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International Cooperation and Assistance Division

S/1075/2013

28 February 2013

ENGLISH only

**NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT**

**INVITATION TO APPLY FOR A NATURAL PRODUCTS CHEMISTRY  
TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME  
JOHOR DARUL TA'ZIM, MALAYSIA  
17 JUNE – 2 JULY 2013**

**Purpose of the course**

1. The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) of the OPCW wishes to inform Member States that it will hold the second natural products chemistry training and development programme for the African region towards implementation of Article XI of the Chemical Weapons Convention in 2013. This initiative will receive funding support from the Government of Norway, and is scheduled to be held at the Institute of Bioproduct Development, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), Johor Darul Ta’zim, Malaysia, from 17 June to 2 July 2013.
2. As the African region has a rich diversity and wealth of natural products, their chemical analysis and product development would support economic and technological development in the region in line with Article XI of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”). In addition, the ability to identify and analyse toxic chemicals in plants is necessary. The programme is thus designed to provide a combination of theoretical knowledge and practical application, making full use of available technical facilities by providing a practical, hands-on approach at pilot plants. The programme will provide participants with real case studies on how existing herbal-related small and medium enterprises operate. Participants will also be taken on field trips and will visit existing operating plants so that they can gain an understanding of the herbal industry and its potential, and develop project proposals.
3. The training programme is designed to assist qualified natural products chemists and scientists from Member States in Africa to:
  - (a) acquire further experience and practical knowledge of chemical research in natural products development;
  - (b) enhance national capacities in African Member States by offering training to personnel from industry, academic institutions, and government laboratories; and
  - (c) provide sound knowledge in product development practices.



### **Sponsorship**

4. The course will accommodate 12 participants. The cost of the course and of accommodation for all participants will be covered by the Secretariat. The Secretariat will also pay for international travel, meals, and medical and travel insurance for all participants for the duration of the course, as per OPCW rules.

### **Requirements**

5. The course is open to candidates who:
  - (a) have a minimum first degree (Bachelor of Science or equivalent) in chemistry, biochemistry, biotechnology, chemical engineering/technology or any other relevant degree in a natural products industry from a recognised university or institution;
  - (b) are citizens of an African Member State; and
  - (c) are scientists or engineers with a minimum of two years experience in industry, research institutions, universities, or government departments in their home country.
6. All course activities will be conducted in English and no interpretation services of any kind will be provided. Participants are therefore expected to have a good command of the English language, both written and oral.
7. Applications will be carefully screened on the basis of the criteria specified in paragraph 5 above. Only the most suitable applicants will be accepted.
8. Interested candidates are invited to complete, in English only, the form that is annexed to this Note and to submit it to the Secretariat, via their National Authority or the Permanent Representation of their country to the OPCW, allowing enough time for the Secretariat to receive it **no later than 15 April 2013**. It should be sent to the Secretariat at the following address: OPCW, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. An advance copy of the application may be faxed to +31 (0)70 416 3279 or e-mailed to [icb@opcw.org](mailto:icb@opcw.org).

### **Application procedure**

9. Applications that are incomplete or improperly filled out cannot be considered. Application forms must be accompanied by the following:
  - (a) an up-to-date curriculum vitae;
  - (b) a one-page description of the candidate's practical experience, their expectations of the course, and the practical value to them;
  - (c) a letter of recommendation from the candidate's supervisor concerning his/her qualifications and attesting to the relevance of this course to the work of the candidate's institution;

- (d) endorsement from the National Authority of the candidate's country; and
  - (e) a photocopy of the specification pages of candidate's passport.
10. Additional information about this programme may be obtained from Ms Rufaro Kambarami, or the Head of the International Cooperation Branch. The contact details are as follows:

Telephone: +31 (0)70 416 3272  
Fax: +31 (0)70 416 3279  
E-mail: [icb@opcw.org](mailto:icb@opcw.org)

Annex: Application Form

**Annex**

**NATURAL PRODUCTS CHEMISTRY TRAINING  
AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME  
JOHOR DARUL TA'ZIM, MALAYSIA  
17 JUNE – 2 JULY 2013**

**APPLICATION FORM**

**Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS.**

1. Before completing this form, applicants should read the guidelines in the cover Note to confirm their eligibility.
2. Applicants should complete sections 1 to 6. They should attach the documents listed in section 5 and send the form to either their National Authority or the Permanent Representation of their country to the OPCW in The Hague, with a request to complete section 7.
3. The National Authority or the Permanent Representation should complete section 7 and forward the form and documents to the International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands, so that it is received **no later than 15 April 2013**.

<b>SECTION 1. PERSONAL AND CONTACT DETAILS</b>			
Family name*			
First name(s)*			
Work address			
Home address			
Date of birth	Day	Month	Year
Citizenship			
Gender**	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	
Passport number			
Date of issue	Day	Month	Year
Expiry date	Day	Month	Year
Place of issue			
E-mail address			
Telephone numbers, including country and city codes	Home		
	Work		
	Mobile		
Fax numbers, including country and city codes	Home		
	Work		

\* Please give the first and family names exactly as they appear in the applicant's passport.

\*\* For this and all similar items, please tick the appropriate box.





**SECTION 5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

Please attach the following documents to your application:

- a letter of recommendation from your supervisor, which confirms your qualifications in light of paragraph 5 of the Note to which this form is annexed, and that attests to the relevance of this course to the work of the institution at which you are working;
- an up-to-date curriculum vitae;
- a one-page description of your practical experience and expectations of the course; and
- a photocopy of the specification pages of your passport.

Applications without full supporting documentation cannot be accepted.

**SECTION 6. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 7. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY OR  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATION**


<p>Signature, with seal or stamp, of an authorised representative of the National Authority or of the Permanent Representation to the OPCW</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Date _____</p>
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