



NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A LIVE-AGENT TRAINING COURSE FOR EXPERTS
ZEMIANSKE KOSTOL'ANY, SLOVAKIA
11 – 21 MAY 2020**

1. The Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) wishes to invite States Parties to nominate representatives to participate in a live chemical warfare agent training course, which will take place from 11 to 21 May 2020 in Zemianske Kostol'any, Slovakia.
2. The course is being jointly organised by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter "the Secretariat") and the Government of Slovakia, and will provide training for up to 15 qualified participants who may be called upon to respond to chemical emergencies in their home countries. The course will cover the following topics:
 - (a) detection of chemical warfare agents;
 - (b) donning and doffing of chemical protective clothing;
 - (c) preparation of samples for transport;
 - (d) decontamination operations; and
 - (e) appropriate responses and countermeasures in the event of incidents involving chemical warfare agents or toxic chemicals.
3. The course will provide participants with an opportunity to practice advanced elements of contaminated scene operations in the presence of live chemical warfare agents.
4. 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 the development of the chemical 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 individuals who have demonstrable competency in the principles of chemical scene operations, including, but not limited to, completion of the OPCW assistance and protection training cycle.
 - (d) Participants must be physically fit and capable of wearing individual protective gear for several hours at a time.
 - (e) Selected participants will be required to supply a “Confirmation of Health Status” from their personal healthcare provider, as required by the host facility.
5. Applications will be carefully screened on the basis of the criteria specified in paragraph 4 above. Only the most suitable applicants will be selected.
 6. 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 transportation, accommodation, and meals. Further details regarding the venue and other course-specific arrangements will be issued to all confirmed participants at a later date.
 7. In order for the Secretariat to keep costs to a minimum, sponsored participants are expected to arrive no earlier than Sunday, 10 May 2020, and to depart no later than Friday, 22 May 2020.
 8. Sponsored participants must 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 7 above. All participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas before travelling to Slovakia, including transit visas.
 9. Interested applicants are invited to register their nomination online **no later than 20 March 2020** through Eventus—the OPCW event management system. The Eventus registration link is accessible via the OPCW website (<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 2 to this note must be uploaded during the registration process.
 10. Interested applicants who, for technical reasons, are unable to submit their application online are requested to first create an account within Eventus and then send an application request by email (EmergAssistBr@opcw.org) with the name and location of the event in the subject line of the message. This email should be sent from the email address in the applicant’s Eventus account with the National Authority endorsement form (see Annex 2) attached. Candidates who have been selected to participate in the course will be contacted no later than two weeks after the submission deadline.

11. Only selected participants with an OPCW acceptance letter will be permitted to enter the training facility. States Parties are requested to inform the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of any complications that may arise in connection with the attendance of any participant.
12. Additional information may be obtained from Mr Guy Valente in the Assistance and Protection Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division (Telephone: +31 70 416 3423; Email: gvalente@opcw.org).

Annex 1: Provisional Programme

Annex 2: Endorsement Form

Annex 1

**LIVE-AGENT TRAINING COURSE FOR EXPERTS
ZEMIANSKE KOSTOL'ANY, SLOVAKIA
11 – 21 MAY 2020**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

| Time | Activity |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Monday, 11 May 2020</i> | |
| 07:00 | Blood draw |
| 08:30 – 12:30 | Opening, facility presentation, training programme, safety and medical instructions, presentations on the character of chemical warfare agents (CWAs), CWA health effects, first aid, detection of CWAs |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 13:30 – 17:00 | Individual protective equipment (IPE) distribution, laboratory demonstration, tour of the NBC Technical Training Centre, demonstration of decontamination control, demonstration of IPE use, gas mask test |
| <i>Tuesday, 12 May 2020</i> | |
| 08:00 – 12:30 | Briefing, detection of CWAs, decontamination of CWAs, self-decontamination, sample transport preparation, rescue exercise, simulants |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 13:30 – 17:00 | Individual training: First contact with CWAs, simulants, evaluation |
| <i>Wednesday, 13 May 2020</i> | |
| 08:00 – 12:30 | Briefing, individual training: First contact with CWAs, CWAs, decontamination, hygiene |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 13:30 – 17:00 | Detection of simulants and false positives, exercise on preparation of decontamination solutions, exercise on personal decontamination, simulants, evaluation |
| <i>Thursday, 14 May 2020</i> | |
| 08:00 – 12:30 | Briefing, exercise: CWA detection and decontamination of common surfaces – CWAs, decontamination, hygiene |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 13:30 – 17:00 | Team exercise: Complex samples that require preparation, simulants, decontamination, hygiene, evaluation |
| <i>Friday, 15 May 2020</i> | |
| 08:00 – 12:30 | Briefing, team exercise: Complex samples that require preparation, CWAs, decontamination, hygiene, evaluation |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 13:45 – 16:15 | Exercise: Detection and sampling from improvised explosive devices, detection and sampling from waste incineration residues, simulants, evaluation |
| <i>Saturday, 16 May 2020</i> | |
| 08:00 – 12:30 | Presentations (hotel): CWA analysis in field conditions, sampling (methods, types of samples, sampling equipment) |

| Time | Activity |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Monday, 18 May 2020</i> | |
| 08:00 – 12:30 | Briefing, team exercise: Detection, sampling and decontamination of CWAs on vehicles, CWAs, decontamination, hygiene |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 13:30 – 17:00 | Team exercise: Detection and sampling from collectors of drinkable water, detection and sampling from ammunition, simulants, evaluation |
| <i>Tuesday, 19 May 2020</i> | |
| 08:00 – 12:30 | Briefing, final complex exercise focused on detection of CWAs, their sampling and decontamination – sample preparation for transport, CWAs, decontamination, hygiene |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 13:30 – 17:00 | Team exercise: Illegal laboratory – detection and sampling, detection and sampling after road incidents, simulants, evaluation |
| <i>Wednesday, 20 May 2020</i> | |
| 08:00 – 12:30 | Briefing, laboratory analysis of samples collected during the training, CWAs, decontamination, hygiene |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 13:30 – 17:00 | Team exercise: Collection of samples in conditions of poor visibility, simulants, evaluation |
| <i>Thursday, 21 May 2020</i> | |
| 07:00 – 12:30 | Blood draw (hotel), IPE cleaning and return, evaluation of training, official closure |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 13:30 – 17:00 | Social activities for participants, organised by the Ministry of the Economy |
| <i>Friday, 22 May 2020</i> | |
| | Departure |

Annex 2

**LIVE-AGENT TRAINING COURSE FOR EXPERTS
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ENDORSEMENT BY THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY

This form must be signed, duly sealed and uploaded when submitting applications electronically (<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 Live-Agent Training Course for Experts, to be held in Zemianske Kostol'any, Slovakia, from 11 to 21 May 2020.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Designation: _____

Official seal of the Organisation: