



OPCW

Technical Secretariat

External Relations Division
S/1276/2015
18 May 2015
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE SIXTH SUMMER PROGRAMME
ON DISARMAMENT AND NON-PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS
OF MASS DESTRUCTION IN A CHANGING WORLD
THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS
30 AUGUST – 4 SEPTEMBER 2015**

1. On behalf of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General wishes to encourage the Permanent Representatives of delegations to the OPCW to nominate and sponsor participants to attend the “Sixth Summer Programme on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in a Changing World”, which will be held at the T.M.C. Asser Institute for International Law in The Hague, the Netherlands, from 30 August to 4 September 2015.
2. Launched in 2010, this summer programme has been jointly developed by the OPCW and the T.M.C. Asser Institute. The programme provides a broad understanding of international treaties on weapons of mass destruction (WMD) for young and mid-level professionals and advanced graduate students who aspire to careers in disarmament and non-proliferation. Nominees should, therefore, have demonstrated an interest in the field, either as a focus of their advanced graduate studies or as young to mid-level professionals working in ministries, regulatory bodies, industry, policy institutes, academia, or non-governmental organisations (NGOs).
3. The specific objectives are as follows:
 - (a) to provide a broad, comparative understanding of the history, purpose, and provisions of treaties on WMD;
 - (b) to provide an understanding of the diplomatic, legal, and technical aspects of organisations dealing with WMD;
 - (c) to illustrate how treaties on WMD at the national level are implemented; and
 - (d) for networking purposes, to bring participants into direct contact with officials of bodies implementing treaties on WMD and with related organisations.



4. The course content of this year's summer programme will cover the Chemical Weapons Convention, the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and the Fissile Materials Cut-off Treaty. It will also include thematic sessions covering WMD from a geo-political perspective, international law and the use of force, scientific and technological aspects of nuclear weapons, and an overview of key export control regimes and agreements.
5. The summer programme's inter-disciplinary content is delivered by specialised academics from institutes in the Netherlands and abroad, together with experienced officials from the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) Implementation Support Unit, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the OPCW, and others. The programme's blend of academic and practical knowledge and its comprehensive scope have been well received by participants and will be continued in 2015.
6. Classwork during the 2015 summer programme will be supplemented by visits to the OPCW Laboratory and Equipment Store, and to training and research facilities engaged in activities relevant to the course. This will offer participants direct experience in chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) preparedness, and in the way international treaties on WMD are implemented at the national level.
7. The provisional agenda for the 2015 summer programme is Annexed to this Note.
8. The registration fee for this year's summer programme is EUR 1,495.
9. The T.M.C. Asser Institute is a not-for-profit, inter-university institute that focuses on the broad field of international law. It is based in The Hague and is partly supported with funding from the Government of the Netherlands. The OPCW collaborates with the Institute in designing the agenda, providing senior staff as lecturers, mobilising the participation and support of other WMD-related international organisations, and in promoting participation by OPCW stakeholders.
11. The Secretariat encourages delegations and their foreign ministries to promote the summer programme and to consider sponsoring the participation of outstanding national applicants who have demonstrated an interest in disarmament and non-proliferation, and who can be expected to make a significant professional contribution in this area.
12. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to the Netherlands. When applying for visas, they should present the Embassy or Consulate of the Netherlands with a copy of the acceptance letter from the T.M.C. Asser Institute. Participants are required to approach the Embassy or Consulate of the Netherlands immediately after receiving their acceptance letter.
13. All activities during the programme will be conducted in English. Participants are therefore expected to have a good oral and written command of this language.
14. The application form is downloadable from the T.M.C. Asser Institute website at <http://data.asser.nl/onlineforms/SPWMD2015.aspx>, and may also be accessed through

the OPCW website at www.opcw.org. Interested applicants should submit the form directly to the Institute **no later than Monday, 20 July 2015**.

15. Additional information about the summer programme may be obtained from the OPCW Media and Public Affairs Branch, External Relations Division. The contact person is Mr Peter Sawczak, Head of Media and Public Affairs, who can be reached at +31 (0)70 416 3725, and by email at peter.sawczak@opcw.org.

Annex: Sixth Summer Programme on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in a Changing World, The Hague, the Netherlands, 30 August – 4 September 2015: Provisional Programme

Annex

**SIXTH SUMMER PROGRAMME ON DISARMAMENT AND
NON-PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION
IN A CHANGING WORLD
THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS
30 AUGUST – 4 SEPTEMBER 2015**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

<i>Sunday, 30 August 2015: Welcome</i>	
17:00 – 18:00	Welcome and reception
<i>Monday, 31 August 2015: Overview of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)</i>	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:30	Opening
09:30 – 10:30	Framing the WMD Agenda for the Future: Lessons from Chemical Disarmament.
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:45 – 12:15	WMD from a Geo-Political Perspective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reasons why states pursue WMD; • WMD and international order; • The role of arms control; • Case studies.
12:15 – 13:15	<i>Lunch</i>
13:15 – 14:45	International Law and the Use of Force: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of force under international law; • Humanitarian intervention; • The responsibility to protect; • Case studies.
14:45 – 15:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:00 – 16:00	Bilateral vs Multilateral Disarmament: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should there be conditionality? • Role of non-nuclear-weapon States.
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:15 – 17:15	Scientific and Technological Aspects of Nuclear Weapons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do nuclear weapons work? • What is involved in their production? • What is necessary for their deployment and their control? • Could a non-state actor (such as a terrorist group) make/use a nuclear explosive?
18:30	<i>Opening dinner</i>

Tuesday, 1 September 2015: Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons	
09:00 – 10:45	Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History leading to its adoption; • Three pillars of the NPT; • Review conferences and 1995 extension; • Brief reflections on the 2015 NPT Review Conference
10:45 – 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 – 12:00	The Importance of a Fissile Materials (Cut-off) Treaty for Nuclear Disarmament: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why to prohibit the production of fissile materials; • How to prohibit the production of fissile materials; • What are the prospects of an international agreement?
12:00 – 12:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
12:15 – 13:00	Nuclear Safeguards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The various types of safeguard agreements and their progressive development in view of proliferation cases; • The State-level approach.
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 15:00	Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current challenges and policy issues; • Nuclear-weapon-free zones.
15:00 – 15:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:15 – 16:30	Export Control Regimes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuclear Suppliers Group; • Zangger Committee; • Missile Technology Control Regime; • Wassenaar Arrangement; • Australia Group.
16:30 – 17:30	Debate: Nuclear Disarmament or Nuclear Security?

Wednesday, 2 September 2015: Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Chemical and Biological Weapons	
9:00 – 09:45	Science and Disarmament: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific underpinning of treaty implementation; • Scientific development and security concerns; • Need for and role of science in policy.
09:45 – 10:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:00 – 10:45	The OPCW: Mechanism of Verification (from declarations to inspection): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obligations of States Parties; • Verification by the OPCW: three types of inspections; • Addressing non-compliance.
10:45 – 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 – 11:45	The Chemical Weapons Convention: the Past, the Present, and the Future

12:00 – 12:45	The Impact of WMD on Public Health: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of the World Health Organization (WHO) in the destruction and removal of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic; • Lessons learned from other emergencies.
12:45 – 14:00	<i>Brown bag lunch:</i> Professional opportunities in the sphere of WMD
14:00 – 16:30 (including coffee break)	Biological Weapons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treaties, regulations, and codes of conduct; • The Implementation Support Unit; • Intersessional meetings; • Current challenges and policy issues.
16:30 – 17:30	The Need for Bio- and Chemical Security: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Codes of conduct; • The role of civil society and industry; • Current challenges.

Thursday, 3 September 2015: Field visits to WMD treaty-related facilities

09:00 – 12:00 (including travel time)	Participants choose one of two options: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demo of the OPCW Laboratory and industrial inspection equipment in Rijswijk; or 2. Delft University of Technology nuclear research reactor
12:15 – 12:45	<i>Lunch (in bus)</i>
13:00 – 17:00	Live exercise of an investigation of alleged use of WMD at the TNO (Dutch national research facility)
17:00	Travel to T.M.C. Asser Institute

Friday, 4 September 2015: Multistakeholder Approaches to WMD Diplomacy and Current Challenges

09:00 – 10:30	UN Security Council resolution 1540 and WMD: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WMD and non-state actors; • What measures have states taken so far? • How has the Nuclear Security Summit contributed to reducing WMD terrorism? • The role of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the 1540 Committee.
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:45 – 12:00	Scientific and Technological Development: Opportunities and challenges to chemical and biological disarmament: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Converging sciences; • Technology development; • (Bio) chemical disarmament in a technologically evolving world.

12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:15 – 14:30	The Legacy of WMD and the Environment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WMD destruction; • Involving stakeholders.
14:30 – 15:45	Broadening the Community of Stakeholders in WMD Disarmament and Non-Proliferation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to enhance the impact of scientific advice on policy; • Obligations of diplomacy in sourcing expert advice; • The role of civil society.
15:45 – 16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:00 – 16:30	Programme Summary and Evaluation – Open Session
17:00 – 18:30	Closing reception

* Please note that the programme may be subject to change.

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