



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

International Cooperation and Assistance Division

S/671/2008

16 January 2008

ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
FOR AN ASSISTANCE-AND-PROTECTION COURSE
BEIJING, THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
12 – 16 MAY 2008**

1. On behalf of the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General is pleased to invite States Parties to nominate participants for a regional assistance-and-protection course that will take place from 12 to 16 May 2008 in Beijing, the People's Republic of China.
2. The course, which will be jointly organised by the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter "the Secretariat"), will provide training to up to 24 participants in planning for and building a support team in civil protection, civil defence, and decontamination operations in contaminated areas, as well as in appropriate responses and countermeasures in the event of incidents involving chemical-warfare agents. It will also give an overview of what kind of assistance the OPCW, the host country, and Member States in Asia can provide.
3. The course will offer a basic introduction to the use of protective equipment, and to monitoring, detection, and decontamination techniques. Participants completing the course will acquire a general knowledge of chemical-warfare agents, individual protective equipment, detection and decontamination equipment, as well as an understanding of how all of the equipment is to be used. The course will also facilitate the exchange of information and experiences regarding the implementation of Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter "the Convention"), and will provide a forum for the discussion of future cooperation among participating Member States and of what further offers they might make to the OPCW under Article X.
4. Given the purpose of the course and its technical nature, candidates will be carefully selected, and should have experience with assistance and protection against chemical weapons. Preference will be given to officers from emergency-response units involved in civilian protection. In addition, participants should be physically fit and able to wear individual protective gear for several hours at a time during practical sessions of the course. Some practical experience with protective equipment is desirable.



5. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor the participation of a limited number of participants. Each nomination should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of the nominee's participation. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, accommodation, meals, and medical insurance, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses. The course materials and local transport during the course will be provided by the National Authority of the People's Republic of China, represented by the Institute of Chemical Defence, at no cost to the participants. Further details regarding accommodation, the course venue, and transport will be issued to all confirmed participants at a later date.
6. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. Participants will be allowed to purchase tickets locally only if this leads to further savings for the Secretariat, and if the Secretariat authorises it. In order for the Secretariat to keep costs to a minimum, sponsored participants are expected to arrive **no earlier than Sunday, 11 May 2008**, and to depart **no later than Saturday, 17 May 2008**. The Secretariat's approval is required for any changes to the arrival and departure dates of sponsored participants. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the course or that result from unauthorised changes to travel arrangements. Sponsored participants shall bear all costs resulting from changes they make, including cancellations, once the Secretariat has purchased their tickets. Participants who have not been sponsored are requested to make their own travel arrangements and to inform the Secretariat accordingly.
7. All activities during the meeting will be conducted in English, and no interpretation services of any kind will be provided. Participants are therefore expected to have a good written and oral command of the English language.
8. Participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to the People's Republic of China.
9. Interested applicants are invited to complete the nomination form that is included as Annex 2 to this Note, making sure in particular to provide all contact details. Completed forms should be sent, along with a brief curriculum vitae, to 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 to +31 (0)70 416 3209, or by e-mail to EmergAssistBr@opcw.org. All materials must be received by the Secretariat **no later than 10 March 2008**. Please be advised that participants must present an OPCW acceptance letter in order to register for the course. Only selected participants will be contacted within two weeks of the submission deadline.
10. Additional information may be obtained from the Assistance and Protection Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, at the contact numbers given below:

Mr Ervin Farkaš: +31 (0)70 416 3261

Ms Cristina Rodrigues: +31 (0)70 416 3774

Annexes:

Annex 1: Provisional Programme

Annex 2: Nomination Form

Annex 1

**ASSISTANCE-AND-PROTECTION COURSE
BEIJING, THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
12 – 16 MAY 2008**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
<i>Sunday, 11 May 2008</i>	
	Arrival of participants, and registration
<i>Monday, 12 May 2008</i>	
08:30 – 09:20	Opening ceremony
09:20 – 10:10	Lecture: provisions of Article X on assistance and protection
10:10 – 10:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Lecture: practical implementation of the Convention in the People's Republic of China
11:00 – 11:30	Lecture: practical implementation of Article X on assistance and protection in the People's Republic of China
11:30 – 12:00	Logistical information about the course
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:20	Lecture: the threat posed by chemical weapons
15:20 – 15:40	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:40 – 18:00	Lecture: classification and properties of chemical-warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals
19:00	<i>Dinner</i>
<i>Tuesday, 13 May 2008</i>	
08:00 – 10:30	Lecture: assessment of the hazards posed by chemical-warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals
10:30 – 10:50	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:50 – 12:00	Lecture: protection equipment
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:30	Lecture: protection equipment (continued)
15:30 – 15:50	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:50 – 17:20	Exercise: donning and doffing of individual protective equipment
17:30 – 19:00	Lecture: detection and identification of chemical-warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals
<i>Wednesday, 14 May 2008</i>	
08:00 – 09:40	Lecture: detection and identification of chemical-warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals
09:40 – 10:00	<i>Coffee break</i>

Time	Activity
10:00 – 11:50	Exercise: detection equipment
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 17:30	Study tour
<i>Thursday, 15 May 2008</i>	
08:00 – 10:00	Lecture: decontamination
10:00 – 10:20	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:20 – 11:50	Exercise: decontamination equipment
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:00	Lecture: medical counter-measures against chemical-warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals
15:00 – 15:20	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:40 – 18:30	Lecture: emergency measures in response to a chemical event
19:00	<i>Dinner</i>
<i>Friday, 16 May 2008</i>	
08:00 – 10:00	Table-top exercise: emergency measures in response to a chemical event
10:00 – 10:20	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:20 – 11:30	Video: exercises on emergency response
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:00	Discussion: national presentations on protection programmes against chemical weapons
15:00 – 15:20	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:20 – 16:10	Discussion: evaluation of the training by participants
16:10 – 17:00	Closing ceremony

Annex 2

**ASSISTANCE-AND-PROTECTION COURSE
BEIJING, THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
12 – 16 MAY 2008**

NOMINATION FORM

Please submit the completed form, along with a brief curriculum vitae, by **10 March 2008** to:

The Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW

Attn: Assistance and Protection Branch

Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands

Fax: + 31 (0)70 416 3209; e-mail: EmergAssistBr@opcw.org.

Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS.

1.	Government body making the nomination		
2.	Family name of nominee ¹		
3.	First name(s)		
4.	Date of birth	Day	Month Year
5.	Citizenship		
6.	Gender ²	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>
7.	Passport number		
8.	Date of issue	Day	Month Year
9.	Expiry date	Day	Month Year
10.	Place of issue		
11.	Areas of expertise		
12.	Employer		
13.	Position		
14.	Contact address (Please do not give a post-office box number.)	Street	
		Number	Post code
		City	
		Country	
15.	Airport of departure		
16.	E-mail address		

¹ Please give the first and family names exactly as they appear in the nominee's passport.

² For this and all like items, please tick the appropriate box.

17.	Telephone numbers, including country and city codes	Home
		Work
		Mobile
18.	Fax numbers, including country and city codes	Home
		Work
19.	Has the nominee previously attended a meeting of this kind?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If so, when and where?
20.	Is sponsorship a condition of participation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
21.	Meal preferences	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> If so, please describe
22.	Size:	Gloves S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/>
		Boots (number):
		Height (m):
		Weight (kg):