



S/2402/2025

7 May 2025

ENGLISH and SPANISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A COURSE ON CHEMICAL
SAFETY AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT IN LABORATORIES
FOR MEMBER STATES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
21–24 OCTOBER 2025**

1. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (the Secretariat) wishes to invite applications from representatives of chemistry laboratories in Member States from the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC) to attend a course aimed at promoting chemical safety and security management in laboratories.
2. The course, to be held from 21 to 24 October 2025 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, will be organised by the National Institute of Industrial Technology of Argentina, with the support of its National Authority. It 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), and is aimed at broadening their knowledge of laboratory safety and security. The course, whose overall structure and content have been adjusted according to the training needs of the GRULAC region, 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 work of the OPCW 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, and interpretation services into English may be provided in case there are any non-Spanish-speaking participants.
 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 that are not related to the meeting or that result from unauthorised changes to travel arrangements.
 6. Accommodation will be provided to all sponsored participants, and details regarding accommodation will be sent to all 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 and 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 and/or English.
 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 women 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 15 August 2025**. 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 Julia Gonzalez, Senior Project Assistant (julia.gonzalez@opcw.org), and Mr Roman Warchol, Senior Programme Officer (roman.warchol@opcw.org).

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