



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

S/1754/2019

16 May 2019

ENGLISH and SPANISH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A TRAINING COURSE
FOR MEMBER STATES IN THE LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN REGION
ON SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS IN HIGHLY CONTAMINATED ENVIRONMENTS
BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA
12 – 16 AUGUST 2019**

1. On behalf of the Government of Colombia and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General wishes to invite Member States of the Latin America and Caribbean Region to nominate participants for a training course on conducting sampling and analysis in highly contaminated environments, to be held in Bogotá, Colombia, from 12 to 16 August 2019.
2. The course will be jointly organised by the Government of Colombia and the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”). The main purpose of the training is to provide expert knowledge and skills to 20 specialists from Member States in the Latin America and Caribbean region, who would be responsible for conducting sampling and analysis tasks in a highly contaminated environment following a chemical attack or incident involving toxic chemicals.
3. Member States from the Latin America and Caribbean region that do not yet have sampling and analysis capabilities are especially encouraged to nominate participants. Given the objectives of the course and its technical nature, applicants should have a solid technical background in chemistry and the management of hazardous chemical substances. Participants must also be qualified and experienced in using and wearing individual protective suits, including a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). Participants must, therefore, be physically fit and able to wear such equipment for extended periods. Previous practical experience in military or civil protection is desirable.
4. Applicants are expected to be familiar with the principles of first response, including sampling and chemical emergency management, and will be carefully selected in line with the objectives of the course and their stated area of expertise. Ideally, participants should have completed any of the full training cycles for the Latin America and Caribbean region held by the OPCW in previous years.
5. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor a maximum of 20 participants. When proposing candidates for the course, Member States in the region should specify whether such sponsorship is a condition of their participation. For sponsored



participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, accommodation, airport transfers, medical insurance, and meals (lunch), and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses.

6. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. In order for the Secretariat to keep costs to a minimum, sponsored participants are expected to arrive no earlier than **Sunday, 11 August 2019** and to depart no later than **Saturday, 17 August 2019**. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the course or that result from unauthorised changes to travel arrangements. Once the Secretariat has purchased their tickets, sponsored participants will be responsible for making sure they participate in the course. In case of any unforeseen circumstances, participants should immediately contact the substantive officer responsible for the course (see paragraph 11 below for contact details).
7. The course will be conducted in Spanish, and no interpretation services of any kind will be provided. Participants are therefore expected to have a good command of both written and spoken Spanish. Participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas, including transit visas, before travelling to Colombia.
8. Interested applicants are invited to register their nomination online through Eventus—the OPCW event management system— no later than **19 June 2019**. The registration link is accessible via the OPCW website (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>). Please note that all questions marked with an asterisk (*) in the online registration system 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 3 to this Note must be uploaded in Eventus during the registration process for the course.
9. Applicants who, for technical reasons, are unable to submit their application online via Eventus are requested to complete and send the nomination and endorsement forms (attached as Annexes 2 and 3 to this Note) as an email attachment (EmergAssistBr@opcw.org) with a reference to the name and location of the event in the subject line of the message.
10. Only selected participants with an OPCW acceptance letter will be accepted to participate in this course. Candidates who have been selected to participate will be contacted no later than two weeks after the submission deadline. Member States are requested to inform the International Cooperation and Assistance Division (ICA) of any administrative or other problems that may arise in connection with the attendance of any selected participant.
11. The provisional programme for the course is included as Annex 1 to this Note. Further details will be issued at a later date. Any questions should be addressed to the ICA Assistance and Protection Branch. The contact persons are Mr Justo Quintero Mendez (Tel: +31 (0)70 416 3775) and Maria Elena Bruno-Pousadela (Tel: +31 (0) 70 4163217).

Annexes:

Annex 1:	Provisional Programme
Annex 2 (English only):	Nomination Form
Annex 3:	Endorsement Form

Annex 1

**TRAINING COURSE FOR MEMBER STATES IN THE LATIN AMERICA
AND CARIBBEAN REGION ON SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS IN HIGHLY
CONTAMINATED ENVIRONMENTS
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PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
Sunday, 11 August 2019	
	Arrival of participants
Monday, 12 August 2019	
08:00 – 08:30	Opening ceremony
08:30 – 08:45	Group photo
08:45 – 09:20	Presentation: The Chemical Weapons Convention and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). Implementation of Article X of the Convention in Latin America and the Caribbean
09:20 – 10:00	Presentation: Implementation of the Convention in Colombia
10:00 – 10:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:15 – 11:00	Presentation: Dual-use toxic chemicals
11:00 – 12:00	Presentation: Chemical weapons
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:30 – 15:00	Presentation: Detection of chemical warfare agents – Detection equipment
15:00 – 15:45	Presentation: Sampling collection and equipment
15:45 – 16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:00 – 17:00	Presentation: Sampling collection and equipment (cont.)
17:00 – 18:00	Chain of custody
18:00 – 18:15	Summary of the day
Tuesday, 13 August 2019	
08:00 – 09:00	Presentation: Chain of custody
09:00 – 09:45	Presentation: Chemical substances at the laboratory
09:45 – 10:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:00 – 11:00	Presentation: Chemical substances at the laboratory (cont.)
11:00 – 12:00	Presentation: Incident command system
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:30 – 14:30	Presentation: Medical module
14:30 – 15:30	Presentation: Operations in collapsed structures
15:30 – 15:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:45 – 17:00	Practice: Medical module
17:00 – 17:15	Summary of the day
Wednesday, 14 August 2019	
08:00 – 08:30	Presentation: Individual protection against toxic chemicals
08:30 – 09:00	Presentation: Respiratory protection
09:00 – 09:45	Practice: Individual protective equipment – different levels
09:45 – 10:00	<i>Coffee break</i>

Time	Activity
10:00 – 11:00	Practice: Use of a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) in combination with level A suit
11:00 – 12:30	Practice: Donning and doffing
12:30 – 13:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:30 – 14:15	Presentation: Explosives and chemical weapons
14:15 – 15:00	Presentation: Dissemination methods and neutralisation procedures
15:00 – 15:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:15 – 15:45	Practice: Cross-contamination module
15:45 – 17:00	Practice: Reconnaissance
17:00 – 17:15	Summary of the day
Thursday, 15 August 2019	
08:00 – 09:00	Presentation: Decontamination
09:00 – 10:00	Presentation: Management of emergencies
09:45 – 10:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:00 – 11:00	Practice: Solid sample collection with level C suit
11:00 – 12:00	Practice: Liquid sample collection with level C suit
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:30 – 15:30	Practice: Sample collection in a high-risk environment
15:00 – 15:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:15 – 16:30	Practice: Sample collection in a high-risk environment (cont.)
16:30 – 17:00	Field exercise discussion
Friday, 16 August 2019	
08:00 – 10:00	Practice: Sample collection in a highly contaminated environment
10:00 – 10:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:15 – 12:30	Practice: Sample collection in a highly contaminated environment (cont.)
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:00 – 14:30	Final discussion
14:30 – 15:00	Course evaluation
15:00 – 15:30	Closing ceremony

Annex 2

**TRAINING COURSE FOR MEMBER STATES IN THE LATIN AMERICA
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NOMINATION FORM

Please use BLOCK LETTERS

Family name of nominee *			
First name(s) *			
Date of birth	Day	Month	Year
Citizenship			
Gender **	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	
Passport number			
Date of issue	Day	Month	Year
Date of expiry	Day	Month	Year
Place of issue			
Area(s) of expertise			
Employer			
Position			
Contact address (please do not give a post-office box number)	Street		
	Number	Postcode	
	City		
	Country		
Airport of departure			
Email address			
Telephone numbers, including country and city codes	Home		
	Work		
	Mobile		
Fax numbers, including country and city codes	Home		
	Work		
Is sponsorship a condition of participation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	

* The family name and first name should be listed exactly as they appear in the nominee's passport.

** For this and all similar items, please tick the appropriate box.

Does the nominee have any special dietary requirements?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	If so, please describe:	
Sizes	Gloves: S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Boots (size number)	
	Height (cm)	
	Weight (kg)	

Annex 3

**TRAINING COURSE FOR MEMBER STATES IN THE LATIN AMERICA
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ENDORSEMENT BY THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY

This form must be signed, duly sealed and uploaded when submitting
the application via Eventus (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>)

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 Training Course for
Member States in the Latin America and Caribbean Region on Sampling and Analysis in
Highly Contaminated Environments, to be held in Bogota, Colombia, from 12 to 16 August
2019.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Designation: _____

Official seal of the Organisation: