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8 March 2016  
ENGLISH only

**NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE SEVENTH ANNUAL  
SUMMER PROGRAMME ON DISARMAMENT AND NON-PROLIFERATION  
OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION IN A CHANGING WORLD  
THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS  
4 – 9 SEPTEMBER 2016**

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 “Seventh Annual 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 4 to 9 September 2016.
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 (WMDs) 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.
3. The specific objectives are to:
  - (a) offer a broad, comparative review of the history, purpose, and provisions of WMD treaties;
  - (b) provide an understanding of the diplomatic, legal, and technical aspects of organisations dealing with WMDs;
  - (c) explore how WMD treaties are implemented at the national level; and
  - (d) create networking opportunities for participants by bringing them into direct contact with officials of leading organisations in the field of WMDs.
4. The 2016 Summer Programme will offer an integrated approach to WMDs. It will address the non-proliferation and disarmament efforts being made individually and



cooperatively with respect to chemical, nuclear, and biological weapons, with the more cross-cutting aspects discussed in high-level panels.

5. The summer programme's interdisciplinary 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), and the OPCW. The programme's blend of academic and practical knowledge and its comprehensive scope have been well received by participants and will be continued in 2016.
6. Classwork during the 2016 summer programme will be supplemented by two field visits: a live exercise of an investigation of alleged use of WMDs in Wassenaar, the Netherlands, and a visit to the nuclear research reactor at the Delft University of Technology. The field visits offer participants direct experience in chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) preparedness, and in the way international treaties on WMDs are implemented at the national level.
7. The provisional programme for the 2016 summer programme is annexed to this Note.
8. The registration fee for the 2016 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.
10. The Technical 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.
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. The application form is downloadable from the T.M.C. Asser Institute website at [www.asser.nl/Disarmament2016](http://www.asser.nl/Disarmament2016), and can also be accessed through the OPCW website at [www.opcw.org](http://www.opcw.org). Interested applicants should submit the form directly to the Institute **no later than Monday, 25 July 2016**.

14. The T.M.C. Asser Institute provides four full scholarships for outstanding applicants from developing countries or countries with economies in transition who wish to participate in the 2016 programme. Eligible applicants should apply directly to the T.M.C. Asser Institute for the scholarships ([www.asser.nl/WMDscholarship2016](http://www.asser.nl/WMDscholarship2016)). The scholarships cover the costs of the registration fee, travel, accommodation, and a daily allowance. All such arrangements will be made by the Institute. The deadline to apply for the scholarships is **1 May 2016**.
15. Additional information about the summer programme may be obtained from the OPCW Public Affairs Branch, External Relations Division. The contact person is Ms Magdalena Spalinska, Public Information Officer, who can be reached by telephone at +31 (0) 70 416 3242, and by email at [Magdalena.Spalinska@opcw.org](mailto:Magdalena.Spalinska@opcw.org).

Annex: Seventh Annual Summer Programme on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in a Changing World, The Hague, the Netherlands, 4 – 9 September 2016: Provisional Programme

## Annex

**SEVENTH ANNUAL SUMMER PROGRAMME ON DISARMAMENT AND  
NON-PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION  
IN A CHANGING WORLD  
THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS  
4 – 9 SEPTEMBER 2016**

**PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

Time	Event
<b><i>Sunday, 4 September 2016: Welcome</i></b>	
17:00 – 18:00	Welcome and reception
<b><i>Monday, 5 September 2016: Overview of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs)</i></b>	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:30	Opening
09:30 – 10:30	Preventing the re-emergence of chemical weapons: Lessons for Non-proliferation
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:45 – 12:15	WMDs from a Geopolitical Perspective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The reasons why States pursue WMDs</li> <li>• WMDs and international order</li> <li>• The role of arms control, disarmament, and non-proliferation</li> <li>• Case studies</li> </ul>
12:15 – 13:15	<i>Lunch</i>
13:15 – 14:45	International Law and the Use of Force: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The use of force under international law</li> <li>• Humanitarian intervention</li> <li>• The responsibility to protect</li> <li>• Case studies</li> </ul>
14:45 – 15:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:00 – 16:00	International Humanitarian Law and WMDs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Jus in bello</i> and weapons law</li> <li>• Restrictions on the use of nuclear weapons</li> <li>• Prohibitions on the use of chemical and biological weapons</li> <li>• Humanitarian Nuclear Weapons Initiative</li> </ul>
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"> <li>• How do nuclear weapons work?</li> <li>• What is involved in their production?</li> <li>• What is necessary for their deployment, and their control?</li> <li>• Could a non-State actor (such as a terrorist group) make or use a nuclear explosive?</li> </ul>
18:30	<i>Opening dinner</i>

Time	Event
<b>Tuesday, 6 September 2016: Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and Field Visit</b>	
09:00 – 10:45	Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History leading to adoption of the NPT</li> <li>• Three pillars of the NPT</li> <li>• Review conferences and 1995 extension</li> <li>• Current state of play</li> </ul>
10:45 – 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 – 12:00	Nuclear Safeguards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The various types of safeguard agreements and their progressive development in view of proliferation cases</li> <li>• State-level approach</li> </ul>
12:00 – 12:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
12:15 – 13:15	Iran Nuclear Deal: Implementation Challenges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)</li> <li>• Verification regime</li> <li>• Break-out time concept</li> </ul>
13:15 – 14:15	<i>Lunch in bus</i>
14:15 – 17:00	Field visit: TU-Delft Nuclear Research Reactor
<b>Wednesday, 7 September 2016: Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Nuclear and Biological Weapons</b>	
09:00 – 10:15	Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current challenges and policy issues</li> <li>• Nuclear weapons-free zones</li> </ul>
10:15 – 10:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:30 – 11:30	The Importance of a Fissile Materials (Cut-off) Treaty for Nuclear Disarmament: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why and how to prohibit the production of fissile materials</li> <li>• What are the prospects of an international agreement?</li> </ul>
11:30 – 11:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:45 – 12:30	Nuclear Security Summit 2016: Working Towards a Global Nuclear Architecture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimise the use of highly-enriched uranium</li> <li>• Secure vulnerable materials</li> <li>• Counter nuclear smuggling</li> <li>• Deter, detect, and disrupt attempts at nuclear terrorism</li> </ul>
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Brown bag lunch:</i> Professional opportunities in the sphere of WMDs
13:45 – 14:30	Life Sciences, Chemistry, and Disarmament: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific underpinning of treaty implementation</li> <li>• Scientific development and security concerns</li> <li>• Need for and role of science in policy</li> </ul>
14:30 – 14:45	<i>Coffee break</i>

<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>
14:45 – 17:30 (incl. coffee break)	Biological Weapons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treaties, regulations, and codes of conduct</li> <li>• The Implementation Support Unit</li> <li>• Intersessional meetings</li> <li>• Current challenges and policy issues</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday, 8 September 2016: Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Chemical Weapons and Field Visit</b>	
09:00 – 10:00	The Chemical Weapons Convention: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History leading to its adoption</li> <li>• Main pillars of the Chemical Weapons Convention</li> <li>• New and emerging challenges</li> <li>• Transition in focus from disarmament to non-proliferation</li> </ul>
10:00 – 10:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:15 – 11:00	The OPCW: Mechanism of Verification (from Declarations to Inspection) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obligations of States Parties</li> <li>• Verification by the OPCW: three types of inspections</li> <li>• Addressing non-compliance</li> </ul>
11:00 – 11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:15 – 12:45	The Use of Chemical Weapons in Syria and Iraq (TBC): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The impact on public health</li> <li>• Security aspects</li> <li>• The experience of inspectors</li> </ul>
12:45 – 13:45	<i>Lunch</i>
13:45 – 14:30	<i>Travel to field visit</i>
14:30 – 17:00	Field visit to Wassenaar: Live Exercise of an Investigation of Alleged Use of WMD
<b>Friday, 9 September 2016: Multi-stakeholder Approaches to WMD Diplomacy and Current Challenges</b>	
09:00 – 10:30	Scientific and Technological Development – Opportunities and Challenges to Chemical and Biological Disarmament: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Converging sciences</li> <li>• Technology development</li> <li>• (Bio)chemical disarmament in a technologically evolving world</li> </ul>
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:45 – 12:00	Export Control Regimes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nuclear Suppliers Group</li> <li>• Zangger Committee</li> <li>• Missile Technology Control Regime</li> <li>• Wassenaar Agreement</li> <li>• Australia Group</li> </ul>

<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00 – 14:30	Simulation Exercise
14:30 – 15:45	Broadening the Community of Stakeholders in WMD Disarmament and Non-Proliferation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How to enhance the impact of scientific advice on policy</li><li>• Obligations of diplomacy in sourcing expert advice</li><li>• Role of civil society</li></ul>
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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