



NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A COURSE ON CHEMICAL EMERGENCY
RESPONSE FOR RUSSIAN-SPEAKING FIRST RESPONDERS
SVETLAYA ROSHCHA, BELARUS
18 – 27 MAY 2020**

1. The Director-General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) wishes to invite States Parties to nominate Russian-speaking representatives to participate in a training course on chemical emergency response, which will take place from 18 to 27 May 2020 in Svetlaya Roshcha, Belarus.
2. The course will be jointly organised by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) and the Government of Belarus, and will provide training for up to 20 experts who are involved in responding to chemical emergency incidents. The course will cover the following topics:
 - (a) protection of personnel during a chemical emergency;
 - (b) rescue and decontamination operations in contaminated areas; and
 - (c) appropriate responses and countermeasures in the event of incidents involving chemical-warfare agents or toxic chemicals.
3. The course will also provide an overview of the kinds of assistance the OPCW can provide, and will help participating States Parties to enhance the ability and skills of first responders in their countries on how to provide assistance and protection against chemical weapons and other toxic chemicals, as well as how to manage chemical incidents.
4. The course will offer an introduction to the use of individual and collective protective equipment; to monitoring, detection, and decontamination; and to sampling techniques. It will also facilitate the exchange of information and experiences regarding the implementation of Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”), and provide a forum for States Parties to discuss how they can cooperate in the future and what further offers they might make to the OPCW under Article X. The course will include field emergency response exercises. The provisional programme for the course can be found in Annex 1 hereto.



5. 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 developing an emergency response system in their own countries.
 - (b) All participants must have a good oral and written command of Russian, because all activities during the course will be conducted in Russian and no interpretation services of any kind will be available.
 - (c) Preference will be given to participants from emergency response units, such as firefighters, civil defence personnel, ambulance personnel, and police officers.
 - (d) Participants must be physically fit and capable of wearing individual protective gear for several hours at a time. Some practical experience with protective equipment is desirable.
6. Applications will be carefully screened on the basis of the criteria specified above. Only the most suitable applicants will be selected.
7. 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 accommodation and meals. Further details regarding accommodation, the course venue, and transport will be issued to all confirmed participants at a later date.
8. 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, 17 May 2020**, and to depart no later than **Thursday, 28 May 2020**. The Secretariat's approval is required for any changes to the arrival and departure dates of sponsored participants. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the course or that result from changes in travel arrangements that it has not authorised. Sponsored participants must bear all costs resulting from changes they make, including cancellations, once the Secretariat has purchased their tickets. Participants who have not been sponsored are requested to make their own travel arrangements.
9. Participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas before travelling to Belarus.
10. Interested applicants are invited to register their nomination online through Eventus—the OPCW event management system— **no later than 10 April 2020**. The Eventus registration link is accessible via the OPCW website (<http://apps.opcw.org/eventus>). Please note that all questions marked with an asterisk (*) in the online system must be answered and that an endorsement letter from the National Authority of the candidates State Party (Annex 2) must be attached in order for the nomination to be received and for the candidate to be considered for this event. Interested applicants who, for technical reasons, are unable to submit their application online via Eventus are requested to send the nomination form (Annex 3) along with an endorsement letter from the National Authority via email (APB@opcw.org) with a reference to the name and location of the event in the subject line of the message. The selected participants will be contacted no later than two weeks after the submission deadline.

11. Additional information may be obtained from the Assistance and Protection Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact person is Mr Shahriar Khateri (Tel: +31 (0)70 416 3231; Email: shahriar.khateri@opcw.org).

Annexes:

Annex 1: Provisional Programme

Annex 2: Endorsement Form

Annex 3: Nomination Form

Annex 1
COURSE ON CHEMICAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE
FOR RUSSIAN-SPEAKING FIRST RESPONDERS
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PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Event
<i>Monday, 18 May 2020</i>	
09:00 – 09:30	Opening ceremony
09:30 – 10:20	Course presentation, definition of aims. Group photo
10:20 – 10:35	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:35 – 11:55	Introduction to the Institute for Retraining and Professional Development
11:55 – 12:10	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
12:10 – 13:30	Lecture: The Chemical Weapons Convention
13:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 15:50	Lecture: Chemical threat – Chemical weapons, dangerous chemicals, chemical terrorism
15:50 – 16:10	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:10 – 17:20	Thematic discussion: After-effects of chemical incidents
<i>Tuesday, 19 May 2020</i>	
09:00 – 10:20	Lecture-discussion: Personal protective equipment
10:20 – 10:35	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:35 – 11:55	Lecture-discussion: Devices for chemical detection and control
11:55 – 12:10	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
12:10 – 13:30	Lecture-discussion: Decontamination procedures
13:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 15:50	Lecture-discussion: Medical response at the scene of an incident
15:50 – 16:05	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:15 – 18:00	Field Visit
<i>Wednesday, 20 May 2020</i>	
09:00 – 10:20	Practical training: Personal protective equipment (Group 1)
	Practical training: Devices for chemical detection and control (Group 2)
	Practical training: Decontamination procedures (Group 3)
10:20 – 10:35	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:35 – 11:55	Practical training: Personal protective equipment (Group 3)
	Practical training: Devices for chemical detection and control (Group 1)
	Practical training: Decontamination procedures (Group 2)
11:55 – 12:10	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
12:10 – 13:30	Practical training: Personal protective equipment (Group 2)
	Practical training: Devices for chemical detection and control (Group 3)
	Practical training: Decontamination procedures (Group 1)
13:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 15:50	Lecture: Organisation of actions in the impact area
15:50 – 16:05	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:05 – 17:20	Table-top exercise: Role of the incident commander at the scene

Time	Event
Thursday, 21 May 2020	
09:00 – 13:30	Practical training: Modern means of chemical agent detection (Special Rescue Team of the Belarus Ministry for Emergency Situations (MES))
13:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch in Minsk</i>
14:30 – 17:20	Discussion: Coordination of emergency service activities during a chemical incident response (Management and Response Centre of the Belarus MES)
Friday, 22 May 2020	
09:00 – 13:30	Practical training: Location and elimination of dangerous agents (chemical facilities)
13:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 15:55	Briefing: Location and elimination of dangerous agents
Saturday, 23 May 2020	
09:00 – 10:20	Basics of psychological support for first responders and victims of chemical incidents
10:20 – 10:35	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:35 – 11:55	Basics of psychological support for first responders and victims of chemical incidents (<i>cont'd</i>)
11:55 – 12:10	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
12:10 – 13:30	Basics of psychological support for first responders and victims of chemical incidents (<i>cont'd</i>)
Monday, 25 May 2020	
09:00 – 10:20	Practical training: Location and elimination of dangerous agents (air transport)
10:20 – 10:35	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:35 – 13:30	Practical training: Location and elimination of dangerous agents (air transport) (<i>cont'd</i>)
13:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 15:50	Practical training: Location and elimination of dangerous agents (air transport) (<i>cont'd</i>)
15:50 – 16:05	Briefing: Location and elimination of dangerous agents (air transport)
Tuesday, 26 May 2020	
09:00 – 10:20	Practical training: Location and elimination of dangerous agents (road transport)
10:20 – 10:35	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:35 – 13:30	Practical training: Location and elimination of dangerous agents (road transport) (<i>cont'd</i>)
13:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 15:50	Practical training: Location and elimination of dangerous agents (road transport) (<i>cont'd</i>)
15:50 – 16:05	Briefing: Location and elimination of dangerous agents (road transport)
Wednesday, 27 May 2020	
09:00 – 10:20	Practical training (exercise): Location and elimination of dangerous agents (rail transport)
10:20 – 10:35	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:35 – 13:30	Practical training (exercise): Location and elimination of dangerous agents (rail transport) (<i>cont'd</i>)
13:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 15:00	Course evaluation
15:00 – 15:50	Closing ceremony

Annex 2

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ENDORSEMENT BY THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY

This form must be signed, duly sealed, and uploaded while submitting your application online (<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 training course on chemical emergency response, which will take place from 18 to 27 May 2020 in Svetlaya Roshcha, Belarus.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Designation: _____

Official seal of the Organisation:

ANNEX 3

**COURSE ON CHEMICAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE
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NOMINATION FORM

Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS

Government body making the nomination	
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	
Areas of expertise	
Employer	
Position	
Email address	
Telephone numbers, including country and city codes	Home
	Work
	Mobile
Has the nominee previously attended a course of this kind?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, when and where?
Is sponsorship a condition of participation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

* Please give the first and family names exactly as they appear in the nominee's passport.

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

Airport of departure		
Dietary preferences	None <input type="checkbox"/>	Halal <input type="checkbox"/>
	Vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Size	Gloves	S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/>
	Boots (number)	
	Height (m)	
	Weight (kg)	