



S/2275/2024

15 April 2024

ENGLISH and SPANISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR AN E-LEARNING SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAMME IN SPANISH FOR MEMBER STATES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN 30 SEPTEMBER – 29 NOVEMBER 2024

PURPOSE OF THE TRAINING

1. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (the Secretariat) wishes to inform Member States that it will hold an e-learning safety training programme in Spanish for Member States of the Latin America and the Caribbean Group (GRULAC), via the Moodle and Microsoft Teams platforms, from 30 September to 29 November 2024. The training will be co-organised by the OPCW and the Chemical Industries Association of Uruguay, with support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay and with joint financial support from the OPCW and the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC).
2. The objective of the training programme is to provide an update on the current standards, policies, and best practices in occupational safety and chemical hazards. It will also address the handling, storage, and transport of chemicals as well as chemical waste management. The training programme has been designed for representatives of chemical companies, research institutions, and specialised agencies from OPCW Member States in the GRULAC region who work in the field of the environment, health, safety, and security related to the use of chemicals. The programme is being implemented within the scope of the capacity-building programmes related to the peaceful applications of chemistry under Article XI of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

CONTENT

3. The duration of the course will be nine weeks (equivalent to 80 learning hours, including eight hours of interactive sessions, 80 hours of e-learning multimedia content, and 200 pages of text materials) and will be divided into six main modules, as follows:
 - (a) **Module 1: Safety (Weeks 1 and 2):** Self-testing, followed by lessons on basic concepts and safety, health, environment, and security, accident causes and costs, statistical study of accidents, accident investigation, hazards identification, risk assessment, and preventive and protective controls.
 - (b) **Module 2: Chemicals (Weeks 3 and 4):** Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS), physical hazards, health



and environmental hazards, handling, storage, and the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. Activities include a discussion forum.

- (c) **Module 3: Environment (Week 5):** GHS environmental hazards, waste management, recycling, final disposal methods, clean technologies, and green chemistry. Activities include online exercises.
 - (d) **Module 4: Emergencies (Week 6):** First aid after exposure to chemicals, fire and explosions intervention, spill control, and emergency preparedness and response. Activities include examination of case studies.
 - (e) **Module 5: Security (Week 7):** Duties and responsibilities, security risk assessments, identification of vulnerabilities, population protection, physical and intellectual property protection, company reputation protection, preventing assets from being used to cause harm, control measures, illegal use of chemicals, and the role of the OPCW. Activities include participant assignments.
 - (f) **Module 6: Management and culture (Week 8):** Integrated management systems (quality, safety, health, environment, and security), Responsible Care[®], Sustainable Development Goals, and safety culture. Activities include a virtual meeting (via Microsoft Teams).
4. The final activities of the course include a final exam, another round of self-testing, a course completion survey, and project presentations from each participant.
 5. As indicated above, the course will include a final exam and projects (assignments). Trainees obtaining a passing grade will receive a certificate, and trainees obtaining satisfactory grades on the assignments will become Safety Training Program (STP) Associate Fellows and will be recognised on the IUPAC's STP website.
 6. The course will accommodate between 5 and 15 participants from OPCW Member States in the GRULAC region. The Secretariat will select participants and notify the successful candidates, who will then receive an official invitation from the Secretariat.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

7. The training is open to those who:
 - (a) are citizens of OPCW Member States in the GRULAC region;
 - (b) have a minimum of a first degree (BSc or equivalent) in chemical or environmental sciences or engineering from a recognised university or institution (or a degree in other fields in combination with at least five years of qualifying experience, as referred to below); and
 - (c) have been working in the chemical industry, research or academia, specialised institutions performing activities involving hazardous chemicals, or governmental agencies that coordinate chemical safety and security at such establishments.

8. All training activities will be conducted in Spanish. Candidates must therefore have a strong command of both written and spoken Spanish. Any candidate who is found not to meet this requirement may not be allowed to continue their participation in the event.
9. Female candidates are encouraged to apply.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

10. Applications will be carefully screened based on the criteria specified in paragraphs 7 and 8 above. The Secretariat may decide to interview applicants.
11. All applications must be digitally endorsed by the National Authority¹ of the candidate's country through Eventus, the OPCW's event management system (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>). Member States and National Authorities are strongly encouraged to support and endorse the applications by suitable female candidates for the course.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

12. Interested candidates are invited to apply for participation in the training course through Eventus **no later than 21 May 2024**. Applicants must first create an account and then register for the event.
13. Applicants must also upload the following documents in Eventus:
 - (a) an updated curriculum vitae;
 - (b) a letter of recommendation from the candidate's supervisor in his or her institution addressing the candidate's qualifications in relation to the criteria specified in paragraph 7 above, and attesting to the relevance of the training to the work of the applicant's institution; and
 - (c) a copy of the personal identification pages of the candidate's passport.
14. Incomplete or improperly completed applications cannot be considered.
15. Additional information may be obtained from the International Cooperation Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The focal points for this training programme are Ms Ting Zhang (Email: ting.zhang@opcw.org), Mr Massimo de Rienzo (Email: massimo.derienzo@opcw.org), and the IUPAC Committee on Chemistry and Industry Safety Training Program (Email: stp@iupac.org). Please include the words "OPCW Online Safety Training Programme in Spanish 2024" in the subject line of any email.

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¹ Applicants are advised to approach their country's National Authority or Permanent Representation to the OPCW. Contact details are available on the OPCW website (<https://www.opcw.org/about-us/member-states>).