



NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
FOR AN ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION COURSE FOR EXPERTS
ZEMIANSKE KOSTOL'ANY, SLOVAKIA
27 MARCH – 6 APRIL 2017**

1. On behalf of the Government of Slovakia and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General wishes to invite Member States to nominate participants for an assistance and protection course for experts, to be held in Zemianske Kostol'any, Slovakia, from 27 March to 6 April 2017.
2. The course will be jointly organised by the Government of Slovakia and the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”). The main purpose of the course is to assist Member States in their efforts to establish protection capability that will directly benefit their civilian populations. It will provide training to up to 10 specialists who are or who will be associated with the detection and decontamination of chemical agents in their home countries. The course will provide the participants with the opportunity to be trained—under laboratory and field conditions—in how to work with scheduled and toxic industrial chemicals.
3. Member States that do not yet have detection-and-analysis capabilities are especially encouraged to nominate participants. However, given the objectives of the course and its technical nature, the Secretariat will select candidates carefully, and therefore participants should have a solid technical background. Previous practical experience with military or civil protection is desirable. Individual protective suits must be worn for up to four hours per day, and participants must, therefore, be physically fit and be able to wear such equipment for several hours at a time.
4. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor a limited number of participants from States Parties. Each nomination should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of the nominee’s participation. Further details regarding accommodation, the course venue, and transport will be issued to all confirmed participants at a later date.
5. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. In order for the Secretariat to keep costs to a minimum, sponsored participants are expected to arrive **no earlier than Sunday, 26 March 2017**, and to depart **no later than Friday, 7 April 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 shall



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.

6. 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 English.
7. Participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas, including transit visas, before travelling to Slovakia.
8. Interested applicants are invited to register their nomination online via the OPCW website at: <http://www.opcw.org/events> no later than 3 February 2017. Please note that a response to all required questions (marked with *) needs to be provided in order for the candidate to be eligible to apply for this event. Interested applicants who are unable to submit an application online at <http://www.opcw.org/events> due to technical problems, are requested to send their application to EmergAssistBr@opcw.org with reference to the name and location of the event in the subject. Those who have been selected to participate will be contacted no later than two weeks after the submission deadline.
9. Additional information may be obtained from the Assistance and Protection Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact person is Ms Olesea Becu, who may be reached by telephone at +31 (0)70 416 3593, or by email at EmergAssistBr@opcw.org.

Annexes:

- Annex 1: Provisional Programme
Annex 2: Nomination Form

Annex 1

PROGRAMME
ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION COURSE FOR EXPERTS
ZEMIANSKE KOSTOL'ANY, SLOVAKIA
27 MARCH – 6 APRIL 2017

Time	Activity
<i>Monday, 27 March 2017</i>	
07:00	Blood draw (hotel)
08:30 – 12:30	Opening, facility presentation, training programme, safety and medical instructions, presentations on the character of chemical warfare agents (CWAs), CWA health effects, first aid, detection of CWAs
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 17:00	Individual protective equipment (IPE) distribution, laboratory demonstration, tour of the NBC Technical Training Centre, demonstration of decontamination control, demonstration of IPE use, gas mask test
<i>Tuesday, 28 March 2017</i>	
08:00 – 12:30	Briefing, detection of CWAs, decontamination of CWAs, self-decontamination, sample transport preparation, rescue exercise, simulants
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 17:00	Individual training: First contact with CWAs, simulants, evaluation
<i>Wednesday, 29 March 2017</i>	
08:00 – 12:30	Briefing, individual training: First contact with CWAs, CWAs, decontamination, hygiene
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 17:00	Detection of simulants and false positives, exercise on preparation of decontamination solutions, exercise on personal decontamination, simulants, evaluation
<i>Thursday, 30 March 2017</i>	
08:00 – 12:30	Briefing, exercise: CWA detection and decontamination of common surfaces – CWAs, decontamination, hygiene
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 17:00	Team exercise: Complex samples that require preparation, simulants, decontamination, hygiene, evaluation
<i>Friday, 31 March 2017</i>	
08:00 – 12:30	Briefing, team exercise: Complex samples that require preparation, CWAs, decontamination, hygiene, evaluation
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
09:45 – 12:15	Exercise: Detection and sampling from improvised explosive devices, detection and sampling from waste incineration residues, simulants, evaluation
<i>Saturday, 1 April 2017</i>	
08:00 – 12:30	Presentations (hotel): CWA analysis in field conditions, sampling (methods, types of samples, sampling equipment)

Time	Activity
<i>Monday, 3 April 2017</i>	
08:00 – 12:30	Briefing, team exercise: Detection, sampling and decontamination of CWAs on vehicles, CWAs, decontamination, hygiene
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 17:00	Team exercise: Detection and sampling from collectors of drinkable water, detection and sampling from ammunition, simulants, evaluation
<i>Tuesday, 4 April 2017</i>	
08:00 – 12:30	Briefing, final complex exercise focused on detection of CWAs, their sampling and decontamination – samples preparation for transport, CWAs, decontamination, hygiene
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 17:00	Team exercise: Illegal laboratory – detection and sampling, detection and sampling after road incident, simulants, evaluation
<i>Wednesday, 5 April 2017</i>	
08:00 – 12:30	Briefing, laboratory analysis of samples collected during the training, CWAs, decontamination, hygiene
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 17:00	Team exercise: Collection of samples in poor visual conditions, simulants, evaluation
<i>Thursday, 6 April 2017</i>	
07:00 – 12:30	07:00 Blood draw (hotel), IPE cleaning and return, evaluation of training, official closure
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 17:00	Social activities for participants, organised by the Ministry of the Economy
<i>Friday, 7 April 2017</i>	
	Departure