



Verification Division
S/335/2003
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NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**SCHEDULE FOR OFFICIAL OPCW PROFICIENCY TESTS
OF MEMBER STATES' LABORATORIES FOR 2003**

1. The Director-General wishes to inform Member States of the schedule for the thirteenth and fourteenth official OPCW proficiency tests of Member States' laboratories. The four Member States referred to below have generously offered to assist the Secretariat, at no cost, in the preparation of samples and the evaluation of results. The tests will meet the criteria in the quality documents listed in the Note by the Director-General, "Revised Standard Operating Procedures for OPCW Proficiency Tests" (S/315/2002, dated 27 August 2002).
2. The schedule for these proficiency tests is as follows:
 - 2.1 The samples for the thirteenth test will be dispatched on 2 April 2003. The United States Army's Chemical/Biological Forensic Analytical Center, Edgewood, in the United States of America will prepare the test samples, and the Centre d'Etudes du Bouchet (CEB), Section Analyses Chimiques, in France will assist in the evaluation of the results.
 - 2.2 The samples for the fourteenth test will be dispatched on 8 October 2003. The Centre for Chemical Defence, DSO National Laboratories, in Singapore will prepare the test samples, and the Swedish Defence Research Agency (FOI), Division of NBC Defence, in Sweden will assist in the evaluation of the results.
3. The announcement of the thirteenth test, by the Director of Verification, with a request for nominations of interested laboratories, will be faxed to all Member States in due time.

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