



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

External Relations Division
S/922/2011
27 April 2011
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
FOR THE SECOND SUMMER PROGRAMME ON DISARMAMENT
AND NON-PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION
IN A CHANGING WORLD
THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS
29 AUGUST – 2 SEPTEMBER 2011**

1. On behalf of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General wishes to encourage the Permanent Representatives of delegations to the OPCW to nominate and sponsor participants to attend the “Second Summer Programme on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in a Changing World”, which will be held at the T.M.C. Asser Institute for International Law in The Hague, the Netherlands, from 29 August to 2 September 2011.
2. Jointly developed by the OPCW and the T.M.C. Asser Institute, the summer programme was successfully launched in 2010. The programme aims to provide a broad understanding of international treaties on weapons of mass destruction for young professionals and advanced graduate students who aspire to careers in disarmament and non-proliferation. Nominees should, therefore, have demonstrated an interest in the field, either as a focus of their advanced graduate studies or as young professionals working in ministries, regulatory bodies, industry, policy institutes, academia, or non-governmental organisations (NGOs).
3. The specific objectives are as follows:
 - (a) to provide a broad, comparative understanding of the history, purpose, and provisions of treaties on weapons of mass destruction (WMDs);
 - (b) to provide an understanding of the diplomatic, bureaucratic, legal, and technical aspects of organisations dealing with WMDs;
 - (c) to illustrate how treaties on WMDs at the national level are implemented; and
 - (d) for networking purposes, to bring participants into direct contact with officials of bodies implementing treaties on WMDs and with related organisations.
4. The course content of the summer programme covers the Chemical Weapons Convention, the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention, the Nuclear



Non-Proliferation Treaty, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, and chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) preparedness.

5. In its first year, the summer programme's inter-disciplinary content was delivered by specialised academics from institutes in the Netherlands and abroad, together with experienced officials from the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) Implementation Support Unit, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the OPCW, and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA). The programme's blend of academic and practical knowledge and its comprehensive scope were well received by participants and will be continued in 2011.
6. An important new element of the 2011 summer programme is that class work will be supplemented by visits to industrial, training, and research facilities engaged in activities relevant to the course. This will offer participants direct experience in CBRN preparedness, and in the way international treaties on WMDs are implemented at the national level.
7. The provisional agenda for the 2011 summer programme is annexed to this Note.
8. The registration fee for this year's summer programme is EUR 1,450 for non-students and EUR 1,250 for students.
9. The T.M.C. Asser Institute is a not-for-profit, inter-university institute that focuses on the broad field of international law. It is based in The Hague and is partly supported with funding from the Government of the Netherlands. The OPCW collaborates with the institute in designing the agenda, providing senior staff as lecturers, and in promoting participation by OPCW stakeholders.
10. The T.M.C. Asser Institute is actively seeking resources to provide scholarships for a limited number of outstanding applicants who wish to participate in the 2011 programme. These scholarships will cover the costs of the registration fee, travel, accommodation, and a daily allowance. All such arrangements will be made by the institute. The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter "the Secretariat") expects to be able to sponsor the participation of a limited number of staff members by covering the cost of registration only, at a discounted group rate.
11. The Secretariat encourages delegations to promote the summer programme and to consider sponsoring the participation of outstanding national applicants who have demonstrated an interest in disarmament and non-proliferation, and who can be expected to make a significant professional contribution in this area.
12. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to the Netherlands. When applying for visas, they should present the Embassy or Consulate of the Netherlands with a copy of the acceptance letter from the T.M.C. Asser Institute. Participants are required to approach the Embassy or Consulate of the Netherlands immediately after receiving their acceptance letter.
13. All activities during the programme will be conducted in English. Participants are therefore expected to have a good oral and written command of this language.

14. The application form is downloadable from the T.M.C. Asser Institute website at www.asser.nl/wmd, which is also accessible through the OPCW website at www.opcw.org. Interested applicants should submit the form directly to the institute **no later than Friday, 15 July 2011**.
15. Additional information about the summer programme may be obtained from the OPCW Media and Public Affairs Branch, External Relations Division. The contact person is Mr Michael Luhan, who can be reached at +31 (0)70 416 3710, and by e-mail at michael.luhan@opcw.org.

Annex:

Second Summer Programme on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in a Changing World, The Hague, the Netherlands, 29 August – 2 September 2011: Provisional Programme

Annex

**SECOND SUMMER PROGRAMME ON DISARMAMENT AND
NON-PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION
IN A CHANGING WORLD
THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS
29 AUGUST – 2 SEPTEMBER 2011**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
<i>Sunday, 28 August 2011</i>	
Welcome	
16:00 – 17:00	Overview of The Hague as an international city of peace, justice, and security: Professor Frans Nelissen, General Director of the T.M.C. Asser Instituut Mr Willem Post, International Advisor to the Mayor of The Hague Ms Astrid Bronswijk, Head of the Department of International Affairs, The Hague
17:00	Reception at The Hague Municipality
<i>Monday, 29 August 2011</i>	
Overview on Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs)	
09:00 – 10:00	Historical use and impact
10:00 – 12:00	Scientific and technological aspects
12:00 – 13:00	The military perspective on WMDs
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 15:00	International law and the use of force
15:15 – 17:00	Distinguishing aspects of WMD diplomacy
19:00	Opening dinner (Restaurant Dekxels)
<i>Tuesday, 30 August 2011</i>	
Disarmament and the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons	
09:00 – 11:00	Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Treaty and other regulations • The IAEA • Current challenges and policy issues
11:15 – 13:15	Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Treaty and other regulations • The CTBTO • Current challenges and policy issues
13:15 – 14:30	<i>Brown-bag lunch</i> – Discussion on careers in WMD diplomacy
14:30 – 15:45	Strengthening verification: The Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty
16:00 – 17:00	The investigative mechanism of the UNSG ¹
Evening	Open

¹ UNSG = United Nations Secretary-General

Time	Activity
<i>Wednesday, 31 August 2011</i>	
Disarmament and the Non-Proliferation of Chemical and Biological Weapons	
09:00 – 10:00	Chemical weapons: Treaties and other regulations
10:00 – 11:00	The OPCW: Compliance with the CWC ² and its verification regime
11:15 – 12:15	The OPCW: National-implementing measures
12:15 – 13:00	Current challenges and policy issues: The Advisory Panel on Future OPCW Priorities
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Brown-bag lunch</i>
14:00 – 17:00	Biological weapons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treaties, regulations, and codes of conduct • The BWC Implementation Support Unit • The Seventh Review Conference of the Biological Weapons Convention • Current challenges and policy issues
17:00 – 18:00	The growing convergence of chemistry and biology: An emerging agenda
<i>Thursday, 1 September 2011</i>	
Field Visits to WMD Treaty-Related Facilities	
08:00 – 13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OPCW Equipment Store in Rijswijk, and inspectable chemical plants • National Forensic Institute in Voorburg (chemical/biological counter-terrorism) • Delft University of Technology's nuclear research reactor
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 15:35	Group reports, return from field visits, and discussion
15:45 – 17:00	Export control regimes
Evening	Open
<i>Friday, 2 September 2011</i>	
Multi-Stakeholder Approaches to WMD Diplomacy and WMD Terrorist Threats	
09:00 – 11:00	Addressing the threat of WMD use by terrorists (UNSC ³ Resolution 1540, and so on); panel discussion
11:15 – 13:00	Engaging civil society: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public diplomacy and the social media • Chemical Weapons Convention Coalition (CWCC) • BioWeapons Prevention Project (BWPP)
13:00 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 16:00	The Middle East WMD Free Zone Project Preparation and prospects for the 2012 Conference; panel discussion
16:15 – 17:30	Programme summary and evaluation Open discussion with participants
18:00	Closing reception at the Headquarters building of the Secretariat

- - - 0 - - -

² CWC = Chemical Weapons Convention

³ UNSC = United Nations Security Council