



S/1458/2017  
6 February 2017  
ENGLISH only

**NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT****CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A SYMPOSIUM ON WOMEN IN CHEMISTRY  
AND A BASIC ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY COURSE FOR WOMEN CHEMISTS  
THE HAGUE AND RIJSWIJK, THE NETHERLANDS  
2 – 5 MAY 2017****Purpose of the course**

1. The OPCW Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) wishes to inform Member States that, in association with the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”), it will hold a symposium on women in chemistry at the OPCW Headquarters in The Hague, the Netherlands on 2 May 2017, which will be followed by a basic analytical chemistry course for women chemists at the OPCW Laboratory in Rijswijk, the Netherlands from 3 to 5 May 2017.
2. The theme for this year’s symposium is “Women as a Force for the Peaceful Uses of Chemistry”. The aim of the symposium is to illustrate the strength and depth of the contributions of women in chemistry; to raise awareness of capacity development for women in chemistry; and to promote international solidarity and cooperation in this regard.
3. The aim of the analytical chemistry course is to assist qualified women analytical chemists from Member States whose economies are developing or in transition in acquiring further knowledge and experience, specifically as it relates to the analysis of chemicals related to the Convention, and to facilitate the adoption of good laboratory practices and quality standards.

**Content**

4. The one-day symposium will focus on thematic presentations and discussions featuring prominent role models to address various aspects of interest and concern for women working towards peaceful uses of chemistry, including the particular challenges and opportunities they face. Group discussions will also be arranged to focus on education, capacity building, and career advancement for women chemists. The symposium will also provide an opportunity to share significant research achievements by women chemists.
5. The three-day course will focus on basic training in gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS), and will include study/demonstration tours related to the use of these and other techniques for the analysis of chemicals related to the Convention.



It is expected that the participants in the analytical chemistry course will also attend the symposium.

### **Admission requirements**

6. The symposium is open to women who:
  - (a) have a minimum of a first degree (BSc or equivalent) in chemistry, analytical chemistry, or chemical engineering from a recognised university or institution; and
  - (b) have professional working experience in academia, science and technology institutions, chemical industry or industry associations, or regulatory or promotional agencies related to chemical sciences.
7. The analytical chemistry course is open to women who:
  - (a) have a minimum of a first degree (BSc or equivalent) in analytical chemistry, chemistry, or related chemical sciences from a recognised university or institution, with relevant practical and theoretical experience in analytical chemistry;
  - (b) have experience working with GC-MS techniques;
  - (c) are citizens of Member States whose economies are developing or in transition; and
  - (d) have been working in a chemical laboratory or research institution in their home country for **at least three years**.
8. The symposium and analytical chemistry course will be conducted in English. Candidates must therefore have a strong command of both written and spoken English. Any candidate who is found upon arrival not to meet this requirement may not be allowed to continue their participation in the events.

### **Selection procedure**

9. Applications will be carefully screened on the basis of the criteria specified in paragraphs 6 and 7 above. Applicants who have already participated in the OPCW Analytical Skills Development Course programme **will not be considered for the analytical chemistry course**.
10. Member States are welcome to nominate participants for whom sponsorship is not required.

### **Sponsorship**

11. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor a maximum of 30 participants for the symposium. Of these 30, a maximum of nine participants may attend the analytical chemistry course. All sponsored participants must be citizens of Member States whose economies are developing or are in transition. The Secretariat will select the participants based on their qualifications and experience. Only selected candidates

will be notified by the Secretariat. In the meantime, Member States are welcome to nominate for participation in the symposium non-sponsored female participants who meet the admission requirements indicated in paragraph 6 above.

12. Each application form should specify whether sponsorship is a condition of the nominee's participation. All applications from Member States must be formally endorsed by the National Authority.
13. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel and medical insurance, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover meals and sundry expenses. The Secretariat will also arrange and pay for the accommodation of sponsored participants. Sponsored participants who do not intend to use the accommodation arranged by the Secretariat are requested to indicate that as soon as possible, so that the Secretariat does not incur hotel cancellation fees. In any case, the Secretariat will not cover the costs of any accommodation that it has not arranged.
14. The Secretariat will not pay for medical assistance. Therefore, participants should be fit to travel. All participants taking prescribed medication should arrive with supplies sufficient for the duration of the events.
15. When making travel arrangement for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. The Secretariat will purchase tickets and send them to the participants. Participants will be allowed to purchase tickets locally only if this leads to further savings for the Secretariat and if the Secretariat authorises it. Sponsored participants shall bear all costs resulting from any changes they make once the Secretariat has purchased the tickets. Non-sponsored participants will be requested to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements, although the Secretariat can, if necessary, arrange accommodation. In order for the Secretariat to keep costs to a minimum, sponsored participants are expected to arrive no earlier than **Monday, 1 May 2017** and to depart no later than **Saturday, 6 May 2017**.
16. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to The Hague. The Secretariat will cover the costs of these visas by reimbursing sponsored participants upon production of original receipts.

### **Application procedure**

17. Candidates who are interested in applying for the symposium are invited fill out the forms in Annexes 2 and 3 to this Note. Candidates who are interested in applying for both the symposium and the analytical chemistry course are invited to fill out the forms in Annexes 2, 3, and 4.
18. Applications that are incomplete or improperly filled out cannot be considered. Application forms must be accompanied by the following:
  - (a) a photocopy of the personal identification pages of the candidate's passport;
  - (b) an up-to-date curriculum vitae;
  - (c) a one-page description of the candidate's practical experience;

- (d) (for analytical chemistry course candidates only) a letter of recommendation from the candidate's supervisor that addresses her qualifications and attests to the relevance of the course to the work of the institution; and
  - (e) an endorsement from the National Authority of the candidate's country.
19. Applications should be submitted to the Secretariat, via the respective Member State's National Authority or Permanent Representation to the OPCW, **no later than Friday, 3 March 2017**. Once endorsed, the Permanent Representation should then send the application to the Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. Applications may also be sent by email to [icb@opcw.org](mailto:icb@opcw.org) indicating "Women in Chemistry" in the subject line of the message. Please be advised that participants must present an OPCW acceptance letter in order to register for the events.
20. Additional information about this programme may be obtained from Ms Halimatussaadiah Mat Som, International Cooperation Officer, (Tel: +31 (0)70 416 3260; Email: [halimatus.matsom@opcw.org](mailto:halimatus.matsom@opcw.org)).

Annexes:

- Annex 1: Provisional Programme for the Symposium on Women in Chemistry
- Annex 2: Application Form for the Symposium on Women in Chemistry
- Annex 3: National Authority Endorsement Form
- Annex 4: Application Form for the Analytical Chemistry Course for Women Chemists

**Annex 1**

**SYMPOSIUM ON WOMEN IN CHEMISTRY  
THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS  
2 MAY 2017**

**PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:30	Welcome address by the Director-General of the OPCW and a high-level female representative
09:30 – 09:40	Violin performance
09:40 – 10:30	Women as a Force for the Peaceful Uses of Chemistry: Inspiring Role Models
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:45 – 11:45	Challenges and opportunities for women in promoting peaceful chemistry
11:45 – 12:45	Chemical entrepreneurship for peaceful uses of chemistry: Women's perspective
12:45 – 14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30 – 16:00	Round-table discussion: Topics of interest for women scientists in promoting peaceful chemistry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Education</li> <li>- Career advancement</li> <li>- Capacity development for women chemists in developing countries</li> <li>- Recent research highlights in the field of peaceful uses of chemistry by women chemists</li> </ul>
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:15 – 17:15	Plenary session: Topics of interest for women scientists in promoting peaceful uses of chemistry
17:15 – 17:45	International cooperation capacity building programmes: Opportunities for women
17:45 – 18:00	Closing ceremony
18:00	Group photo and reception

**Annex 2**

**SYMPOSIUM ON WOMEN IN CHEMISTRY  
THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS  
2 MAY 2017**

**APPLICATION FORM**

Please submit the completed form by **3 March 2017** to:  
The Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW  
Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands  
E-mail: [icb@opcw.org](mailto:icb@opcw.org)

**Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS**

Family name of nominee <sup>1</sup>			
First name(s) <sup>1</sup>			
Date of birth	Day	Month	Year
Citizenship			
Passport number			
Date of issue	Day	Month	Year
Date of expiry	Day	Month	Year
Place of issue			
Areas of expertise (attach a curriculum vitae and a description of the candidate's practical experience)			
Employer			
Position			
Contact address (please do not give a post office box number)	Street		
	Number	Postcode	
	City		
	Country		
Email address			
Telephone numbers, including country and city codes	Home		
	Work		
	Mobile		
Fax numbers, including country and city codes	Home		
	Work		
Is sponsorship a condition of participation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	

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<sup>1</sup>

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

Is the sponsored participant interested in applying for the analytical chemistry course for women chemists?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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**Annex 3**

**SYMPOSIUM ON WOMEN IN CHEMISTRY  
THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS  
2 MAY 2017**

**ENDORSEMENT BY THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Head/Chief Coordinator of the National Authority of the State Party of \_\_\_\_\_, on behalf of the Government of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby endorse the nomination of Ms \_\_\_\_\_, holding the position/designation of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Office/Division/Branch of \_\_\_\_\_, as indicated in the attached nomination form, for participation in the Symposium on Women in Chemistry, to be held at the OPCW Headquarters in The Hague, the Netherlands, on 2 May 2017.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Designation: \_\_\_\_\_

Official seal of the Organisation:



## Annex 4

**ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY COURSE FOR WOMEN CHEMISTS  
RIJSWIJK, THE NETHERLANDS  
3 – 5 MAY 2017**

**APPLICATION FORM**

1. Before completing this form, applicants should read the guidelines presented in the cover Note to confirm their eligibility.
2. Applicants should complete sections 1 to 4 and sign the form in section 5. The form should then be sent to either their National Authority or the Permanent Representation of their country to the OPCW in The Hague, with a request to complete section 6.
3. The National Authority or the Permanent Representation should complete section 6 and forward the form to the International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands, so that it is received **no later than 3 March 2017**.

**Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS**

<b>SECTION 1. PERSONAL AND CONTACT DETAILS</b>			
Family name of nominee <sup>2</sup>			
First name(s) <sup>1</sup>			
Work address			
Home address			
Date of birth	Day	Month	Year
Citizenship			
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		

<sup>2</sup>

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



Please list below all posts you have held, starting with the most recent.			
1.	Employer		
	Title		
	Dates	From	To
2.	Employer		
	Title		
	Dates	From	To
3.	Employer		
	Title		
	Dates	From	To
4.	Employer		
	Title		
	Dates	From	To
5.	Employer		
	Title		
	Dates	From	To
6.	Employer		
	Title		
	Dates	From	To
Have you received financial or other support from the OPCW within the past three years?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
	If yes, please give details.		
Have you applied for any other support from the OPCW?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
	If yes, please give details.		
Please list the major items of analytical equipment in your laboratory and clearly state whether your institution/laboratory has GC and/or GC-MS equipment.			
<b>SECTION 4. SUPPORTING STATEMENT</b>			
Please state briefly why you are applying for the course, and indicate both what you expect to gain from it and how it would benefit your work, your institution, and your country.			
<b>SECTION 5. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT</b>			
Signature: _____		Date: _____	

**SECTION 6. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY OR THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATION**


<p>Signature, with seal or stamp, of an authorised representative of the National Authority or of the Permanent Representation to the OPCW</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Date: _____</p>
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