



**OPCW**

**Technical Secretariat**

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International Cooperation and Assistance Division

S/1256/2015

10 March 2015

ENGLISH only

**NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A COURSE ON MEDICAL ASPECTS OF  
ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION AGAINST CHEMICAL WEAPONS  
KAUNAS, LITHUANIA  
1 – 5 JUNE 2015**

1. On behalf of the Government of Lithuania and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General wishes to invite Member States to nominate participants for a course on medical aspects of assistance and protection against chemical-warfare agents, which will be held in Kaunas, Lithuania, from 1 to 5 June 2015.
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 Lithuania and the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”).
3. The course has been designed primarily for specialised personnel such as physicians, paramedics, actors from the emergency services, and first responders confronted with incidents involving toxic chemicals, including chemical warfare agents. The course will be particularly valuable for stakeholders who work in the provision of medical countermeasures to chemical emergencies and who have a background in the medical aspects of emergency response to incidents involving toxic chemicals and chemical warfare agents.
4. The course will address matters related to protection during chemical emergencies, medical management of chemical casualties, psychological preparation of first responders, medical response and rehabilitation of victims of toxic chemicals and chemical weapons, and hospital emergency plan, amongst others.
5. The course, which will include theoretical lectures, demonstration sessions and a table-top exercise focused on the mitigation of chemical incidents, will also facilitate the exchange of information and experiences regarding medical assistance and protection practices to victims of this type of incident, in line with the provisions of Article X of the Convention. The provisional programme for the course is included as Annex 1 to this Note.
6. Given the purpose of the course and its medical focus and technical nature, candidates will be carefully selected and should have a solid background in emergency medicine, toxicology, or health care associated with protection against chemical weapons and



other toxic chemicals. They should belong to national emergency-response agencies and other institutions involved in dealing with chemical-related incidents.

7. All activities during the course will be conducted in English, and no interpretation services of any kind will be provided. Participants are therefore expected to have a good written and oral command of English.
8. Participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to Lithuania.
9. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor the participation of a limited number of participants. Each nomination should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of the nominee's 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. Further details regarding accommodation, the course venue, and transport will be issued to all confirmed participants at a later date.
10. 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. In order for the Secretariat to keep costs to a minimum, sponsored participants are expected to **arrive no earlier than Sunday, 31 May 2015, and to depart no later than Saturday, 6 June 2015**. 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.
11. Interested applicants are invited to complete the nomination form that is included as Annex 2 to this Note, making sure in particular to provide all contact details, including an email address. Completed forms should be sent, along with endorsement information from the National Authority or Permanent Representation and with a brief curriculum vitae, to the Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. Nominations may also be submitted by fax to +31 (0)70 416 3209, or by e-mail to [EmergAssistBr@opcw.org](mailto:EmergAssistBr@opcw.org). In this case, the subject line of the e-mail should contain the words "Lithuania Medical Training". All materials must be received **no later than 24 April 2015**. Please be advised that participants must present an OPCW acceptance letter in order to be able to register for the course.
12. Additional information may be obtained from the Assistance and Protection Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact person is Mr Shahriar Khateri, Senior Assistance and Protection Officer:

Telephone: +31 (0)70 416 3231  
E-mail: [Shahriar.khateri@opcw.org](mailto:Shahriar.khateri@opcw.org)  
Fax: +31 (0)70 416 3209

Annexes:

Annex 1: Provisional Programme

Annex 2: Nomination Form

**Annex 1**

**COURSE ON MEDICAL ASPECTS OF ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION  
AGAINST CHEMICAL WEAPONS  
KAUNAS, LITHUANIA  
1 – 5 JUNE 2015**

**PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
<b><i>Sunday, 31 May 2015</i></b>	
	Arrival of participants
<b><i>Monday, 1 June 2015</i></b>	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration of participants
09:00 – 09:30	Opening ceremony
09:30 – 09:45	Group photograph
09:45 – 10:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:00 – 10:15	Course overview, administrative briefing
10:15 – 10:30	Introduction to Lithuania
10:30 – 11:00	The Chemical Weapons Convention and its Article X on assistance and protection. Questions and answers
11:00 – 11:30	The implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in Lithuania; introduction to the Military Medical Training Centre
11:30 – 12:00	Principles of protection against chemical weapons
12:00 – 12:30	Chemical casualty management and emergency pre-hospital care in hot/ warm/ cold zones
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:15	Chemical warfare agents: classification, properties, types of exposure
14:15 – 15:00	General principles of diagnosis, first aid, and treatment of patients exposed to chemical warfare agents/ toxic industrial chemicals
15:00 – 15:30	Introduction to nerve agents and other cholinesterase inhibiting agents, mechanism of action, signs/ symptoms
15:30 – 15:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:45 – 16:30	Nerve agents and other cholinesterase inhibiting agents: medical treatment/ antidote therapy
16:30 – 16:45	Day summary, discussion
19:00 – 21:00	<i>Reception hosted by the OPCW</i>
<b><i>Tuesday, 2 June 2015</i></b>	
09:00 – 09:45	Blister agents/ sulfur mustard: mechanism of action, clinical manifestation
09:45 – 10:30	Blister agents/ sulfur mustard: medical treatment of casualties
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:45 – 11:30	Long-term health effects of sulfur mustard exposure
11:30 – 12:00	Choking (lung damaging) agents, chemical warfare agents/ toxic industrial chemicals (I): Introduction/ classification/ medical treatment
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:00	Choking (lung damaging) agents, chemical warfare agents/ toxic industrial chemicals (II)
14:00 – 14:45	Blood agents (cyanides and cyanogens)

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
14:45 – 15:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:00 – 15:45	Incapacitating agents (psychochemical agents)
15:45 – 16:30	Riot control agents
16:30 – 17:00	Day summary, discussion
<b><i>Wednesday, 3 June 2015</i></b>	
09:00 – 09:30	Chemical warfare agents, terror and sabotage agents
09:30 – 10:15	Psychological health care during chemical emergency situations
10:15 – 10:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:30 – 11:15	Combined chemical injuries
11:15 – 12:00	Triage of chemical casualties
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:15	Mass casualty management: Classification/ evacuation procedures from decontamination line to specialised medical posts/ other levels of medical care
14:15 – 15:00	Triage: Case review/ test
15:00 – 15:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:15 – 16:00	Aeromedical considerations of patients exposed to chemical warfare agents/ toxic industrial chemicals
16:00 – 16:30	Day summary, discussion
<b><i>Thursday, 4 June 2015</i></b>	
09:00 – 10:00	Use of IPE*. Composition and use of first aid kits
10:00 – 11:00	IPE/ First aid procedures (skill stations)
11:00 – 11:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:15 – 12:00	Demonstration/ exercise: Situation simulation, group work
12:00 – 13:00	Demonstration/ exercise: Patient simulator
13:00 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 15:15	TTX** I: Situation analysis (response system in the field)
15:15 – 16:00	TTX II: Situation analysis (hospital emergency planning)
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:15 – 16:45	TTX debriefing
16:45 – 17:00	Discussion
<b><i>Friday, 5 June 2015</i></b>	
09:00 – 10:30	Exercise: Medical emergency first aid for chemical weapons casualties
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:45 – 11:45	Demonstration: Field hospital
11:45 – 12:30	Organisation in Lithuania of personal health care for patients exposed to chemical warfare agents/ toxic industrial chemicals
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:15	Departure to Trakai
14:15 – 15:00	Closing ceremony in the main hall of the Castle of Trakai
15:00 – 16:30	Departure to Kaunas
<b><i>Saturday, 6 June 2015</i></b>	
	Departure of participants

\* IPE = individual protective equipment.

\*\* TTX = table-top exercise.

**Annex 2**

**COURSE ON MEDICAL ASPECTS OF ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION  
AGAINST CHEMICAL WEAPONS  
KAUNAS, LITHUANIA  
1 – 5 JUNE 2015**

**NOMINATION FORM**

Please submit the completed form, along with a brief curriculum vitae, **by 24 April 2015** to:  
The Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW

Attn: Assistance and Protection Branch

Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands

Fax: + 31 (0)70 416 3209; e-mail: [EmergAssistBr@opcw.org](mailto:EmergAssistBr@opcw.org)

Subject line of the e-mail: Lithuania Medical Training

**Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS**

1.	Family name of nominee <sup>1</sup>			
2.	First name(s)			
3.	Date of birth	Day	Month	Year
4.	Citizenship			
5.	Gender <sup>2</sup>	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	
6.	Passport number			
7.	Date of issue	Day	Month	Year
8.	Expiry date	Day	Month	Year
9.	Place of issue			
10.	Areas of expertise			
11.	Employer			
12.	Position			
13.	Contact address (please do not give a post-office box number)	Street		
		Number	Post code	
		City	Country	
14.	Airport of departure			
15.	E-mail address			
16.	Telephone numbers, including country and city codes	Home		
		Work		
		Mobile		
18.	Has the nominee taken part in a course of this kind before?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
		If so, when and where?		

<sup>1</sup> Please give the family name and the first name exactly as they appear in the nominee's passport.

<sup>2</sup> For this and similar items, please tick the appropriate box.

19.	Is sponsorship a condition of participation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
20.	Does the nominee have any special dietary requirements?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If so, please describe:  

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