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ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR OFFICIAL OPCW PROFICIENCY TESTS IN 2023 AND 2024

1. The Director-General wishes to inform States Parties of the tentative schedule for official OPCW proficiency tests both in 2023 and 2024.
2. The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) organises two different official proficiency tests: one for environmental samples (PT), and the other for biomedical samples (BioPT). These two programmes are separate, and laboratories are welcome to participate in one or both.
3. Both proficiency testing programmes may be conducted with the assistance of designated laboratories. The tables that follow indicate the laboratories and States Parties that have volunteered to assist the Secretariat with the proficiency tests. If the “Assisting Laboratory” column is blank, the Secretariat would welcome designated laboratories to volunteer.
4. Prior to each proficiency test, the Secretariat will issue an official Note announcing the test with instructions on how to participate. For further information regarding these tests please contact the Secretariat by email (proficiency@opcw.org).
5. The tentative test schedule and the laboratories that will be assisting are listed in the following two tables attached in the Annex.

Annex:

Tentative Schedule and the Laboratories That Will Be Assisting in the Official OPCW Proficiency and Biomedical Proficiency Tests in 2023 and 2024.



Annex

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE AND THE LABORATORIES THAT WILL BE ASSISTING IN
THE OFFICIAL OPCW PROFICIENCY AND BIOMEDICAL PROFICIENCY TESTS IN 2023 AND 2024**

TABLE 1: TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR OFFICIAL OPCW PROFICIENCY TESTS

Proficiency Test (PT)	Assisting Laboratory: Sample Preparation	Assisting Laboratory: Evaluation	Sample Dispatch Date	Meeting to Discuss the Preliminary Evaluation of the Results
Fifty-Third (PT-53)	Bundeswehr Research Institute for Protective Technologies and NBC Protection, Germany	DEVCOM Chemical Biological Center, Forensic Analytical Laboratory, United States of America	28 April 2023	4 July 2023
Fifty-Fourth (PT-54)	-	TNO Defence, Safety and Security, Netherlands	20 October 2023	6 February 2024
Fifth-Fifth (PT-55)	-	Verification Laboratory, Defence Medical and Environmental Research Institute, DSO National Laboratories, Singapore	19 April 2024	2 July 2024
Fifty-Sixth (PT-56)	-	Laboratório de Análises Químicas, Centro Tecnológico do Exército (CTEx), Brazil	18 October 2024	11 February 2025

TABLE 2: TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR OFFICIAL OPCW BIOMEDICAL PROFICIENCY TESTS

Biomedical Proficiency Test (BioPT)	Assisting Laboratory: Sample Preparation	Assisting Laboratory: Evaluation	Sample Dispatch Date	Meeting to Discuss the Preliminary Evaluation of the Results
Eighth (BioPT-8)	Defence Science and Technology Group, Australia	Bundeswehr Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Germany	24 February 2023	5 July 2023
Ninth (BioPT-9)	Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, United States of America	Swedish Defence Research Agency, FOI, Sweden	23 February 2024	3 July 2024

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