



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

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NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**EVALUATION OF THE RESULTS OF
THE TWENTY-FIFTH OFFICIAL OPCW PROFICIENCY TEST**

1. The Director-General wishes to inform the Member States of the results of the Twenty-Fifth Official OPCW Proficiency Test, which was conducted by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) from 24 April 2009 to 23 May 2009. The test was conducted in accordance with the following set of quality documents:
 - (a) “Standard Operating Procedure for the Organisation of OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/SOP/PT01, dated 19 January 2009);
 - (b) “Work Instruction for the Preparation of Samples for OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/PT02, dated 15 September 2008); and
 - (c) “Work Instruction for the Evaluation of the Results of OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/PT03, dated 27 March 2009).
2. 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.
3. Two laboratories offered to assist the Secretariat in conducting the Twenty-Fifth Official OPCW Proficiency Test: Spiez Laboratory, Switzerland, assisted in preparing the test samples and Centre d’Études du Bouchet, Laboratoire d’analyses chimiques, France, in evaluating the test results.
4. The preliminary evaluation report was discussed at a meeting between the Secretariat staff and the test participants on 9 July 2009. The participants were given two weeks to comment on the results, and to inform the Secretariat whether they accepted the performance evaluation.
5. The evaluating laboratory submitted its final evaluation report to the Secretariat on 31 July 2009.



6. The principal results of the Twenty-Fifth Official OPCW Proficiency Test can be summarised as follows:
 - (a) Eighteen laboratories from 17 Member States were nominated to participate in this proficiency test, including two assisting laboratories.
 - (b) From the nominated laboratories, two laboratories withdrew from the test prior to the sample-dispatch date, which was accepted by the OPCW Laboratory without any penalties (see paragraph 10 of QDOC/LAB/SOP/PT01).
 - (c) All fourteen participating laboratories met the adopted criteria for submission, timelines, and reporting, and thus qualified for scoring in the test.
 - (d) No laboratories failed the test due to reporting of false positive chemicals.
 - (e) One laboratory failed the test due to the absence of a statement, comment, and sample preparation pages/flow charts for samples in which no scheduled chemicals and/or their degradation products were found (in accordance with QDOC/LAB/WI/PT03, paragraph 14.13).
 - (f) Three participating laboratories reported a total of five non-scoring chemicals.
 - (g) Three of the 14 laboratories identified all of the deliberately introduced (spiked) chemicals used for scoring, reported them, and included sufficient analytical data.
 - (h) The sample preparation laboratory and the evaluating laboratory were awarded the maximum performance rating of "A".
7. The final results for all the 14 participating laboratories are presented in the table annexed hereto.
8. 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 participating 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 failing 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 Twenty-Fifth Official OPCW Proficiency Test

Annex

**FINAL RESULTS OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH
OFFICIAL OPCW PROFICIENCY TEST**

Participant (Identification Code)	No. of Spiking Chemicals Reported	No. of Chemicals Scored	Rating	Comments*
Denmark Ministry of Defence, Emergency Management Agency, Chemical Division (6)	7	0	D	Spiking chemicals D and E are not reported; insufficient data for reported spiking chemicals A, B, C, F, G, H, and I
Germany Bundeswehr Research Institute for Protective Technologies and NBC Protection (WIS) (7)	9	9	A	-
Hungary Hungarian Defence Forces, Dr Radó Györi Military Medical Center (11)	7	7	C	Spiking chemicals D and E are not reported
India Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology (IPFT) (3)	8	8	B	Spiking chemical D not reported
Iran (Islamic Republic of) Defense Chemical Research Laboratory (19)	8	4	D	Spiking chemical D not reported; insufficient data for reported spiking chemicals B, G, H, and I
Malaysia Department of Chemistry, Malaysia Ministry of Science (2)	4	0	D	Spiking chemicals B, D, E, F, and I are not reported; insufficient data for reported spiking chemicals A, C, G, and H
Republic of Korea Chemical Analysis Laboratory (CAL) CB Department Agency for Defence Development (5)	8	8	B	Spiking chemical E not reported

* The spiking chemicals were as follows:

- Sample 149: (A) - Bis(2-chloroethyl)sulfide [Mustard gas]
- Sample 149: (B) - Bis(2-chlorovinyl) chloroarsine [Lewisite 2]
- Sample 149: (C) - Tris(2-chlorovinyl)arsine [Lewisite 3]
- Sample 149: (D) - Arsenic trichloride
- Sample 128: (E) - Divinyl sulfoxide
- Sample 128: (F) - 1,2-Bis(2-chloroethylthio)ethane [Sesquimustard]
- Sample 226: (G) - Bis(2-hydroxyethyl)sulfide [Thiodiglycol]
- Sample 226: (H) - N-Ethyldiethanolamine
- Sample 215: (I) - 1,2-Bis(2-hydroxyethylthio)ethane 3,6-dithia-1,8-octanediol

Participant (Identification Code)	No. of Spiking Chemicals Reported	No. of Chemicals Scored	Rating	Comments*
Republic of Korea Chemical Defence Research Institute (CDRI) (14)	9	9	A	-
Romania Chemical Analysis and Testing Laboratory, NBC Defence and Ecology Scientific Research Centre (8)	8	5	C	Spiking chemical D not reported; insufficient data for reported spiking chemicals B, C, and E
Russian Federation Central Chemical Weapons Destruction Analytical Laboratory of the Federal National Unitary Establishment (12)	7	7	C	Spiking chemicals D and E are not reported
Serbia Center for Chemistry (ICTM), University of Belgrade (9)	8	7	C	Spiking chemical E not reported; insufficient data for reported spiking chemical B
Slovakia Reference Chemical Laboratory, Military Unit (10)	7	0	F	Spiking chemicals E and I are not reported; insufficient data for A, B, C, D, F, G, and H; failed the test due to absence of a statement, comment, and sample preparation pages/flow charts for samples in which no scheduled chemicals and/or their degradation products were found (in accordance with QDOC/LAB/WI/PT03, paragraph 14.13)
Turkey Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, Bursa Test and Analysis Laboratory (13)	7	0	D	Spiking chemicals E and I are not reported; insufficient data for reported spiking chemicals A, B, C, D, F, G, and H
United States of America Edgewood Chemical and Biological Forensic Analytical Center (AMSRD-ECB-RT-A) (4)	9	9	A	-