



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

International Cooperation and Assistance Division

S/191/2000

29 May 2000

ENGLISH and FRENCH only

**AN INVITATION TO PROPOSE CANDIDATES FOR
A NINE-DAY BASIC REGIONAL COURSE FOR PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
TO BE HELD IN TUNISIA FROM 2 - 10 OCTOBER 2000**

1. In the autumn of 2000 the Secretariat will hold a nine-day basic course for personnel involved in the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention. The course will be held in Tunis, Tunisia, from 2 - 10 October 2000.
2. This basic course is primarily intended for individuals with little or no previous involvement in the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention. The course curriculum is presented in annex 1 to this document.
3. The course fee will be USD 1,200 per person, which includes accommodation and all meals, medical insurance, the costs of course materials and handouts, and course-related travel within Tunisia. The course fee does not include the costs of travel to and from Tunisia, and is payable in advance.
4. The course has been designed for the personnel of National Authorities who could face, or are facing, a multitude of responsibilities when preparing for and actually implementing the Convention. It should be noted that the course will not be able to cover the more specialised needs of declared CW “possessor” States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention.
5. Throughout the course, the language of instruction will be English. Participants who have, on the nomination form contained in annex 2 to this document, indicated a need for the simultaneous interpretation of the lectures into French, will be provided with this service. The course materials will, however, be available only in English.
6. Extensive background material on the subjects covered by the course will be available for downloading from the OPCW Internet website (URL <http://www.opcw.org/courses/backpack.htm>), to allow the participants to prepare themselves in advance for the course. Participants without such Internet access may request the Secretariat to send the background material to their respective missions in The Hague and Brussels, which should forward it to them.

7. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor a limited number of candidates nominated by Member States, to cover their travel costs and course fees. When proposing candidates, Member States should specify whether sponsorship is a precondition for their participation. Participants in previous courses for personnel of National Authorities arranged by the Secretariat will not be considered for sponsorship.
8. Member States of the OPCW which have not previously sent participants to any basic course organised by the Secretariat are particularly encouraged to nominate candidates. One candidate from each such Member State will be given priority. Since the course is a regional one, priority will also be given to one candidate from each Member State belonging to the African regional group.
9. Nominations from signatory States on behalf of candidates who will participate at their own expense are also encouraged. The number of places available for candidates from signatory States may, however, be limited.
10. Member States and signatory States are invited to submit the names of candidates for either of the courses to the Secretariat not later than 11 August 2000. Nominations received after that date will not normally be considered. All nominations, together with the information requested in the form contained in annex 2, should be addressed to the Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, NL-2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. Nominations may also be submitted by fax (+31-70-306 3535) or by e-mail (ProtectBr@opcw.org).
11. Additional information on the course may be obtained from the Protection Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the OPCW, which can be contacted as specified in the previous paragraph.

Annexes

- Annex 1: Curriculum for a nine-day basic regional course for personnel involved in the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention
- Annex 2: Basic regional course for personnel involved in the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, Tunis, Tunisia, 2 - 10 October 2000: Nomination form

Annex 1

CURRICULUM FOR A NINE-DAY BASIC REGIONAL COURSE FOR PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

1. GENERAL INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 **THE HISTORY OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND CHEMICAL DISARMAMENT**
Develop an understanding of the history of chemical weapons and chemical disarmament.

Duration: 2 periods

- 1.2 **THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (CWC)**
Develop a conceptually based understanding and knowledge of the provisions of the CWC and the rights and obligations of a State Party. Subjects include: an overview of the CWC; the object and purpose of the CWC; the benefits of the CWC; and sources of information on the CWC.

Duration: 1 period

- 1.3 **THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CWC**
Develop an understanding and knowledge of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), its structure and mission, and how it implements the CWC. Develop an overview of the current status of implementation, including important outstanding issues.

Duration: 2 periods

- 1.4 **LEGAL RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE CWC**
Develop an overview of the legislative and administrative measures a State Party needs to introduce in order to implement the CWC and the use of model legislation to meet some of these requirements.

Duration: 2 periods

- 1.5 **RUNNING A NATIONAL AUTHORITY**
Demonstrate a good understanding of the obligations of national structures, including the National Authority, as specified in the Convention. Develop a fundamental understanding of the operational tasks required of national bodies charged with implementing the Convention, including National Authorities.

Duration: 2 periods

- 1.6 **DATA HANDLING AND CONFIDENTIALITY**
Develop an understanding and knowledge of database handling and data collection techniques, and of means of ensuring confidentiality and data security.

Duration: 2 periods

1.7 IDENTIFICATION OF DECLARABLE ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

Develop an understanding of how declarable activities in a State Party, especially declarable imports, can be identified, and of the regulations that may be required to ascertain the accuracy of the declared data.

Duration: 2 periods

1.8 THE ROLE OF CUSTOMS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

Develop an understanding of how customs can assist in obtaining declaration data and ascertain that no prohibited transfers of scheduled chemicals take place.

Duration 2 periods

1.9 PROTECTION UNDER ARTICLE X

Develop an understanding of the operational tasks for States Parties relating to protection under Article X. Develop an understanding of various forms of protection against chemical weapons and how a protective posture can be improved.

Duration: 2 periods

1.10 ASSISTANCE UNDER ARTICLE X AND INVESTIGATIONS OF ALLEGED USE

Develop an understanding of the operational tasks for States Parties relating to assistance under Article X. Develop an understanding of how the OPCW can develop and maintain a state of readiness to assist a Member State in the event it is attacked or threatened with chemical weapons. Develop an understanding of investigations of alleged use, including the requirements for requesting an investigation under Articles IX or X of the Convention.

Duration: 2 periods

1.11 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION UNDER ARTICLE XI

Develop an understanding of the operational tasks for States Parties relating to international cooperation and trade under Article XI. Develop an understanding of the programmes operated by the OPCW to promote international cooperation in the fields of chemistry and chemical technology.

Duration: 1 period

2. DECLARATIONS

2.1 OPERATIONAL TASKS RELATING TO DECLARATIONS

Develop the ability to contribute, with the help of the Declaration Handbook, to the preparation of correct and timely declarations as required under the Convention.

Duration: 3 periods

2.2 DECLARATION EXERCISES

On the basis of data provided, develop a national declaration related to imports and exports of scheduled chemicals, and a national declaration related to two facilities producing, processing or consuming scheduled chemicals.

Duration: 4 periods

2.3 DECLARATION PROBLEMS

Discuss various problems that may be encountered by National Authorities when preparing declarations, and by the Secretariat when evaluating declarations, and identify possible solutions.

Duration: 1 period

3. INSPECTIONS

3.1 RECEIVING INSPECTIONS

Develop an understanding of the rights and obligations of a State Party in relation to inspections.

Duration: 1 period

3.2 THE INSPECTION PROCESS

Develop an understanding and knowledge of the inspection process, including the scope of verification, CWC inspection requirements, inspectors' rights and obligations, monitoring and sampling, storage and transport of samples of toxic materials and analytical methods and instrumentation.

Duration: 1 period

3.3 A TABLE-TOP INSPECTION EXERCISE

Duration: 4 periods

3.4 ARTICLE IX OF THE CONVENTION

Develop an understanding of the need for consultations and procedures for cooperation and fact-finding, especially challenge inspections, that will contribute to the object and purpose of the Convention.

Duration: 1 period

4. THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY AT WORK

4.1 SCENARIOS

Develop an understanding of how to apply the provisions of the Convention to "real-life-situations" using decision-making scenarios.

Duration: 13 periods (of which 4 periods are allowed for presentations of solutions to the scenarios)

4.2 EXAMPLES OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES

Participants will be requested to describe their National Authorities, how they are organised, how they work, and what problems they have encountered.

Duration: 2 periods

Total suggested duration of the lectures, exercises and scenarios: 50 periods

In addition, three periods will be required for opening of the course, administrative matters, course evaluation and closing of the course. The total duration of the course will therefore be 53 periods.

Annex 2

NOMINATION FORM

**Basic regional course for personnel involved in the implementation of the
Chemical Weapons Convention, Tunis, Tunisia, 2 - 10 October 2000**

Please submit the completed form **by 11 August 2000** to: The Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, NL-2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands.
Fax: +31-(0)70-306 3535; e-mail: ProtectBr@opcw.org

Please use BLOCK LETTERS

1. Family name _____
2. First name _____
3. Date of birth _____
4. Nationality _____
5. Gender (male/female) _____
6. Passport no. _____
7. Date of issue _____
8. Date of expiry _____
9. Place of issue _____
10. Contact address _____

11. Telephone no. (home/work) _____
12. Fax no. (home/work) _____
13. Academic/professional qualifications _____
14. Area(s) of expertise _____
15. Has the nominee previously attended a basic course of this nature? Yes/No
If "Yes", when and where? _____
16. Is interpretation of the lectures into French required? Yes/No _____