



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

International Cooperation and Assistance Division

S/1163/ 2014

21 February 2014

ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE THIRD ADVANCED COURSE ON
ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION
BEIJING, CHINA
26 – 30 MAY 2014**

1. On behalf of the Government of China and the OPCW, the Director-General wishes to invite Member States to nominate participants for an Advanced Assistance-and-Protection Course, which will take place in Beijing, China, from 26 to 30 May 2014.
2. The course is related to assistance and protection against chemical weapons under Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”), and will be jointly organised by the Government of China and the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”).
3. The course will offer advanced training in the use of protective equipment, and in monitoring, detection, and decontamination techniques which are used in response to attacks with chemical warfare agents. Participants will also acquire knowledge of chemical-emergency responses through table-top and field exercises. The course will facilitate the exchange of information and experience regarding the implementation of Article X of the Convention and will provide a forum to discuss future cooperation among participating Member States. The provisional programme is set out in the Annex to this Note.
4. Given the purpose of the course and its technical nature, potential participants will be carefully selected. They should have a solid background in the chemistry associated with assistance and protection against chemical weapons; they should also belong to national emergency-response agencies involved in dealing with chemical-related incidents. In addition, participants should be physically fit and able to wear individual protective gear for several hours during the practical sessions of the course.
5. To apply for this course, applicants should have at least a basic knowledge and experience of response activities in case of chemical emergencies. Applicants should also have taken one or more of the basic OPCW courses related to assistance and protection against chemical weapons and/or participated in the OPCW protective capacity-building training provided by the Secretariat to States Parties at the national level.



6. Please note that the course is part of a tailored approach to training focused on annual training cycles conducted at the regional level. In line with this new approach to capacity-building projects under Article X, priority will be given to applicants who participated in the basic course held from 28 April to 2 May 2014 in South Korea.
7. The course will be conducted in English; no interpretation services of any kind will be provided. Participants are therefore expected to have a good command of the English language, written and oral.
8. Participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to China.
9. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor the participation of a limited number of participants. Applicants should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of their participation. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, medical insurance, accommodation, and meals, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses.
10. Course materials, equipment, and local transport during the course will be provided by the National Authority of China, at no cost to participants or to the OPCW.
11. 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.
12. To keep costs to a minimum, sponsored participants are expected to arrive no earlier than **Sunday, 25 May 2014**, and to depart no later than **Saturday, 31 May 2014**. 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.
13. Participants who have not been sponsored are requested to make their own travel arrangements and to inform the Secretariat accordingly.
14. Further details regarding accommodation, the course venue, and transport will be issued to participants in due course.
15. Interested applicants are invited to register their nomination online via the OPCW website at: <http://www.opcw.org/events> no later than **21 March 2014**. Please note that a response to all the required questions (with *) needs to be provided in order for the candidate to be eligible to apply for this event. Only applicants supported by their National Authority and/or their Permanent Representation to the OPCW will be considered.
16. A provisional programme for the course is included as the Annex to this Note. Additional information may be obtained from Ms Ditta Ciganikova at the Assistance and Protection Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division:

Telephone: + 31 (0)70 416 3261
Email: Ditta.Ciganikova@opcw.org
Fax: + 31 (0)70 416 3209

Annex: Provisional Programme

Annex

**THIRD ADVANCED COURSE
ON ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION
BEIJING, CHINA
26 – 30 MAY 2014**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
Sunday, 25 May 2014	
	Arrival of participants
18:30 – 20:00	Welcome reception
Monday, 26 May 2014	
Morning session	Official opening, group photo, administrative arrangements
	Lecture: Assistance and protection, Article X of the Convention
	Lecture: Overview of the implementation of the Convention in China
	Lecture: China's national protection programme and assistance efforts under Article X of the Convention
Afternoon session	Lecture: Chemical threat
	Lecture: Chemical protection, detection, and decontamination
	Lecture: Medical procedures for a chemical emergency
Tuesday, 27 May 2014	
Morning session	Practice: Use of individual protective equipment
Afternoon session	Practice: Use of detection equipment
Wednesday, 28 May 2014	
Morning session	Practice: Use of decontamination equipment
Afternoon session	Lecture: Chemical-emergency response
Thursday, 29 May 2014	
Morning session	Table-top exercise: Chemical-emergency response
Afternoon session	Field practice: Chemical-emergency response
Friday, 30 May 2014	
Morning session	Scenario exercise: Chemical-emergency response
Afternoon session	Evaluation of the course/participants
	Closing session
Saturday, 31 May 2014	
	Departure of participants