



S/2042/2022

22 March 2022

ENGLISH and SPANISH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A TRAINING COURSE FOR MEMBER STATES
IN THE LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN REGION
ON SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS IN HIGHLY CONTAMINATED ENVIRONMENTS
BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA, 15 – 19 AUGUST 2022**

1. On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Colombia and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General wishes to invite States Parties of the Latin America and the 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 15 to 19 August 2022.
2. The course will be jointly organised by the Government of the Republic 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 the Caribbean region who would be responsible for conducting sampling and analysis tasks in a highly contaminated environment following a chemical attack or an incident involving toxic chemicals.
3. Member States from the Latin America and the Caribbean region that do not yet have sampling and analysis capabilities are particularly 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 equipment (IPE), 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 the 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 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, 14 August 2022** and to depart no later than **Saturday, 20 August 2022**. 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 2022**. 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 in due course. Any questions should be addressed to the ICA Assistance and Protection Branch. The contact persons are Mr Miguel Albaladejo Pomares (Tel: +31 (0)70 416 3775) and Ms Maria Elena Bruno-Pousadela (Tel: +31 (0) 70 416 3217).

Annexes:

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

Annex 1

**TRAINING COURSE FOR MEMBER STATES
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PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
Sunday, 14 August 2022	
	Arrival of participants
Monday, 15 August 2022	
07:30 – 08:00	Transfer to the training centre
08:00 – 08:30	General guidelines for the course
08:30 – 09:00	Opening ceremony
09:00 – 09:15	Group photo
09:15 – 09:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
09:30 – 10:00	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
10:00 – 10:45	Presentation: Implementation of the Convention in Colombia
10:45 – 11:15	Presentation: Dual-use toxic chemicals
11:15 – 12:00	Presentation: Chemical weapons
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:00 – 13:45	Presentation: Sampling collection equipment and collection kit 1
13:45 – 14:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
14:00 – 15:00	Presentation: Sampling collection equipment and collection kit 2
15:00 – 16:00	Presentation: Cross contamination
16:00 – 16:15	Summary of the day
16:15 – 16:30	Transfer to the hotel
19:00 – 21:00	Welcome dinner (offered by host country)
Tuesday, 16 August 2022	
07:30 – 08:00	Transfer to the training centre
08:00 – 08:45	Presentation: Individual protection against toxic chemicals
08:45 – 09:30	Presentation: The different levels of individual protective equipment
09:30 – 09:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
09:45 – 10:30	Presentation: Respiratory protection
10:30 – 11:15	Practice: Respiratory protection
11:15 – 12:00	Practice: Donning and doffing
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:00 – 13:45	Presentation: Dissemination methods
13:45 – 14:30	Presentation: Neutralisation procedures
14:30 – 14:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
14:45 – 15:45	Presentation: Reconnaissance
15:45 – 16:00	Summary of the day
16:00 – 16:30	Transfer to the hotel

Time	Activity
Wednesday, 17 August 2022	
07:30 – 08:00	Transfer to the training centre
08:00 – 08:45	Presentation: OPCW designated laboratories
08:45 – 09:30	Presentation: Chemical substances database
09:30 – 09:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
09:45 – 10:30	Presentation: Chemical detection
10:30 – 12:00	Practice: Chemical detection in the field
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:00 – 13:45	Presentation: Chain of custody
13:45 – 14:30	Presentation: Incident command system
14:30 – 14:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
14:45 – 15:45	Practice: Incident command system
15:45 – 16:00	Summary of the day
16:00 – 16:30	Transfer to the hotel
Thursday, 18 August 2022	
07:30 – 08:00	Transfer to the training centre
08:00 – 08:45	Presentation: Medical module
08:45 – 09:30	Presentation: Operations in collapsed structures
09:30 – 09:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
09:45 – 10:30	Practice: Medical module
10:30 – 11:15	Practice: Solid sample collection
11:15 – 12:00	Practice: Liquid sample collection
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:00 – 13:45	Practice: Clandestine chemical laboratory
13:45 – 14:30	Practice: Sample collection in a high-risk environment
14:30 – 14:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
14:45 – 15:45	Practice: Sample collection in a high-risk environment (cont'd)
15:45 – 16:00	Summary of the day
16:00 – 16:30	Transfer to the hotel
Friday, 19 August 2022	
06:00 – 07:00	Transfer to the training centre
07:00 – 08:00	Presentation: Decontamination procedures
08:00 – 08:45	Presentation: Decontamination levels
08:45 – 09:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
09:00 – 12:00	Practice: Decontamination procedures
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:00 – 13:45	Practice: Decontamination equipment
13:45 – 14:30	Final discussion and lessons learned
14:30 – 14:45	Evaluation
14:45 – 15:00	Closing ceremony

Annex 2

**TRAINING COURSE FOR MEMBER STATES
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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		

* 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.

Is sponsorship a condition of participation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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

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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 the Caribbean Region on Sampling and Analysis in Highly
Contaminated Environments, to be held in Bogotá, Colombia, from 15 to 19 August 2022.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Designation: _____

Official seal of the Organisation: