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12 February 2016
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**NATURAL PRODUCTS CHEMISTRY TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE XI
OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
JOHOR DARUL TA'ZIM, MALAYSIA
25 JULY – 10 AUGUST 2016**

Purpose of the course

1. The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) of the OPCW wishes to inform Member States that it will hold the fifth natural products chemistry training and development programme towards implementation of Article XI of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) in 2016. The training is scheduled to be held at the Institute of Bioproduct Development, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), Johor Darul Ta’zim, Malaysia, from 25 July to 10 August 2016.
2. Developing nations have a rich diversity and wealth of natural products, and their chemical analysis and product development would support economic and technological development in line with Article XI of the Convention. In addition, the ability to identify and analyse toxic chemicals in plants is necessary since some Schedule 1 chemicals are derived from plant materials. The training programme is thus designed to provide a combination of theoretical knowledge and practical application, making full use of available technical facilities by providing a practical, hands-on approach at a pilot plant. The programme will provide participants with real case studies on how existing herbal-related small and medium enterprises operate. Participants will also be taken on field trips and will visit existing operating plants so that they can gain an understanding of the herbal industry and its potential, and develop project proposals for the establishment of herbal-related small and medium enterprises.
3. The training programme is designed to assist qualified natural products chemists and scientists from OPCW Member States to:
 - (a) acquire further experience and practical knowledge of chemical research in natural products development;
 - (b) enhance national capacities in Member States by offering training to personnel from industry, academic institutions, and government laboratories; and
 - (c) provide sound knowledge in product development practices.



Sponsorship

4. The course will accommodate 16 participants. The cost of the course and of accommodation for all participants will be covered by the Secretariat. The Secretariat will also pay for international travel, meals, and medical and travel insurance for all participants for the duration of the course, as per OPCW rules.

Requirements

5. The course is open to candidates who:
 - (a) have a minimum first degree (bachelor of science or equivalent) in chemistry, biotechnology, chemical engineering/technology or any other relevant degree in a natural products chemistry from a recognised university or institution;
 - (b) are citizens of an OPCW Member State; and
 - (c) are scientists or engineers with a minimum of two years' experience in industry, research institutions, universities, or government departments in their home country.
6. All course activities will be conducted in English and no interpretation services of any kind will be provided. Participants are therefore expected to have a good command of the English language, both written and oral.
7. Applications will be carefully screened on the basis of the criteria specified in paragraph 5 above. Only the most suitable applicants will be accepted.
8. Interested candidates are invited to complete, in English only, the application form that is annexed to this Note and to submit it to the Secretariat via their National Authority or the Permanent Representation of their country to the OPCW, allowing enough time for the Secretariat to receive it **no later than 23 May 2016**. The form should be sent to the Secretariat at the following address: Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. An advance copy of the application may be sent by email attachment to icb@opcw.org.

Application procedure

9. Applications that are incomplete or improperly filled out cannot be considered. Application forms must be accompanied by the following:
 - (a) an up-to-date curriculum vitae;
 - (b) a one-page description of the candidate's practical experience, their expectations of the course, and the practical value to them;
 - (c) a letter of recommendation from the candidate's supervisor concerning their qualifications and attesting to the relevance of this course to the work of their institution;
 - (d) endorsement from the National Authority of the candidate's country; and
 - (e) a photocopy of the personal information pages of the candidate's passport.

10. Additional information about this programme may be obtained from Ms Rufaro Kambarami or from Mr Rohan Perera, the Senior International Cooperation Officer. The contact details are as follows:

Telephone:

Ms Rufaro Kambarami: +31 70 416 3272

Mr Rohan Perera: +31 70 416 3615

Email: icb@opcw.org

Annex: Application Form

Annex

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AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE XI OF THE
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APPLICATION FORM

1. Before completing this form, applicants should read the guidelines in the cover Note to confirm their eligibility.
2. Applicants should complete sections 1 to 6. They should attach the documents listed in section 5 and send the form to either their National Authority or the Permanent Representation of their country to the OPCW in The Hague, with a request to complete section 7.
3. The National Authority or the Permanent Representation should complete section 7 and forward the form and documents to the Head, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands, or send them by email to icb@opcw.org so that they are received **no later than 23 May 2016**.

Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS

SECTION 1. PERSONAL AND CONTACT DETAILS			
Family name*			
First name(s)*			
Work address			
Home address			
Date of birth	Day	Month	Year
Citizenship			
Gender**	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	
Passport number			
Date of issue	Day	Month	Year
Date of expiry	Day	Month	Year
Place of issue			
Email address			
Telephone numbers, including country and city codes	Home		
	Work		
	Mobile		
Fax numbers, including country and city codes	Home		
	Work		

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

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

SECTION 5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Please attach the following documents to your application:

- (a) a letter of recommendation from your supervisor, which confirms your qualifications in the light of paragraph 5 of the cover Note to which this form is annexed, and that attests to the relevance of this course to the work of the institution at which you are working;
- (b) an up-to-date curriculum vitae;
- (c) a one-page description of your practical experience and expectations for the course; and
- (d) a photocopy of the personal information pages of your passport.

Applications without full supporting documentation cannot be accepted.

SECTION 6. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

Signature _____

Date _____

SECTION 7. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY OR PERMANENT REPRESENTATION

Signature, with seal or stamp, of an authorised representative of the National Authority or of the Permanent Representation to the OPCW

Date _____