



NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE SECOND
ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION COURSE FOR INSTRUCTORS
LÁZNĚ BOHDANEČ, THE CZECH REPUBLIC
18 - 25 MAY 2016**

1. On behalf of the Government of the Czech Republic and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General wishes to invite States Parties to nominate participants for the second assistance and protection course for instructors, which will take place from 18 to 25 May 2016 in Lázně Bohdaneč, the Czech Republic.
2. The course is being organised by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) and will provide training for up to 20 instructors who are involved in responding to chemical emergency incidents. The course will cover the following topics:
 - (a) protection of personnel during a chemical emergency;
 - (b) rescue and decontamination operations in contaminated areas; and
 - (c) appropriate responses and countermeasures in the event of incidents involving chemical-warfare agents or toxic chemicals.
3. The course will also provide an overview of the kinds of assistance the OPCW can provide, and will help participating States Parties to enhance the ability and skills of instructors in their countries to offer training on how to provide protection against chemical weapons and other toxic chemicals, as well as on how to manage chemical incidents.
4. The course will offer an introduction to the use of individual and collective protective equipment; to monitoring, detection, and decontamination; and to sampling techniques. It will also facilitate the exchange of information and experiences regarding the implementation of Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”), and provide a forum for States Parties to discuss how they can cooperate in the future and what further offers they might make to the OPCW under Article X. The course will include table-top and field emergency response exercises.
5. Given the purpose of the course and its technical nature, candidates will be carefully selected according to the following criteria:



- (a) All participants should be first responders and/or instructors/trainers, or be involved in developing an emergency response system in their own countries.
 - (b) All participants must have a good oral and written command of English, as all activities during the course will be conducted in English and no interpretation services of any kind will be available.
 - (c) Preference will be given to instructors from emergency response units, such as firefighters, emergency medical personnel, and police officers.
 - (d) Participants must be physically fit and capable of wearing individual protective gear for several hours at a time. Some practical experience with protective equipment is desirable.
6. Applications will be carefully screened on the basis of the criteria specified in paragraph 5 above. Only the most suitable applicants will be selected.
 7. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor a limited number of participants from States Parties. For sponsored participants, it will cover the costs of accommodation and meals. Further details regarding accommodation, the course venue, and transport will be issued to all confirmed participants at a later date.
 8. In order for the Secretariat to keep costs to a minimum, sponsored participants are expected to arrive **no earlier than Tuesday, 17 May 2016** and to depart **no later than Thursday, 26 May 2016**. The Secretariat's approval is required for any changes to the arrival and departure dates of sponsored participants.
 9. The Secretariat will not cover expenses unrelated to the course or that result from unauthorised changes in travel arrangements. Participants who have not been sponsored are requested to make their own travel arrangements.
 10. Participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to the Czech Republic.
 11. Interested applicants are invited to register their nomination online via the OPCW website at <https://apps.opcw.org/ems> **no later than 11 April 2016**. Please note that all fields marked with an asterisk (*) must be completed in order for applications to be processed. Interested applicants who for technical reasons are unable to submit an application online are requested to send an email to EmergAssistBr@opcw.org explaining the problem. Only selected participants will be contacted.
 12. Additional information on the course may be obtained from the International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact persons are Ms Olesea Becu (Tel: +31 (0)70 416 3593) and Mr Esmel Oscar Meless (Tel: +31 (0)70 416 3451).

Annex: Provisional Programme

Annex

**SECOND ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION COURSE FOR INSTRUCTORS
LÁZNĚ BOHDANEČ, THE CZECH REPUBLIC
18 – 25 MAY 2016**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
Tuesday, 17 May 2016	
	Arrival of participants in Prague, transfer to Lázně Bohdaneč
Wednesday, 18 May 2016	
08:00 – 09:00	<i>Breakfast</i>
09:00 – 09:30	Official opening, keynote speech, and official photograph
09:30 – 10:00	Administrative information, introduction of participants
10:00 – 10:30	Lecture: Population Protection Institute (introduction to the facility)
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00 – 11:30	Lecture: Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention
11:30 – 12:30	Lecture: Chemical weapons disarmament
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 16:00	Lecture and demonstration: Chemical-warfare agents – medical aspects and prophylaxis (Transfer to University of Defence, Hradec Králové)
16:00 – 16:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:30 – 17:30	Equipment handover
18:30 – 21:00	<i>Welcome dinner hosted by the OPCW</i>
Thursday, 19 May 2016	
07:15 – 08:00	<i>Breakfast</i>
08:00 – 08:30	Lecture: Integrated Rescue System of the Czech Republic
08:30 – 09:15	Lecture: Principles of protection against chemicals
09:15 – 10:00	Lecture: Personal protective equipment
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Lecture: Detection – principles and training detection kit
11:00 – 12:00	Lecture: Decontamination
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:00	Breaking up into working groups (WG1 and WG2) and setting up a task force
14:00 – 14:30	Assignment of a special task to each participant
14:30 – 15:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:00 – 16:00	Self-study session with the assistance of instructors, use of course manuals
16:00 – 18:00	Individual preparation for participant presentations
18:00 – 19:00	<i>Dinner</i>
Friday, 20 May 2016	
07:15 – 08:00	<i>Breakfast</i>
08:00 – 10:00	Lectures, demonstrations, and practical training: each participant presents their assigned task (two classes running in parallel)
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:30 – 12:30	Lectures, demonstrations, and practical training: each participant presents their assigned task (two classes running in parallel – continued)
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>

14:00 – 14:30	Lecture: Sampling
14:45 – 16:30	On-site training: Detection, sampling, and decontamination (three teams, exchanging workplaces)
18:00 – 19:00	<i>Dinner</i>
<i>Saturday, 21 May 2016</i>	
07:15 – 08:00	<i>Breakfast</i>
08:00 – 08:30	Lecture: Analysis of toxic chemicals
08:30 – 09:00	Demonstration: HazMat reconnaissance vehicles
09:00 – 10:00	Lecture: Evaluation of chemical situation – Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) and Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders (WISER)
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:30 – 11:45	Table-top exercise: Evaluation of chemical situation – ERG, WISER
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 16:00	Practical session: Protection of personnel during a chemical emergency
18:00 – 19:00	<i>Dinner</i>
<i>Sunday, 22 May 2016</i>	
	<i>Free day</i>
<i>Monday, 23 May 2016</i>	
07:15 – 08:00	<i>Breakfast</i>
08:00 – 10:30	Lecture and demonstration: Modern protective equipment
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00 – 11:45	Lecture and demonstration: Modern detection equipment (continued)
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:00	Practical training: Protective mask air-tightness testing
14:00 – 14:30	Excursion: Chemical laboratories
14:30 – 15:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:00 – 15:30	Table-top exercise: Hot zone management, field exercise with two scenarios
15:30 – 16:30	Table-top exercise: Detection, sampling, decontamination (three teams, exchanging workplaces)
18:00 – 19:00	<i>Dinner</i>
<i>Tuesday, 24 May 2016</i>	
07:15 – 08:00	<i>Breakfast</i>
08:30 – 10:30	Field exercise 1: Terrorist attack – chemical-warfare agent incident (Part 1)
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00 – 12:30	Evaluation of Exercise 1, discussion
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 16:00	Field exercise 2: Terrorist attack – chemical-warfare agent incident (Part 2)
16:00 – 16:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:30 – 17:30	Overall evaluation and debriefing of field exercises
17:30 – 18:00	Evaluation of the course – filling out OPCW evaluation forms
18:00 – 19:00	<i>Dinner</i>
19:00 – 21:00	Collective programme

<i>Wednesday, 25 May 2016</i>	
07:00 – 08:00	<i>Breakfast</i>
08:00 – 08:20	Lecture, demonstration, and practical training: participants present the assigned tasks (two classes running in parallel)
08:20 – 09:00	Maintenance and return of equipment
09:00 – 09:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
09:30 – 12:00	Transfer to a hotel in Prague, check-in
12:00 – 13:00	Official closing ceremony
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Official lunch</i>
14:00 – 19:00	Sightseeing in Prague
19:00 – 20:00	<i>Dinner</i>

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