OPCW **Technical Secretariat**

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NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

STATUS OF LABORATORIES DESIGNATED FOR THE ANALYSIS OF AUTHENTIC ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

1. The Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter "the Conference") at its First Session established the conditions under which laboratories may seek designation (C-I/DEC.60, C-I/DEC.61, C-I/DEC.62, and C-I/DEC.65, all dated 22 May 1997), and at its Fifth Session (C-V/6, dated 19 May 2000) mandated the Executive Council (hereinafter "the Council") to take a decision regarding guidelines on the designation of laboratories for the analysis of authentic samples. The Council took this decision at its Twentieth Session (EC-XX/DEC.3, dated 28 June 2000). Additional guidelines on the designation of laboratories for the analysis of authentic samples were adopted by the Conference at its Twentieth Session (C-20/DEC.4, dated 2 December 2015).

2. When designating laboratories for the analysis of authentic samples, and in accordance with C-I/DEC.61 and C-I/DEC.65, the Director-General takes the following into account:

   (a) whether the laboratory has established a quality system in accordance with the standards (ISO/IEC 17025:2005 or equivalent) and has valid accreditation by an internationally recognised accreditation body for the tasks for which it is seeking designation—namely, for the analysis of chemical warfare agents and related compounds in various types of samples; and

   (b) whether the laboratory has performed successfully in the proficiency testing programme of the OPCW.

3. A laboratory must participate in the proficiency testing programme at least once per calendar year unless the additional guidelines in C-20/DEC.4 are applicable. According to subparagraph 4(d) of the Annex to C-I/DEC.65, a rating of three "As", or two "As" and one "B", on the three most recent consecutive tests of a laboratory shall be regarded as constituting a successful performance.

4. If a designated laboratory performs unsuccessfully in a proficiency test, it may be temporarily suspended, but retain designated status, or it may have its designated status withdrawn, according to the guidelines in EC-XX/DEC.3. When this happens, the laboratory, also in accordance with EC-XX/DEC.3, will no longer be selected by the Director-General to receive and analyse authentic samples from the OPCW. However, it may perform other tasks, as set out in C-I/DEC.67 (dated 22 May 1997).

5. Following the completion of the Forty-Sixth Official OPCW Proficiency Test, the Director-General wishes to inform Member States of the current status of the laboratories designated for the analysis of authentic environmental samples. Twenty-two laboratories from 18 Member States are designated; six of these have been temporarily suspended. The performance ratings of these laboratories are annexed hereto.

DESIGNATED LABORATORIES

	Laboratory	State Party
1.	Belgian Defence Laboratories (DLD)	Belgium
2.	The Laboratory of Analytical Chemistry, Research Institute of Chemical Defence	China
3.	Laboratory of Toxicant Analysis, Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Academy of Military Medical Sciences	China
4.	VERIFIN, Finnish Institute for Verification of the Chemical Weapons Convention	Finland
5.	DGA Maîtrise NRBC, Analytical Chemistry Department, France	France
6.	Bundeswehr Research Institute for Protective Technologies and NBC Protection	Germany
7.	VERTOX Laboratory, Defence Research & Development Establishment	India
8.	Defense Chemical Research Laboratory	Iran (Islamic Republic of)
9.	TNO Defence, Security and Safety	Netherlands
10.	Analytical Laboratory, Defence Science Technology Organisation	Pakistan
11.	Chemical Analysis Laboratory, CB Department, Agency for Defense Development	Republic of Korea
12.	Chemical, Biological and Radiological Defense Research Institute	Republic of Korea
13.	Scientific Research Center for CBRN Defense and Ecology, Chemical Analysis and Special Synthesis Laboratory	Romania
14.	Laboratory for the Chemical and Analytical Control of Military Research Centre	Russian Federation
15.	Central Chemical Weapons Destruction Analytical Laboratory of the Federal State Unitary Enterprise, “State Scientific Research Institute of Organic Chemistry and Technology”	Russian Federation
16.	Verification Laboratory, Defence Medical and Environmental Research Institute, DSO National Laboratories	Singapore
17.	LAVEMA (Laboratorio de Verificación de Armas Químicas), INTA Campus La Marañosa	Spain
18.	FOI, CBRN Defence and Security, Swedish Defence Research Agency	Sweden
19.	Spiez Laboratory, Swiss NBC Defence Establishment	Switzerland
20.	Defence Science and Technology Laboratory, Porton Down	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
21.	Combat Capabilities Development Command, Chemical Biological Center (CBC) Forensic Analytical Laboratory	United States of America
22.	Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory	United States of America

Annex: Performance Ratings of Designated Laboratories in Official Proficiency Tests

Annex

PERFORMANCE RATINGS OF DESIGNATED LABORATORIES IN OFFICIAL PROFICIENCY TESTS

Laboratory	Member State	41st (2017)	42nd (2017)	43rd (2018)	44th (2018)	45th (2019)	46th (2019)
Belgian Defence Laboratories (DLD)	Belgium	–	A[1]	–	A[1]	–	A[1]
The Laboratory of Analytical Chemistry, Research Institute of Chemical Defence	China	–	A	–	A	–	A
Laboratory of Toxicant Analysis, Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Academy of Military Medical Sciences	China	–	A	–	A	–	A
VERIFIN, Finnish Institute for Verification of the Chemical Weapons Convention	Finland	–	A[1]	–	A	–	A[1]
DGA Maîtrise NRBC, Département d'analyses chimiques	France	–	A	–	B	–	B
Bundeswehr Research Institute for Protective Technologies and NBC protection	Germany	–	A[1]	–	A[1]	A	–
VERTOX Laboratory, Defence Research & Development Establishment	India	–	A	B	–	–	A
Defense Chemical Research Laboratory	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	A	–	A	–	–	A
TNO Defence, Security and Safety	Netherlands	–	B	–	A[1]	–	A
Analytical Laboratory, Defense Science Technology Organisation	Pakistan	B	A	–	A	–	B
Chemical Analysis Laboratory, CB Department, Agency for Defense Development	Republic of Korea	–	A[1]	–	A	–	A

[1] Laboratory was not a test participant but was awarded an "A" grade based on the criteria in decision C-20/DEC.4.

Laboratory	Member State	41st (2017)	42nd (2017)	43rd (2018)	44th (2018)	45th (2019)	46th (2019)
Chemical, Biological and Radiological Defense Research Institute	Republic of Korea	B	–	B	–	B	–
Scientific Research Center for CBRN Defense and Ecology, Chemical Analysis and Special Synthesis Laboratory	Romania	A	B	–	B	–	B
Laboratory for Chemical and Analytical Control, Military Research Centre	Russian Federation	–	A	–	C	A	B
Central Chemical Weapons Destruction Analytical Laboratory of the Federal State Unitary Enterprise, "State Scientific Research Institute of Organic Chemistry and Technology"	Russian Federation	–	A	–	B	–	B
Verification Laboratory, Defence Medical and Environmental Research Institute, DSO National Laboratories	Singapore	A	–	–	A[1]	B	–
LAVEMA (Laboratorio de Verificación de Armas Químicas), INTA Campus La Marañosa	Spain	A	–	–	C	A	–
FOI, CBRN Defence and Security, Swedish Defence Research Agency	Sweden	–	A[1]	–	A[1]	A	–
Spiez Laboratory, Swiss NBC Defence Establishment	Switzerland	–	A[1]	–	A[1]	–	A[1]
Defence Science and Technology Laboratory, Porton Down	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	–	A[1]	–	A	–	A
Combat Capabilities Development Command, Chemical Biological Center (CBC) Forensic Analytical Laboratory	United States of America	A	–	A	–	A	–
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory	United States of America	–	A	–	A	–	A

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