN = chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear.

³ MMA-NPCC = Military Medical Academy, National Poison Control Centre.

Thursday, 20 June 2019	
09:00 – 10:15	Detection and identification equipment in the SAF (lecture and demonstration)
10:15 – 10:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:45 – 12:00	Demonstration of a mobile chemical laboratory (lecture)
12:00 – 12:45	Methodology for rapid assessment of the chemical situation in accidents involving toxic industrial chemicals (lecture)
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 16:00	Detection and identification equipment: presentation and possibilities (lecture and practical training)
Friday, 21 June 2019	
09:00 – 10:00	Types, materials, and principles of decontamination (lecture)
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:30 – 11:30	Types, characteristics, and features of decontamination equipment (lecture)
11:30 – 12:45	Decontamination equipment: presentation and use (lecture and practical training)
12:45 – 13:10	Equipment maintenance and return
13:10 – 13:30	Course evaluation, lessons learned, and discussion
13:30 – 14:30	Official closing session
14:45 – 15:45	<i>Lunch</i>
Saturday, 22 June 2019	
	Transport to Belgrade and departure

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