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17 November 2022
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE EIGHTH OFFICIAL OPCW BIOMEDICAL PROFICIENCY TEST

1. The Director-General wishes to inform States Parties of the schedule and arrangements for the Eighth Official OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Test.
2. For the Eighth Official OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Test, the Defence Science and Technology Group (Australia) will prepare the test samples and the Bundeswehr Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology (Germany) will assist in the evaluation of the results. The anticipated sample dispatch date is 24 February 2023, and the samples will be shipped to the test participants from the sample preparation laboratory.
3. States Parties are invited to nominate laboratories that are interested and/or have expertise in the analysis of biomedical samples to participate in the test. Nominations should be sent to the OPCW Laboratory via email (biopt@opcw.org) **no later than 3 February 2023**.
4. Nominations should contain:
 - (a) the full name and address of the laboratory;
 - (b) the detailed sample delivery address (if different from the laboratory address);
 - (c) the name, telephone number, and email address of the laboratory contact person; and
 - (d) any other special requirements or information needed to ensure sample delivery.
5. The nomination form that is annexed to this document may be used for submitting the nominations.
6. In order to confirm participation in the Eighth Official OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Test, previous test participants must, where required, submit to the OPCW Laboratory **before 3 February 2023** their follow-up report stating the cause of the problem and the remedial actions they have taken as a result of their participation in the last biomedical proficiency test. Early submission of such reports is strongly encouraged.
7. For the Eighth Official OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Test, participating laboratories are requested to submit analysis reports within 15 calendar days of receiving the samples.



8. Participating laboratories are also requested to contact the OPCW Laboratory by email (biopt@opcw.org) before the sample dispatch date to confirm their contact details for the delivery of the test samples.
9. Finally, participating laboratories are requested to arrange internal customs clearance procedures for the samples in order to prevent any unnecessary delays in the sample delivery process.
10. The Eighth Official OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Test will be conducted in accordance with the following set of quality management system documents:
 - (a) “Standard Operating Procedure for the Organisation of OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/SOP/BioPT01);
 - (b) “Work Instruction for the Preparation of Samples for OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/BioPT02);
 - (c) “Work Instruction for the Evaluation of the Results of OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/BioPT03); and
 - (d) “Work Instruction for the Reporting of the Results of the OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/BioPT04).
11. A meeting to discuss the preliminary results of the Eighth Official OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Test has been tentatively scheduled for 5 July 2023 at the OPCW Headquarters in The Hague, the Netherlands.
12. Further information regarding participation in the Eighth Official OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Test may be obtained from the OPCW Laboratory (Tel: +31 15 215 4628; Email: biopt@opcw.org).

Annex: Eighth Official OPCW Biomedical Proficiency Test – Nomination Form

Annex**EIGHTH OFFICIAL OPCW BIOMEDICAL PROFICIENCY TEST****NOMINATION FORM****NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 3 FEBRUARY 2023**

Name of the laboratory	
Address of the laboratory	
Nature of work related to the Chemical Weapons Convention	
Quality system management and accreditation body (if any)	
Full sample delivery address (if different from the laboratory address)	
Special requirements for sample delivery (e.g., customs requirements, preferred courier agency)	
Primary contact person's name, telephone number, and email address	
Second contact person's name, telephone number, and email address	
Name, signature, and affiliation of the person nominating the laboratory	
Approval of the National Authority (official seal and signature)	