



S/2180/2023  
9 June 2023  
ENGLISH only

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR AN INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON  
THE MEDICAL ASPECTS OF ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION  
AGAINST CHEMICAL WEAPONS  
TEHRAN, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN  
15 – 19 OCTOBER 2023**

1. The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) wishes to invite States Parties to nominate participants for a training course on medical management of persons affected by the use of chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals. The training course will be jointly organised by the National Authority of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Secretariat and will take place in Tehran, the Islamic Republic of Iran, **from 15 to 19 October 2023**.
2. The purpose of this training course is to strengthen medical preparedness and response capabilities at hospitals in the aftermath of an attack involving chemical weapons agents or toxic industrial chemicals. It will also promote the exchange of experience, therapeutic approaches, treatment protocols, and the promotion of strategies for addressing gaps in medical capabilities.
3. The programme will address the following: general concepts of chemical weapons agents and toxic industrial chemicals; the identification, diagnosis, treatment, and medical management of persons affected by chemical weapons agents and toxic industrial chemicals; lessons learned from incidents involving chemical weapons agents and toxic industrial chemicals; hospital preparedness and response; and medical follow-up for individuals dealing with the long-term impact of exposure to chemical weapons agents or toxic industrial chemicals.
4. The Secretariat expects to sponsor a maximum of 20 participants from interested States Parties. The profiles of interested candidates should meet the criteria listed below:
  - (a) This training course is designed for medical professionals who work at hospitals that may attend to victims in a chemical emergency, or those working at medical facilities designated for this purpose.
  - (b) Candidates should have background experience in one of the following: emergency medical care, anaesthesia, toxicology, neurology, dermatology, internal medicine, surgery, burns and plastic surgery, intensive care, haematology, ophthalmology, or dealing with emergencies involving toxic industrial chemicals.
  - (c) Women candidates are encouraged to apply.



- (d) Physicians from civilian and military hospitals and medical institutions may apply.
  - (e) Additional information provided by candidates through Eventus, the OPCW's event management system (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>), will be carefully considered, including relevant factors such as: previous experience and participation in emergency training (including emergency chemical training); accreditation in CBRNE<sup>1</sup> and programmes on medical treatment in disaster situations; participation in previous national or regional events in a relevant subject; roles and responsibilities related to emergency-related medical education, coordination, preparedness, response, and follow-up.
  - (f) Only participants who have completed their profile on Eventus will be considered. A complete profile includes sponsorship by the candidate's respective National Authority (specifying whether sponsorship is a condition of their participation), and **valid passport** information. **Passports must be valid for at least six months from the start date of the event (15 October 2023).**
  - (g) Candidates must be proficient in English, as the course will be conducted entirely in English.
5. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, accommodation, airport transfers, medical insurance, and meals. In addition, it will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses.
  6. The Secretariat will seek the most economical options when making travel arrangements for sponsored participants. Participants are expected to **arrive no earlier than Saturday, 14 October 2023** and **depart no later than Friday, 20 October 2023**. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the course or resulting from unauthorised changes in travel arrangements. Once the Secretariat has purchased their tickets, sponsored participants will be responsible for ensuring their participation. In the case of unforeseen circumstances, participants should immediately contact the substantive officer responsible for the course (see paragraph 9). In addition, all necessary visas (if required) should be obtained by the participant before travelling to the Islamic Republic of Iran.
  7. Interested applicants are requested to register their nomination online through Eventus **no later than 31 July 2023**. Fields marked with an asterisk (\*) in the system are mandatory.
  8. 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 of any administrative or other problems that may arise in relation to the attendance of any selected participant.

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<sup>1</sup> CBRNE = chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosives.

9. The focal point for this training course for technical matters is Mr Eduardo Herrera (Tel: +31 70 416 3466; Email: [eduardo.herrera@opcw.org](mailto:eduardo.herrera@opcw.org)). Administrative matters for this training course may be addressed with Ms Sonja Pecak (Tel.: +31 70 416 3498; Email: [sonja.pecak@opcw.org](mailto:sonja.pecak@opcw.org)) from the Assistance and Protection Branch.

Annex: Provisional Programme

## Annex

**INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON THE MEDICAL ASPECTS  
OF ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION AGAINST CHEMICAL WEAPONS  
TEHRAN, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN  
15 – 19 OCTOBER 2023**

**PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

Time	Activity
<b><i>Saturday, 14 October 2023</i></b>	
18:00	Arrival and registration of participants
<b><i>Sunday, 15 October 2023</i></b>	
08:30 – 09:20	Opening ceremony
09:20 – 10:00	Introduction of participants
10:00 – 10:40	<i>Group photo and coffee/tea break</i>
10:40 – 11:00	Course overview
11:00 – 11:45	The Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) and Article X on Assistance and Protection
11:45 – 12:30	Implementation of Article X of the Convention in the Islamic Republic of Iran
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:15	Chemical threat: Chemical weapons, chemical industrial accidents, and chemical terrorism
14:15 – 15:15	Chemical warfare agents: Classification, properties, and routes of exposure
15:15 – 15:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:30 – 16:30	Principles of chemical casualty management
16:30 – 17:00	Summary of the day and discussion
18:30 – 20:00	Reception hosted by the OPCW
<b><i>Monday, 16 October 2023</i></b>	
08:30 – 09:15	Protection against chemical warfare agents and individual protection equipment
09:15 – 10:15	Donning and doffing of individual protection equipment
10:15 – 10:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:30 – 11:15	Blister agents: toxicological effects, signs and symptoms, diagnosis and medical treatment for acute phases
11:15 – 12:10	Long-term health effects of exposure to sulfur mustard: mustard lung
12:10 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:15	Long-term health effects of exposure to sulfur mustard: mustard eye
14:15 – 15:00	Long-term health effects of exposure to sulfur mustard: mustard skin
15:00 – 15:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:15 – 16:00	Blood agents: toxicological effects, signs and symptoms, diagnosis, and medical treatment
16:00 – 16:45	Incapacitating agents (psychochemical agents) and novel riot control agents
16:45 – 17:00	Summary of the day and discussion

<b><i>Tuesday, 17 October 2023</i></b>	
08:30 – 09:15	Nerve agents: toxicological effects, signs and symptoms, diagnosis. and medical treatment
09:15 – 09:45	Choking agents: toxicological effects, signs and symptoms, diagnosis, and medical treatment principles
09:45– 10:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:00 – 10:30	Principles of decontamination of chemical casualties: pre-hospital and hospital procedures
10:30 – 11:15	Triage of chemical casualties and medical evacuation
11:15 – 12:15	Table-top exercise: emergency medical response to a chemical incident
12:15 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 18:00	Field visit
<b><i>Wednesday, 18 October 2023</i></b>	
08:30 – 09:15	Hospital preparedness for chemical incidents
09:15 –10:00	Medical management of chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals at hospitals
10:00 –12:00	Visit to a hospital’s chemical emergency department
12:00 –13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:00	Demonstration: hospital management of chemical casualties
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:30 – 17:00	Field visit
18:30 – 20:00	Reception hosted by the National Authority
<b><i>Thursday, 19 October 2023</i></b>	
09:00 – 10:30	Feedback from participants
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00 – 12:00	Evaluation session and closing ceremony
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00 – 18:00	Cultural event
<b><i>Friday, 20 October 2023</i></b>	
Entire day	Departure of participants