



Verification Division
S/1271/2015
30 April 2015
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR OFFICIAL OPCW PROFICIENCY TESTS IN 2015 AND 2016

1. The Director-General wishes to inform Member States of the schedule and arrangements for the following four official OPCW proficiency tests.
 - (a) the Thirty-Seventh and Thirty-Eighth Official OPCW Proficiency Tests will be conducted in 2015; and
 - (b) the Thirty-Ninth and Fortieth Official OPCW Proficiency Tests will be conducted in 2016.
2. The 2015 and 2016 tests will be conducted in accordance with the following set of quality-management system documents:
 - (a) “Standard Operating Procedure for the Organisation of OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/SOP/PT01);
 - (b) “Work Instruction for the Preparation of Test Samples for OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/PT02);
 - (c) “Work Instruction for the Evaluation of Results of OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/PT03); and
 - (d) “Work Instruction for the Reporting of the Results of the OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/PT04).
3. The test schedule and the laboratories that will be assisting are as follows:
 - (a) The Thirty-Seventh Official OPCW Proficiency Test will be conducted in the spring of 2015. Bundeswehr Research Institute for Protective Technologies and NBC Protection, WIS, Germany, will prepare the test samples. TNO Defence, Security and Safety, the Netherlands, will assist in the evaluation of the results.
 - (b) The Thirty-Eighth Official OPCW Proficiency Test will be conducted in the autumn of 2015. The OPCW Laboratory, the Netherlands, will prepare the test samples. Laboratorio de Verificación de Armas Químicas (LAVEMA),



Instituto Tecnológico “La Marañosa”, Spain, will assist in the evaluation of the results.

- (c) The Thirty-Ninth Official OPCW Proficiency Test will be conducted in the spring of 2016. Spiez Laboratory of Analytical Chemistry, Switzerland, will prepare the test samples. Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, Forensic Analytical Center, the United States of America, will assist in the evaluation of the results.
- (d) The Fortieth Official OPCW Proficiency Test will be conducted in the autumn of 2016. Defence Science and Technology Laboratory, Chemical and Biological Systems, Porton Down, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, will prepare the test samples. FOI, CBRN Defence and Security, Swedish Defence Research Agency, Sweden, will assist in the evaluation of the results.

4. The tentative dates for the proficiency tests are as follows:

| Proficiency Test | Time of Year | Sample Dispatch | Meeting to Discuss a Preliminary Evaluation of the Results |
|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---|
| Thirty-Seventh | Spring 2015 | 17 April 2015 | 15 July 2015 |
| Thirty-Eighth | Autumn 2015 | 16 October 2015 | 17 February 2016 |
| Thirty-Ninth | Spring 2016 | 15 April 2016 | 13 July 2016 |
| Fortieth | Autumn 2016 | 14 October 2016 | 8 February 2017 |

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