



**OPCW**

**Technical Secretariat**

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**NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

**EVALUATION OF THE RESULTS OF  
THE NINETEENTH OFFICIAL OPCW PROFICIENCY TEST**

1. The Director-General wishes to inform the Member States of the results of the Nineteenth Official OPCW Proficiency Test, which was conducted by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) from 28 April to 18 July 2006. The test was conducted in accordance with the criteria set out in the following quality-assurance documents:
  - (a) “Standard Operating Procedure for the Organisation of OPCW Proficiency Tests”, QDOC/LAB/SOP/PT1, dated 28 March 2006;
  - (b) “Work Instruction for the Preparation of Test Samples for OPCW Proficiency Tests”, QDOC/LAB/WI/PT2, dated 1 December 2004; and
  - (c) “Work Instruction for the Evaluation of Results of OPCW Proficiency Tests”, QDOC/LAB/WI/PT3, dated 29 March 2006.
2. Fifteen laboratories in 13 Member States were nominated to participate in the test. In the end, 12 laboratories each submitted a report of their analytical results for evaluation.
3. Designated laboratories must, in order to retain their designation, demonstrate once per calendar year that they have maintained their capabilities in a proficiency test organised by the Secretariat. Laboratories may either participate in these tests as regular participants, or support the Secretariat in the preparation of the test samples or in the evaluation of the test results.
4. Two laboratories assisted the Secretariat in conducting this test: the Swedish Defence Research Agency (FOI), in Sweden, which prepared the test samples, and TNO Defence, Security and Safety in the Netherlands, which evaluated the test results.
5. The preliminary evaluation report was discussed at a meeting between Secretariat staff and the test participants on 18 July 2006. The participants were given two weeks to comment on the results, and to inform the Secretariat whether they accepted the performance evaluation.



6. Laboratories 4 and 9 submitted their comments on time, and, based on these, TNO Defence, Security and Safety re-evaluated the preliminary results. The Secretariat agreed with the results of the re-evaluation, which led to no changes in the preliminary score for either laboratory. TNO Defence, Security and Safety submitted its final evaluation report to the Secretariat on 27 July 2006.
7. The principal results of the Nineteenth Official OPCW Proficiency Test can be summarised as follows:
  - (a) Of the 15 laboratories nominated, including the two assisting laboratories, 12 submitted a report of their analytical results for evaluation.
  - (b) All 12 laboratories that submitted a report met the criteria that had been adopted for the test, and qualified for scoring.
  - (c) One laboratory identified all of the deliberately introduced (spiking) chemicals used for scoring, and reported them with sufficient analytical data.
  - (d) One laboratory failed to submit an analytical report, and consequently failed the test.
  - (e) Two laboratories reported chemicals that were categorised as false positives, and consequently failed the test.
  - (f) The laboratories that assisted the Secretariat in preparing the test samples and in evaluating the results were awarded the maximum performance rating of "A".
8. The final results for all the participating laboratories are presented in the table annexed hereto.
9. The participating laboratories are reminded that, if they have made any errors or reported false positives or false negatives (arising from a failure to find a spiking chemical or to provide sufficient supporting data for a chemical that is found), they should take immediate remedial action. Before it can participate in the next test, each such laboratory is required to submit to the Secretariat a full report stating the cause of the problem and **any remedial action it has taken**. Any such laboratory that fails to submit the required report, including details of the remedial action it has taken, will not be permitted to participate in the next proficiency test.

Annex:

Final Results of the Nineteenth Official OPCW Proficiency Test

## Annex

# FINAL RESULTS OF THE NINETEENTH OFFICIAL OPCW PROFICIENCY TEST

Participant Laboratory (and Test Code)	No. of Scorable Chemicals Reported	No. of Scored Chemicals	Rating	Comments <sup>1</sup>
China (5) The Laboratory of Toxicant Analysis, Academy of Military Medical Science	8	8	B	Spiking chemical C not reported.
Denmark (4) Ministry of Defence, Emergency Management Agency, Chemical Division	-	-	F	False-positive chemical reported.
Germany (13) Wehrwissenschaftliches Institut für Schutztechnologien – ABC Schutz	7	7	C	Spiking chemicals B and C not reported.
Hungary (7) Department of Toxicology Institute of Health Protection Hungarian Defence Forces	5	4	D	Spiking chemicals B, C, D, and I not reported Insufficient analytical data to support identification of spiking chemical A.
India (9) Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT)	7	7	C	Spiking chemicals B and C not reported.
India (6) Defence Research & Development Establishment, VERTOX Laboratory	7	7	C	Spiking chemicals B and C not reported.
Indonesia (1) Center of Forensic Laboratory, Criminal Investigation Agency, Indonesia National Police	3	0	D	Spiking chemicals B, D, E, F, G and I not reported. Insufficient analytical data to support identification of spiking chemicals A, C, and H.

<sup>1</sup> The spiking chemicals were as follows:

- O:** (A) 4-Methylpentyl methylphosphonofluoridate  
(B) 2-Isopropyl-1,3,2-dioxaphosphinane-2-oxide  
(C) Dipinacolyl dimethylpyrophosphonate
- W1:** (D) Methylphosphonic acid  
(E) Pinacolyl methylphosphonate  
(F) 1-Methylpentyl methylphosphonate  
(G) 4-Methylpentyl methylphosphonate
- W2:** (H) 3,3-dimethyl-2-butanol  
(I) Isopropylphosphonic acid

<b>Participant Laboratory (and Test Code)</b>	<b>No. of Scorable Chemicals Reported</b>	<b>No. of Scored Chemicals</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Comments<sup>1</sup></b>
Malaysia (11) Department of Chemistry, Malaysia Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation	2	2	D	Spiking chemical B, C, D, E, F, G, and I not reported.
Netherlands TNO Defence, Security and Safety	-	-	A	Evaluation of results.
Republic of Korea (12) The Chemical Analysis Laboratory, CB Department, Agency for Defence Development	7	7	C	Spiking chemicals B and C not reported
Switzerland (2) Spiez Laboratory	9	9	A	-
Turkey (10) Ministry of Health, Refik Saydam Central Hygiene Institute	-	-	F	False positive chemicals reported.
Turkey (8) The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey	-	-	F	No report submitted.
United States of America (3) Edgewood Chemical and Biological Forensic Analytical Center	7	7	C	Spiking chemicals B and C not reported.
Sweden Swedish Defence Research Agency (FOI), Division Defence Forces	-	-	A	Preparation of samples.