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4 July 2024

ENGLISH and SPANISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT**COURSE ON CHEMICAL SAFETY AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT IN
LABORATORIES FOR STATES PARTIES
IN THE LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN REGION
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
29 OCTOBER – 1 NOVEMBER 2024**

1. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (the Secretariat) wishes to invite applications from representatives of chemistry laboratories in States Parties from the Latin America and the Caribbean Group (GRULAC) to attend a course aimed at promoting chemical safety and security management in laboratories.
2. The course will be organised by the National Authority of Argentina with the support of the OPCW and the National Institute of Industrial Technology, and is intended for personnel working on the application of occupational safety measures in chemical, biochemical, microbiological, and other relevant laboratories (involving the use of chemicals) to broaden their knowledge of laboratory safety and security. The course will be held from 29 October to 1 November 2024 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Overall, the structure and content of the course have been adjusted according to the training needs of the GRULAC region. The course will focus on the following modules, including theoretical lectures and practical sessions:
 - (a) introduction to chemical safety and security;
 - (b) chemical safety in laboratories;
 - (c) environmental pollution and occupational toxicology;
 - (d) handling and storage of chemicals;
 - (e) health and safety in the use of chemicals;
 - (f) hazardous waste management;
 - (g) safety devices and personal protection;
 - (h) laboratory emergencies;
 - (i) GHS¹ and safety management systems;

¹ GHS = Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.



- (j) design and construction of laboratories; and
 - (k) the OPCW's work in capacity building towards ensuring chemical safety and security and preventing the re-emergence of chemical weapons.
3. All course activities will be conducted in Spanish.
 4. The course will accommodate a maximum of 20 participants from GRULAC Member States. The Secretariat will select participants and notify the successful candidates, who will then receive an official invitation from the Secretariat.
 5. For all participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of international travel, medical insurance, and visas, and will provide a terminal allowance, as well as a daily allowance to cover meals and/or incidental expenses, in accordance with OPCW rules. When making international travel arrangements, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. It will purchase and send tickets to participants. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the meeting or that result from unauthorised changes to travel arrangements.
 6. Accommodation will be provided to all sponsored participants. Information regarding accommodation will be sent to participants in due course.
 7. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas before travelling to Argentina. As noted above, the Secretariat will cover the costs of visas. It will reimburse participants upon the production of original receipts.
 8. Participants should:
 - (a) hold a professional degree in chemistry, biology, physics, or a related engineering field, and have experience working in or managing chemical or related laboratories;
 - (b) preferably be involved in activities related to chemical safety and/or security management, especially in laboratories; and
 - (c) be proficient in Spanish.
 9. Applications will be carefully screened on the basis of the criteria specified in paragraph 8 above. Applicants who have already participated in OPCW courses on chemical safety and security in laboratories will not be considered for this training.
 10. Interested candidates are invited to submit their applications through Eventus—the OPCW event management system (<https://eventus.opcw.org/>). Applicants must first create an account and then register for the event. Each application must be endorsed digitally in the Eventus platform by the respective National Authority or Permanent Representation of the applicant's country to the OCPW. Only nominations endorsed by the National Authority or Permanent Representation may be considered. **Member States and National Authorities are strongly encouraged to seek, support, and endorse applications from qualified female candidates.**

11. Applications must be accompanied by the following:
 - (a) a curriculum vitae;
 - (b) a photocopy of the personal identification pages of the candidate's passport;
 - (c) a one-page description of the candidate's practical experience; and
 - (d) a letter of recommendation from the supervisor of the candidate at his or her institution addressing the candidate's qualifications in line with paragraph 8 above and attesting the relevance of the course to the work of the institution.
12. Applications must be submitted to the Secretariat **no later than 6 September 2024**. Incomplete or improperly completed applications cannot be considered.
13. Additional information may be obtained by email from the International Cooperation Branch of the OPCW. The contact persons are Ms Rufaro Kambarami, Project Assistant (rufaro.kambarami@opcw.org), and Mr Roman Warchol, Senior Programme Officer (roman.warchol@opcw.org).

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