



S/1426/2016
12 October 2016
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
FOR THE FIFTH REGIONAL BASIC TRAINING COURSE ON EMERGENCY
RESPONSE TO CHEMICAL INCIDENTS FOR STATES PARTIES IN ASIA
COLOMBO, SRI LANKA
6 – 10 FEBRUARY 2017**

1. On behalf of the Government of Sri Lanka and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General wishes to invite States Parties in Asia to nominate representatives to participate in the fifth regional basic training course on emergency response to chemical incidents, which will take place from 6 to 10 February 2017 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
2. The course, which will be jointly organised by the Government of Sri Lanka and the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”), is related to capacity-building for national and regional emergency response within the framework of Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”), and will provide training for up to 20 participants in planning and building a support team for civil protection, civil defence, and decontamination operations in contaminated areas, as well as in appropriate responses and countermeasures in the event of incidents involving chemical warfare agents or toxic industrial chemicals. It will also give an overview of what kind of assistance the OPCW, the host country, and Member States in Asia can provide, and will assist participating Member States in establishing a basic capability in protection from chemical weapons, which will directly benefit their civilian populations.
3. The course will offer a basic introduction to the use of protective equipment and monitoring, detection, and decontamination techniques. Participants completing the basic course will acquire general knowledge of chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals, and knowledge and understanding of the use of individual protective equipment, equipment for detection and decontamination, and medical countermeasures. The course will facilitate the exchange of information and experiences regarding the implementation of Article X of the Convention and will provide a forum for the discussion of future cooperation among participating Member States and what further assistance they might make to the OPCW under Article X. The course will conclude with a practical emergency response exercise.
4. Given the purpose of the course and its technical nature, candidates will be carefully selected and should be physically fit and able to wear individual protective equipment for several hours at a time during the practical sessions of the course. They should also have experience in assistance and protection against chemical weapons.



Preference will be given to officers from emergency response units involved in civilian protection. In addition, it is desirable that participants have some practical experience with protective equipment.

5. It should be noted that the course is part of a tailored approach to training focused on annual training cycles conducted at the regional level. In line with this approach to capacity-building projects under Article X, it is expected that participants selected for this course will also participate in the advanced regional assistance and protection course, to be held in Pakistan in October 2017.
6. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor the participation of a limited number of participants. Each nomination should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of the nominee's participation. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel and medical insurance, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses. The course materials, accommodation, meals, and local transport during the course will be provided at no cost to the participants. Further details regarding accommodation, the course venue, and transport will be issued to all confirmed participants at a later date.
7. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. Participants will be allowed to purchase tickets locally only if this leads to further savings for the Secretariat and if the Secretariat authorises it. In order for the Secretariat to keep costs to a minimum, sponsored participants are expected to arrive **no earlier than Sunday, 5 February 2017** and to depart **no later than Saturday, 11 February 2017**. 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 must bear all costs resulting from changes they make, including cancellations, once the Secretariat has purchased their tickets. Participants who have not been sponsored are requested to make their own travel arrangements and to inform the Secretariat accordingly.
8. All activities during the course will be conducted in English, and no interpretation services of any kind will be provided. Participants are therefore expected to have a good written and oral command of the English language.
9. Participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to Sri Lanka.
10. Interested applicants are invited to complete the nomination form that is included as Annex 2 to this Note, making sure in particular to provide all the contact details it requests. Completed forms should be sent, along with a brief curriculum vitae and an endorsement letter from the relevant National Authority, to the Head of the Assistance and Protection Branch, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. Nominations may also be submitted by fax to +31 (0)70 416 3209 or by email to EmergAssistBr@opcw.org (with a reference to the name and location of the course in the subject line). All materials must be received by the Secretariat **no later than 30 November 2016**. Only selected participants will be contacted; contact will be made within two weeks of the submission deadline. Only selected participants with an OPCW acceptance letter will be permitted to attend the course.

11. Additional information may be obtained from the Assistance and Protection Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact persons are Mr Shahriar Khateri (Tel: +31 (0)70 416 3231; Email: shahriar.khateri@opcw.org) or Ms Maria Elena Bruno Pousadela (Tel: +31 (0)70 416 3217; Email: MariaElena.Bruno-Pousadela@opcw.org).

Annexes:

Annex 1: Provisional Programme

Annex 2: Nomination Form

Annex 1

**FIFTH REGIONAL BASIC TRAINING COURSE ON EMERGENCY RESPONSE
TO CHEMICAL INCIDENTS FOR STATES PARTIES IN ASIA
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PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
<i>Sunday, 5 February 2017</i>	
	Arrival of participants and registration
<i>Monday, 6 February 2017</i>	
08:30 – 09:00	Course overview
09:00 – 09:45	Course opening and group photo of participants
09:45 – 10:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:00 – 10:50	Lecture: The OPCW, the Convention, and its Article X on assistance and protection against chemical weapons
10:50 – 12:00	Lecture: Implementation of the Convention in Sri Lanka
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:00	Lecture: The OPCW and delivery of assistance operations
14:00 – 14:30	Chemical weapons: History on the battlefield and terrorist attacks
14:30 – 14:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
14:45 – 15:30	Lecture: Introduction to chemical weapons agents, their classification, and toxic effects
15:30 – 16:15	Lecture: Detection of chemical weapons agents (methods and equipment)
16:15 – 17:00	Practical exercise: Detection of chemical weapons agents using detection equipment
18:30 – 20:30	Reception hosted by the OPCW
<i>Tuesday, 7 February 2017</i>	
08:00 – 08:45	Lecture: Physical protection against chemical warfare agents (individual)
08:45 – 09:30	Lecture: Physical protection against chemical warfare agents (collective)
09:30 – 09:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
09:45 – 10:45	Demonstration: Individual protective equipment (IPE)
10:45 – 12:00	Lecture: Response to emergencies involving chemical agents, and corresponding operating procedures
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:00	Exercise: Use of IPE (donning and doffing)
15:00 – 15:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:15 – 16:30	Exercise: Use of IPE (donning and doffing) (continued)
<i>Wednesday, 8 February 2017</i>	
08:00 – 08:50	Lecture: Decontamination after an incident involving chemical warfare agents or toxic industrial chemicals
08:50 – 09:45	Lecture: Decontamination equipment and materials
09:45 – 10:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:00 – 11:45	Reconnaissance and sampling operation procedures
11:45 – 12:50	<i>Lunch</i>
12:50 – 13:40	Lecture: Setting up a decontamination station

Time	Activity
13:40 – 16:40	Exercise: Setting up a decontamination station
18:30 – 20:30	<i>Official dinner</i>
<i>Thursday, 9 February 2017</i>	
08:00 – 09:45	Medical management of chemical weapons casualties
09:45 – 10:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:00 – 11:45	Exercise: Chemical casualty management (first aid in the field)
11:45 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:15	Incident command systems during a chemical attack/incident
14:15 – 15:00	Presentations and discussion: Chemical incident response
15:00 – 15:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:15 – 17:00	Exercise: Emergency response planning and WISER ¹
<i>Friday, 10 February 2017</i>	
08:30 – 10:30	Course review and evaluation
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:45 – 11:45	Closing ceremony
11:45 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
<i>Saturday, 11 February 2017</i>	
	Departure of participants

¹ WISER = wireless information system for emergency responders.

Annex 2

**FIFTH REGIONAL BASIC TRAINING COURSE ON EMERGENCY RESPONSE
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COLOMBO, SRI LANKA
6 – 10 FEBRUARY 2017**

NOMINATION FORM

Please submit the completed form, along with brief curriculum vitae and an endorsement letter from the relevant National Authority, **by 30 November 2016** to:

Head, Assistance and Protection Branch, OPCW

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

Fax: + 31 (0)70 416 3209; Email: EmergAssistBr@opcw.org

(subject of the email: Regional basic training course on emergency response to chemical incidents for States Parties in Asia, Sri Lanka)

Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS

Government body making the nomination			
Family name of nominee*			
First name(s)			
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			
Area(s) of expertise			
Employer			
Position			
Contact address (Please do not give a post-office box number)	Street		
	Number	Postcode	
	City		
	Country		

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

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

Airport of departure	
Email address	
Telephone numbers, including country and city codes	Home
	Work
	Mobile
Fax numbers, including country and city codes	Home
	Work
Has the nominee previously participated in a course of this kind?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If so, when and where?
Is sponsorship a condition of participation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Meal preferences	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> If so, please describe
Sizes	Gloves S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/>
	Boots (number):
	Height (m):
	Weight (kg):