

**NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL****CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A REGIONAL BASIC COURSE
ON RESPONSE TO CHEMICAL WARFARE AGENTS
AND INCIDENTS WITH TOXIC INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS
LIMA, PERU
7 – 11 MARCH 2016**

1. On behalf of Peru and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General wishes to invite States Parties from the Latin American and Caribbean region to nominate representatives to participate in the fourth regional training cycle in assistance and protection, which will start with a basic course on response to chemical warfare agents and incidents with toxic industrial chemicals, to take place from 7 to 11 March 2016 in Lima, Peru.
2. The course will be jointly organised by the Government of Peru and the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”). It will provide training to up to 20 participants in the basics of assistance and protection against and response to chemical warfare agents and incidents with toxic industrial chemicals as established by Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”).
3. The course will be the initial step of a three-stage regional training cycle that will take place during 2016. Graduates of this basic course will continue towards the second stage of the cycle, which will consist of an advanced assistance-and-protection course that will be conducted in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in April 2016. Graduates of this basic course will therefore be automatically invited to participate in the advanced course in Argentina.
4. This course will offer an introduction to basic toxicology, the types and uses of individual protective equipment, reconnaissance, detection, and decontamination. It will cover elements related to risk assessment, prevention, and response to chemical emergencies. The course is also aimed at facilitating the exchange of information and fostering networking among the participants, with a view to enhancing the implementation of Article X of the Convention in the GRULAC¹ region.
5. Given the objectives of the course and the end goal of this three-stage approach, including its technical nature, candidates will be carefully selected and should have a

¹ GRULAC = Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.



background in the field of chemistry associated with assistance and protection against chemical agents. Preference will be given to officers from emergency-response units from institutions involved in civilian defence. Participants should be physically fit and able to wear individual protective gear during practical sessions of the course.

6. Participants should be prepared to continue to the following training stages, to which end they should undertake the necessary steps to ensure participation in the whole cycle, consisting of three training courses.
7. Endorsement by the National Authority is a prerequisite for a candidate being considered in the selection process.
8. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor a maximum of 20 participants. When proposing candidates for the course, Member States should specify whether such sponsorship is a condition of their participation. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the cost of travel, accommodation, transfer (airport/hotel/airport), medical insurance, meals (lunch), and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses.
9. When selecting participants, the Secretariat will select only one participant from a given State Party.
10. Further details regarding accommodation, the course venue, transport, and the final programme will be issued to participants in due course.
11. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. Sponsored participants are encouraged to use the tickets provided by the Secretariat. Participants are expected to arrive no earlier than **Sunday, 6 March 2016** and to depart no later than **Saturday, 12 March 2016**. 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.
12. The course will be presented in Spanish and participants are required to have a good working knowledge of Spanish, both written and oral. No interpretation services will be provided in this course.
13. Participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to Peru.
14. Interested Member States are invited to complete the nomination form that is included as Annex 2 to this Note, giving each nominee's full name, passport details and address, fax and telephone numbers, e-mail address, and area(s) of expertise. The completed nomination form, together with a brief curriculum vitae for each nominee, should be sent to the Assistance and Protection Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. Nominations may be submitted by e-mail to justo.quinteromendez@opcw.org and copied to EmergAssistBr@opcw.org, but also by fax to +31 (0)70 416 3209. Nominations should be submitted as soon as possible,

but no later than **30 November 2015**, in order to allow sufficient time for the Secretariat to make the necessary arrangements.

15. A provisional programme for the course is included as Annex 1 to this Note; further details will be issued at a later date. Any questions may be addressed to the Assistance and Protection Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division:

Telephone: Mr Justo Quintero Mendez +31 (0)70 416 3775
Ms Maria Elena Bruno Pousadela +31 (0)70 416 3217
Fax: +31 (0)70 416 3209

E-mail: justo.quinteromendez@opcw.org
EmergAssistBr@opcw.org

Annexes:

Annex 1: Provisional Programme
Annex 2 (English only): Nomination Form

Annex 1

**REGIONAL BASIC COURSE ON RESPONSE TO CHEMICAL WARFARE
AGENTS AND INCIDENTS WITH TOXIC INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS
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7 – 11 MARCH 2016

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
<i>Sunday, 6 March 2016</i>	
	Arrival of OPCW team and participants, transfer to accommodation
<i>Monday, 7 March 2016</i>	
09:00 – 09:15	Logistic and administrative information on the course
09:15 – 10:00	Opening ceremony
10:00 – 10:20	Group photo
Module 1: Convention-related issues and Article X; chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals	
10:20 – 11:15	Presentation : The Chemical Weapons Convention
11:15 – 11:30	Question-and-answer session
11:30 – 11:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:45 – 12:15	Presentation: Article X of the Convention and its implementation
12:15 – 12:30	Question-and-answer session
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:30	Presentation: Chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals: dissemination, effects, symptoms and treatment (I)
14:30 – 14:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
14:45 – 15:30	Presentation: Chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals: dissemination, effects, symptoms and treatment (II)
15:30 – 16:00	Question-and-answer session
16:00 – 16:45	Presentation: Chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals; dissemination, effects, symptoms and treatment (III)
16:45 – 17:00	Question-and-answer session
18:00	Welcome cocktail hosted by the OPCW
<i>Tuesday, 8 March 2016</i>	
Module 2: Protection and detection	
09:00 – 10:00	Presentation: Principles of respiratory protection
10:00 – 11:00	Presentation: Respiratory and body protection; heat stress
11:00 – 11:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:15 – 12:30	Presentation: Individual protective equipment; donning and doffing
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 15:30	Practical session: Donning and doffing
15:30 – 15:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:45 – 16:30	Presentation: Basic principles of detection and identification of chemical warfare agents

Time	Activity
Wednesday, 9 March 2016	
Module 3: Decontamination, sampling and analysis	
09:00 – 10:15	Presentation: Basic principles of decontamination
10:15 – 10:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:30 – 11:15	Presentation: Decontamination of personnel and equipment
11:15 – 12:30	Presentation: Sampling and analysis
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
Module 4: Emergency response	
13:30 – 14:30	Presentation: Prevention and risk assessment
14:30 – 15:30	Presentation: Response to chemical emergencies
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:00 – 16:45	Presentation: Incident command system
16:45 – 17:30	Presentation: Operations in potentially contaminated areas; downwind-hazard prediction: WISER ² software
Thursday, 10 March 2016	
09:00 – 09:30	Table-top exercise: Introduction: Operations in potentially contaminated areas
09:30 – 10:30	Table-top exercise (cont'd): Operations in potentially contaminated areas
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00 – 12:30	Table-top exercise (cont'd): Operations in potentially contaminated areas
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:00	Table-top exercise (cont'd): Operations in potentially contaminated areas
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:30 – 16:30	Presentation: Recovery and demobilisation
Friday, 11 March 2016	
Module 6: Final session and evaluation	
09:30 – 10:00	Information session on the next stage: advanced training in Costa Rica
10:00 – 10:15	Question-and-answer session
10:15 – 10:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:30 – 11:30	Discussion on acquired knowledge
11:30 – 12:00	Course evaluation
12:00 – 12:30	Closing ceremony
Saturday, 12 March 2016	
	Departure

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WISER = wireless information system for emergency responders.

Annex 2

**REGIONAL BASIC COURSE ON RESPONSE TO CHEMICAL WARFARE
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NOMINATION FORM

Please submit the completed form, along with a brief curriculum vitae, by **30 November 2015**

to: The Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW

Attention: Assistance and Protection Branch

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

Fax: + 31 (0)70 416 3209; e-mail: justo.quinteromendez@opcw.org,

EmergAssistBr@opcw.org

Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS

1.	Family name of nominee ³			
2.	First name(s)			
3.	Date of birth	Day	Month	Year
4.	Citizenship			
5.	Gender ⁴	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		
17.	Endorsement by National Authority (only one candidate per State Party will be selected)			
18.	Is sponsorship a condition of participation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	

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³ Please give the first and family names exactly as they appear in the nominee's passport.

⁴ For this and all like items, please tick the appropriate box.