



International Cooperation and Assistance Division

S/297/2002

11 February 2002

ENGLISH and SPANISH only

**INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON CIVIL DEFENCE IN PROTECTION AND
ASSISTANCE AGAINST CHEMICAL WEAPONS, AND THE
THIRD REGIONAL MEETING OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES IN
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
BRASILIA, BRAZIL
25 – 27 MARCH 2002**

1. The Ministry of National Integration, with the participation of the National Authority of Brazil, and the co-sponsorship of the Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (hereinafter the “Secretariat”), jointly invites representatives of Member States of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) to participate in the International Seminar on Civil Defence in Protection and Assistance Against Chemical Weapons. This is being organised in conjunction with the Third Regional Meeting of National Authorities in Latin America and the Caribbean, so that other implementation issues related to the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter the “Convention”) can also be addressed.
2. The International Seminar on Civil Defence in Protection and Assistance Against Chemical Weapons will take place from 25 - 27 March 2002 (the programme is contained in annex 1). On 25 and 26 March, the assistance and protection experts and the representatives of National Authorities will participate in joint sessions. On 27 March 2002, the representatives of National Authorities, in the broader framework of the Third Regional Meeting of National Authorities in Latin American and the Caribbean, will continue their discussions on issues relating to the implementation of the Convention (the programme for 27 March for National Authorities is contained in annex 2). Experts in the field of civil protection attending the international seminar on assistance and protection will continue their own discussions on that same day.
3. The International Seminar on Civil Defence in Protection and Assistance Against Chemical Weapons is a timely initiative that will benefit the implementation of Article X of the Convention (which contains its assistance and protection provisions), thus facilitating its process of implementation in the Latin American and Caribbean countries.
4. During their meeting last March in Viña del Mar, Chile, the representatives of Latin American National Authorities expressed a special interest in establishing an assistance and protection network in the region. This international seminar is a

response to that interest, but also reflects the Secretariat's wish for future meetings of National Authorities to focus on specialised discussions of matters which are of practical interest and value.

5. The process of consultations in Latin America and the Caribbean has been stimulated by the meetings of regional National Authorities held in Lima, Peru, in 2000, and in Viña del Mar, Chile, in 2001, and has provided an important impetus to ensuring effective compliance with the Chemical Weapons Convention. The Third Regional Meeting of National Authorities is being convened to further encourage this process.
6. The Secretariat will be able to sponsor the participation of a limited number of representatives of Member States in each of the above-mentioned events. Nominations should be sent using only the application form appropriate for each event, and should specify whether sponsorship is a precondition for the participation of the proposed candidates. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, accommodation, and medical insurance, and will also provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover other related costs, such as meals. Participants who neither need nor intend to use the accommodation provided by the Secretariat are requested to inform the Secretariat about this as early as possible, so that cancellation fees can be avoided. The daily subsistence allowance will remain unchanged for those participants who opt to make their own accommodation arrangements. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek to use the most economic options available. Tickets will be purchased by the Secretariat, and will be sent to participants. Participants will be allowed to purchase tickets locally only when this leads to further savings to the Secretariat, and only when it has authorised this in advance. Any costs due to changes or cancellations made by participants after the tickets have been purchased shall be borne by the participants. Non-sponsored participants are requested to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements, although, if necessary, the Secretariat can arrange accommodation at reduced rates.
7. Depending on the requirements of confirmed participants and the availability of the relevant resources, English and Spanish simultaneous interpretation services may be provided throughout both the international seminar and the meeting of National Authorities. All participants are expected to arrive early on 25 March 2002, and will depart on 28 March 2002, and are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to Brazil.
8. Member States and other States are invited to submit the names of those individuals they have selected for participation for both of these events to the Secretariat not later than **Wednesday 6 March 2002**. The completed nomination forms should be sent to the International Cooperation and Assistance Division. It is important that all the details requested on the forms be provided, and that the forms are fully filled in, so that the Secretariat can communicate directly with the proposed participants. Please be advised that an OPCW acceptance letter is a prerequisite for the registration of the participants sponsored by the Secretariat.
9. Application procedure for participants attending the International Seminar on Civil Defence in Protection and Assistance Against Chemical Weapons, 25 - 27 March 2002. Individuals nominated to attend the international seminar on

assistance and protection are required to fill in the application form contained in annex 3 ONLY. Further information can be obtained from the office of the Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. Nominations may also be submitted by fax (+31 (0)70 306 – 3535, or by e-mail to: EmergAssistBr/opcw@opcw. The staff member available for further information is Ms Imen Ben Brahim (tel.: +31 (0)70 416-3217).

10. Application procedure for participants attending the Third Regional Meeting of National Authorities in Latin America and the Caribbean, 27 March 2002. Individuals nominated to attend the National Authorities regional meeting are required to fill in BOTH application forms, one contained in annex 3, and the other contained in annex 4. Further information can be obtained from the office of the Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. The two forms should be submitted together, and may also be submitted by fax (+31 (0)70 306-3535, or by e-mail to: ipb@opcw.org. The following staff member will be available for further information: Ms Maria Elena Bruno-Pousadela (tel.: +31 (0)70 416-3825).

Annexes:

- Annex 1: Provisional programme for the International Seminar on Civil Defence in Protection and Assistance Against Chemical Weapons
- Annex 2: Provisional programme for the Third Regional Meeting of National Authorities in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Annex 3: Registration form for the International Seminar on Civil Defence in Protection and Assistance Against Chemical Weapons
- Annex 4: Registration form for the Third Regional Meeting of National Authorities in Latin America and the Caribbean

ANNEX 1

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON CIVIL DEFENCE IN PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE AGAINST CHEMICAL WEAPONS BRASILIA, BRASIL 25 – 27 MARCH 2002

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

25 March	Joint participation by assistance and protection experts and National Authority representatives	
18:00-20:00	Registration	
	Opening Ceremony	
20:00 - 20:15	Statement by the Director-General of the OPCW	H.E. Mr José M. Bustani
20:15 - 20:25	Statement by the Minister of Science and Technology	H.E. Mr Ronaldo Mota Sargenberg
20:25 - 20:45	Statement by the Minister of National Integration	H.E. Mr Ney Suassuna
	Greetings and welcome to the participants; the goals and importance of the seminar	
20:45 - 21:00	Statement by the President of the Federative Republic of Brazil; opening of the international seminar	H.E. Mr Fernando Henrique Cardoso
21:00 - 22:30	<i>Welcome cocktail buffet</i>	
26 March	Joint participation by assistance and protection experts and National Authority representatives	
08:00 - 09:00	Registration	
	Brazilian Civil Defence and Global Population Security	
09:10 - 10:00	Brazilian civil defence and global population security; focusing on the importance of a broad concept of risk assessment in disaster reduction management	Col. Wilson, National Secretary of Civil Defence

The structure of the Brazilian national system of civil defence (SINDEC), and Brazilian national civil defence policy

10:10 - 10:30 *Coffee break*

The Chemical Weapons Convention

10:40 - 11:30 Overview of the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, Article X on assistance and protection OPCW

Risk Assessment and Risk Reduction

11:40 - 12:10 Risk assessment and risk reduction International assistance/capacity-building by the OPCW OPCW

12:10 - 14:00 *Lunch break*

National Protection Programme – Discussion

14:30 - 15:50 Strengthening and development of a national protection programme National capacity-building in the area of protection against chemical weapons Brazilian National Authority

15:50 - 16:10 *Coffee break*

Role of the OPCW – Discussion

16:10 - 18:00 The role of the OPCW in providing expert advice and assistance to develop and improve the protection capacity of States Parties; methods and mechanisms of providing advice; what kind of advice may be given? OPCW

Detection, individual and collective protection, contamination control, medical countermeasures and evacuation

27 March Participation by assistance and protection experts only¹

Preparedness and Training

08:30 - 09:30 Preparedness and training: protection courses to improve national capacity
Courses on chemical protection: international courses, OPCW courses, other courses, national courses supported by the OPCW

OPCW

Information Sources

09:40 - 10:30 Online/electronic information sources for protection against chemical weapons and other toxic chemicals

OPCW

10:30 - 10:50 *Coffee break*

Recognition, Detection and Monitoring

10:50 - 11:20 Recognition of a chemical weapons attack/chemical weapons detection and monitoring

OPCW

11:30 - 12:10 Activities developed by Brazilian civil defence on prevention of and preparedness for terrorist attacks using chemical, biological and radioactive weapons

Dr Castro/Col. Wilson

12:10 - 14:00 *Lunch break*

Protection, Assistance and Treatment

14:00 - 15:00 Protection equipment/collective protection

OPCW

15:10 - 16:00 Chemical weapons medical treatment

OPCW

16:00 - 16:20 *Coffee break*

¹ National Authority representatives will be meeting separately (programme in annex 2)

**Brazilian Experience with Technological
Disasters Related to Chemical Agents**

16:20 - 17:10	Chemical accidents	CETESB
17:20 - 17:40	Conclusions	CEDEC, OPCW
After 18:00	Closing, certificates	

ANNEX 2

**THIRD REGIONAL MEETING OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES IN
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
BRASILIA, BRAZIL
27 MARCH 2002**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

27 March

08:30 - 09:30	Registration	
09:30 - 10:00	Opening ceremony	Brazilian authorities and OPCW Secretariat
10:00 - 10:15	<i>Coffee break</i>	
10:15 - 10:45	Status of implementation of the CWC	OPCW/National Authorities
10:45 - 11:15	The Sixth CSP and the First Review Conference	OPCW
11:15 - 12:00	The Fourth National Authorities Day	OPCW
12:00 - 12:45	GRULAC network of legal experts: how to improve the regional situation	Chairperson of the GRULAC legal network
12:45 - 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:30 - 15:15	Improving the quality of declarations	National Authorities/group discussions/exchange of experiences
15:15 - 16:00	Imports and exports: the role of customs in the process of implementation of the Convention: potential for regional cooperation	OPCW/National Authorities /group discussions/ exchange of experiences
16:00 - 16:15	<i>Coffee break</i>	
16:15 - 17:00	Experiences of conducting inspections in the chemical industry: developing partnerships with the chemical industry	National Authorities/group discussions/exchange of experiences
17:00 - 17:45	Summing up of deliberations .	OPCW/National Authorities/ group discussions/exchange of experiences

ANNEX 3

**INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON CIVIL DEFENCE IN
PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE AGAINST CHEMICAL WEAPONS
BRASILIA, BRAZIL
25 – 27 MARCH 2002**

REGISTRATION FORM

Please submit the completed form by **Wednesday 6 March 2002** to: Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands.

Fax: + 31-(0)70-306-3535; e-mail: EmergAssistBr/opcw@opcw

Please use BLOCK LETTERS

1. Family name	<input type="text"/>
2. First name	<input type="text"/>
3. Date of birth	Day <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Month <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Year <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
4. Nationality	<input type="text"/>
5. Male/Female*	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>
6. Passport no.	<input type="text"/>
7. Date of issue	Day <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Month <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Year <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
8. Date of expiry	Day <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Month <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Year <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
9. Place of issue	<input type="text"/>
10. Areas of expertise	<input type="text"/>
11. Employer	Name of the institute/organisation, etc. <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
12. Contact address	Street <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Number <input type="text"/> Post code <input type="text"/> City <input type="text"/> Country <input type="text"/>
13. E-mail address	<input type="text"/>

ANNEX 4

**THIRD REGIONAL MEETING OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES IN
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
BRASILIA, BRAZIL
27 MARCH 2002**

REGISTRATION FORM

Please submit the completed form **by Wednesday 6 March 2002** to: Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands.

Fax: + 31-(0)70-306-3535; e-mail: ipb@opcw.org

Please use BLOCK LETTERS

1. Family name	<input type="text"/>
2. First name	<input type="text"/>
3. Date of birth	Day <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Month <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Year <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
4. Nationality	<input type="text"/>
5. Male/Female*	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>
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