



Verification Division
S/1210/2014
27 August 2014
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

EVALUATION OF THE RESULTS OF THE THIRTY-FIFTH OFFICIAL OPCW PROFICIENCY TEST

1. The Director-General wishes to inform the Member States of the results of the Thirty-Fifth Official OPCW Proficiency Test, which was conducted by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) February to August 2014. The test was conducted in accordance with ISO/IEC 17043:2010 and the following quality management system documents:
 - (a) “Standard Operating Procedure for the Organisation of OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/SOP/PT01 (Issue 2, Revision 3, dated 4 April 2014));
 - (b) “Work Instruction for the Preparation of Samples for OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/PT02 (Issue 2, Revision 3, dated 4 April 2014));
 - (c) “Work Instruction for the Evaluation of the Results of OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/PT03 (Issue 3, Revision 1, dated 4 April 2014)); and
 - (d) Work Instruction for the Reporting of the Results of the OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/PT04 (Issue 1, Revision 3, dated 4 April 2014)).
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 Thirty-Fifth Official OPCW Proficiency Test: the Defense Chemical Research Laboratory, Iran (Islamic Republic of), assisted in sample preparation and the Finnish Institute for Verification of the Chemical Weapons Convention (VERIFIN), Finland, assisted in evaluating the test results.
4. The preliminary evaluation report was discussed at a meeting between the Secretariat staff and the test participants on 16 July 2014. 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 13 August 2014.



6. The principal results of the Thirty-Fifth Official OPCW Proficiency Test can be summarised as follows:
 - (a) 18 Member States nominated 19 laboratories including the two assisting laboratories for the test participation;
 - (b) One of the participants withdrew from the test prior to the sample dispatch date;
 - (c) Eighteen participants including two assisting laboratories and two trial participants took part in the test;
 - (d) Fifteen of the test participants and two assisting laboratories submitted their test report;
 - (e) One trial test participant did not submit a report;
 - (f) Four test participants identified and reported, with sufficient analytical data, all of the spiked chemicals;
 - (g) One false positive chemical was reported by one trial test participant;
 - (h) Three non-scoring chemicals were reported by seven test participants;
 - (i) One irrelevant chemical was reported by one trial test participant;
 - (j) No scores were given to two trial participants;
 - (k) The sample preparation laboratory and the evaluating laboratory were awarded the maximum performance rating of “A”; and
 - (l) There are six A’s, two B’s, four C’s and four D’s in the test score for the regular participants, including the two A’s of the two assisting laboratories.
7. The final results for all the laboratories participating in the test 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 detailed follow-up 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 Thirty-Fifth Official OPCW Proficiency Test

Annex

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

Laboratory (Participant Code)	No. of Spiking Chemicals Reported¹	No. of Chemicals Scored	Rating	Comments
Australia Chem Centre (12)	5	0	#	Spiking chemicals E, F, W and H were not reported; insufficient data for reported spiking chemicals A, B, C, D and G; reported one irrelevant chemical L and one false positive chemical M; and no score was given for trial participation
Bangladesh Designated Reference Institute for Chemical Measurements (16)	-	-	#	No report submitted; and no score was given for trial participation
Brazil CTEx, Laboratório de Análises Químicas (07)	7	6	C	Spiking chemicals E and W were not reported; and insufficient data for reported spiking chemical D
Czech Republic VVÚ Brno, s.p., Vojenský výzkumný ústav, s.p. (15)	5	0	D	Spiking chemicals B, C, E and W were not reported; insufficient data for reported spiking chemicals A, D, F, G and H; and reported a non-scoring chemical K

1

The spiking chemicals were as follows:
 Sample 351: (A) Pinacolyl methylphosphonate
 Sample 351: (B) Triethanolamine
 Sample 353: (C) Thiodiglycolic acid
 Sample 353: (D) Ethylphosphonic acid
 Sample 354: (E) Tris(2-phenoxyethyl)amine
 Sample 354: (F) Pinacolyl alcohol
 Sample 354: (W) Diphenyl N,N-dimethylphosphoramidate
 Sample 356: (G) Bis(2-chloroethyl)sulfide
 Sample 356: (H) Dipropyl N,N-dimethylphosphoramidate

Laboratory (Participant Code)	No. of Spiking Chemicals Reported¹	No. of Chemicals Scored	Rating	Comments
Finland VERIFIN, Finnish Institute for Verification of the Chemical Weapons Convention	-	-	A	Evaluating laboratory
Germany Bundeswehr Research Institute for Protective Technologies and NBC Protection (04)	8	8	B	Spiking chemical W was not reported; and reported a non-scoring chemical I
India Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology (11)	6	5	C	Spiking chemicals E and W were not reported; insufficient data for reported spiking chemical D; and reported a non-scoring chemical J
Iran (Islamic Republic of) Defense Chemical Research Laboratory	-	-	A	Sample preparation laboratory
Malaysia Department of Chemistry (13)	7	5	C	Spiking chemicals E and W were not reported; and insufficient data for reported spiking chemicals B and F
Morocco Laboratoire de Recherches et d'Analyses Techniques et Scientifiques de la Gendarmerie Royale (14)	6	0	D	Spiking chemicals C, E and W were not reported; and insufficient data for reported spiking chemicals A, B, D, F, G and H
Nigeria National Advanced Laboratories, Sheda Science and Technology Complex (17)	-	-	-	Withdrew from test prior to sample dispatch
Republic of Korea Chemical, Biological and Radiological Defense Research Institute (06)	8	8	B	Spiking chemical E was not reported; and reported a non-scoring chemical I

Laboratory (Participant Code)	No. of Spiking Chemicals Reported¹	No. of Chemicals Scored	Rating	Comments
Romania Chemical Analysis and Testing Laboratory Scientific Research Center for CBRN Defence and Ecology (05)	9	9	A	-
Romania Central Customs Laboratory (08)	2	0	D	Spiking chemicals A, C, E, F, W, G and H were not reported; and insufficient data for reported spiking chemicals B and D
Serbia Centre of Chemistry, ICTM (09)	9	9	A	Reported a non-scoring chemical J
Slovakia Reference Chemical Laboratory (10)	7	3	D	Spiking chemicals E and W were not reported; and insufficient data for reported spiking chemicals C, D, F and G
Spain Laboratorio de Verificación de Armas Químicas (LAVEMA), Instituto Tecnológico “La Marañosa” (02)	7	6	C	Spiking chemicals E and W were not reported; insufficient data for reported spiking chemical D; and reported a non-scoring chemical J
Switzerland Spiez Laboratory (03)	9	9	A	Reported a non-scoring chemical I
United States of America Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, Forensic Analytical Center (01)	9	9	A	-