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S/2430/2025  
5 August 2025  
ENGLISH only

**NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT**

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR AN INTERNATIONAL  
TRAINING-OF-TRAINERS COURSE FOR FIRST RESPONDERS  
PIJNACKER-NOOTDORP, THE NETHERLANDS, 2025 – 2026**

1. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (the Secretariat) wishes to invite OPCW Member States to nominate candidates for a training-of-trainers pilot course for first responders on assistance and protection against chemical weapons, to be held from 4 to 7 November 2025 in Pijnacker-Nootdorp, the Netherlands, at the OPCW Centre for Chemistry and Technology (ChemTech Centre).
2. This training-of-trainers course is organised by the Assistance and Protection Branch, within the framework of Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention), with the purpose of supporting the continuous education and development of instructors, and enhancing sustainable national and regional training capacities in chemical emergency response.
3. The training aims to improve the competencies of trainers in delivering protection and emergency response training. The course will cover teaching methodologies, course planning, and delivery techniques, within the context of responding to incidents involving chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals.
4. The course will combine online modules, in-person classroom sessions, practical modules, and peer teaching exercises. Key topics to be covered include: the basics of training methodologies and instructional techniques; knowledge transfer strategies for scenarios involving chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals; instruction on the use of personal protective equipment (PPE); and detection and decontamination.
5. The Secretariat encourages applications from candidates who: are mid-career responders actively engaged in training first responders; have two to five years of professional experience in chemical emergency response, safety management, hazardous materials, or related technical fields; and have previously attended OPCW assistance and protection training (international/regional training cycles, or specialised training). Candidates should have demonstrated experience as a trainer, with at least one year of experience delivering training on preparedness for and response to chemical or combined emergencies, and with experience serving as a trainer, team leader, or brigade manager for first responders (including firefighters, law enforcement, and healthcare professionals). Lecturers from educational institutions in areas related to emergencies may also apply. The submission of a one-page curriculum vitae through Eventus, the OPCW event management system (<https://eventus.opcw.org>), is desirable.



6. For this pilot training, a nomination will imply that the National Authority of the candidate's country will commit to support and facilitate the intermediate phase for the candidate, which is to be held in their own country, and to report the results of its implementation to the Assistance and Protection Branch.
7. Interested applicants are requested to register their nomination online through Eventus **no later than 10 August 2025**. The registration link is accessible via the OPCW website (<https://eventus.opcw.org>). Kindly note that fields marked with an asterisk (\*) in the online registration system are mandatory and must be answered in order for a candidate's application to be considered for this event. The eligibility of candidates will require the endorsement of their respective National Authority. The Secretariat strongly encourages States Parties and National Authorities to seek, support, and endorse applications from qualified women candidates.
8. Only selected participants who receive an OPCW acceptance letter will be permitted to participate in this course. Candidates who have been selected to participate will be contacted no later than two weeks after the submission deadline. States Parties are requested to inform the Assistance and Protection Branch of any administrative or other problems that may arise in connection with the attendance of any selected participant.
9. A total of 12 to 16 participants from all OPCW regional groups will be selected to participate in this course. Two to three participants per region will be selected to participate. Applicants from regions or States Parties with greater training needs will be given priority. The programme will be conducted in English only; therefore, all participants must have a good command of both written and spoken English. No interpretation services will be provided.
10. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, accommodation, airport transfers, medical insurance, and meals, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses.
11. The provisional programme for the training course is included as the Annex to this Note. Additional information may be obtained from the focal points for this course in the Assistance and Protection Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division—for technical matters: Mr Eduardo Herrera Reyes (Tel.: +31 (0)70 416 3466; Email: [eduardo.herrera@opcw.org](mailto:eduardo.herrera@opcw.org)), Mr Loïc Luyeye (Tel.: +31704163471; Email: [loic.luyeye@opcw.org](mailto:loic.luyeye@opcw.org)), and Ms Toko Okazaki (Email: [toko.okazaki@opcw.org](mailto:toko.okazaki@opcw.org)); and for administrative matters: Ms Aureliarita Marcellus (Tel.: +31 (0)70 416 3414; Email: [aureliarita.marcellus@opcw.org](mailto:aureliarita.marcellus@opcw.org)).

Annex: Provisional Programme

**Annex**

**INTERNATIONAL TRAINING-OF-TRAINERS COURSE  
FOR FIRST RESPONDERS  
PIJNACKER-NOOTDORP, THE NETHERLANDS, 2025 – 2026**

**PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME****Component I: Online**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Activity</b>
October 2025	Introductory module	Opening
	Module on technical aspects	General aspects of the response to chemical incidents (detection, decontamination, and personal protective equipment (PPE))
	Module on education	General aspects of education for professionals

**Component II: In person**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Tuesday, 4 November 2025	09:00 – 09:30	Opening ceremony
	09:30 – 10:30	Course overview and expectations
	10:30 – 12:30	Module 1: roles and responsibilities of trainers
	12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
	14:00 – 16:00	Module 2: training methodologies
	16:00 – 17:00	Group discussion and recap
Wednesday, 5 November 2025	09:00 – 10:30	Module 3: designing training modules
	10:30 – 12:30	Peer presentations and feedback
	12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
	14:00 – 16:00	Module 4: teaching chemical emergency response
	16:00 – 17:00	Panel discussion with OPCW experts
Thursday, 6 November 2025	09:00 – 11:00	Module 5: PPE and practical teaching methods
	11:00 – 13:00	Field demonstration: PPE and decontamination training
	13:00 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
	14:30 – 17:00	Simulation exercises and review
Friday, 7 November 2025	09:00 – 11:00	Peer-led sessions and evaluation
	11:00 – 12:30	Final assessment and feedback
	12:30 – 13:00	Closing ceremony
	Afternoon	Departure of participants

**Component III: Intermediate phase – to be carried out by participants and National Authority**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Activity</b>
November 2025 to January 2026	Intermediate phase	Delivery of a class for first responders, facilitated and sponsored by the National Authority.

**Component IV: In person**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Activity</b>
March 2026 (4 days of training)	Implementation of training	Design, planning, and implementation of training
	Large-scale training events	Considerations on the organisation of large-scale training events Technical aspects of preparedness and response
	Evaluation of training and exercises	Evaluation of training and exercises Roles and responsibilities of trainers Monitoring and evaluation of students and lecturers

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