



NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A COURSE ON MEDICAL ASPECTS
OF ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION AGAINST CHEMICAL WEAPONS
XI'AN, CHINA
18 – 22 SEPTEMBER 2017**

1. On behalf of the Government of China and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Director-General wishes to invite Member States to nominate participants for a course on medical aspects of assistance and protection against chemical weapons, which will be held in Xi'an, China, from 18 to 22 September 2017.
2. The course is related to assistance and protection against chemical weapons under Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”), and will be jointly organised by the Government of China and the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”).
3. The course has been primarily designed for medical doctors, specialised medical personnel, and medical responders involved in emergency response to chemical incidents. The course will be particularly valuable for physicians and medical professionals involved in providing hospital care to chemical casualties.
4. The course will address the physiological effects of chemical warfare agents, acute and chronic health effects of exposure, concepts of medical countermeasures, including antidote therapy and advanced treatment pathways, as well as the principles of mass casualty management, triage, emergency response system, and hospital emergency plans, amongst others.
5. The course, which will include theoretical lectures, demonstration sessions and a practical exercise on chemical casualty management, will also facilitate the exchange of information and experiences regarding medical assistance and protection practices to victims of this type of incident, in line with the provisions of Article X of the Convention. The provisional programme for the course is included as Annex 1 to this Note.
6. Given the purpose of the course and its medical focus and technical nature, candidates will be carefully selected and should have a solid background in emergency medicine, toxicology, or health care associated with protection against chemical weapons and other toxic chemicals. They should belong to national emergency-response agencies and other institutions involved in dealing with chemical-related incidents.



7. 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 English.
8. Participants are requested to obtain all necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to China.
9. 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, medical insurance, accommodation and meals, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses. Further details regarding accommodation, the course venue, and transport will be issued to all confirmed participants at a later date.
10. 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, 17 September 2017, and to depart no later than Saturday, 23 September 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.
11. 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 contact details, including an email address. Completed forms should be sent, along with an endorsement letter from the National Authority or Permanent Representation and with a brief curriculum vitae, to the Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW, Johan de Wittlaan 32, 2517 JR The Hague, the Netherlands. Nominations may also be submitted by email to EmergAssistBr@opcw.org. In this case, the subject line of the email should contain the words "China Medical Training". All materials must be received **no later than 14 July 2017**. Please be advised that participants must present an OPCW acceptance letter in order to be able to register for the course.
12. Additional information may be obtained from the Assistance and Protection Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact person is Mr Shahriar Khateri, Senior Assistance and Protection Officer:

Telephone: +31 (0)70 416 3231
Email: Shahriar.khateri@opcw.org
Fax: +31 (0)70 416 3209

Annexes:

- Annex 1: Provisional Programme
Annex 2: Nomination Form

Annex 1**COURSE ON MEDICAL ASPECTS OF ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION
AGAINST CHEMICAL WEAPONS****XI'AN, CHINA****18 – 22 SEPTEMBER 2017****PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

Time	Activity
<i>Sunday, 17 September 2017</i>	
	Arrival of participants
<i>Monday, 18 September 2017</i>	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration of participants
09:00 – 09:45	Opening ceremony and group photograph
09:45 – 10:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:00 – 10:15	Course overview, administrative briefing
10:15 – 11:00	Introduction to China and the host institute
11:00 – 11:45	The Chemical Weapons Convention and its Article X on assistance and protection. Questions and answers
11:45 – 12:30	The implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in China
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:30	Chemical warfare agents: classification, properties, types of exposure
14:30 – 15:30	General principles of diagnosis, first aid, and treatment of patients exposed to chemical warfare agents/ toxic industrial chemicals
15:30 – 15:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:45 – 16:30	Chemical casualty management and emergency pre-hospital care in hot/ warm/ cold zones
16:30 – 16:45	Day summary, discussion
18:00 – 21:00	Reception hosted by the OPCW
<i>Tuesday, 19 September 2017</i>	
08:30 – 09:15	Introduction to nerve agents, mechanism of action, signs/ symptoms
09:15 – 10:00	Nerve agents: antidote therapy/ medical treatment
10:00 – 10:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:15 – 11:00	Blister agents/ sulfur mustard: Toxic mechanism, clinical manifestation
11:00 – 11:30	Blister agents/ sulfur mustard: Medical treatment of casualties
11:30 – 12:30	Long-term health effects of sulfur mustard exposure
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:15	Choking (lung damaging) agents, chemical warfare agents/ toxic industrial chemicals (I): Introduction/ classification/ medical treatment
14:15 – 14:45	Choking (lung damaging) agents, chemical warfare agents/ toxic industrial chemicals (II)
14:45 – 15:15	Blood agents (cyanides and cyanogens)
15:15 – 15:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:30 – 16:15	Incapacitating agents (psychochemical agents)
16:15 – 17:00	Riot control agents
17:00 – 17:30	Day summary, discussion

Time	Activity
<i>Wednesday, 20 September 2017</i>	
09:00 – 09:30	Chemical warfare agents, terror and sabotage agents
09:30 – 10:15	Psychological health care during chemical emergency situations
10:15 – 10:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:30 – 11:15	Combined chemical injuries
11:15 – 12:00	Mass casualty management: Classification/ evacuation procedures from the decontamination line to specialised medical posts/ other levels of medical care
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:15	Triage of chemical casualties
14:15 – 15:00	Triage: Case review/ exercise
15:00 – 15:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:15 – 16:00	Principles of decontamination of chemical casualties, pre-hospital and hospital procedures
16:00 – 16:30	Day summary, discussion
18:00 – 21:00	Official dinner
<i>Thursday, 21 September 2017</i>	
09:00 – 09:45	Principles of protection against chemical weapons
09:45 – 10:30	Use of individual protection equipment (IPE)
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:45 – 12:00	Exercise: Donning and doffing
12:00 – 12:30	Exercise: IPE/ First aid procedures
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:15	Demonstration/ exercise: Situation simulation, group work
14:15 – 15:15	Demonstration/ exercise: Patient simulator
15:15 – 15:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:30 – 16:30	Demonstration (continued)
16:30 – 17:00	Day summary and discussion
<i>Friday, 22 September 2017</i>	
09:00 – 10:30	Course evaluation session and feedback from participants
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:45 – 11:45	Closing ceremony
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 18:00	Excursion
<i>Saturday, 23 September 2017</i>	
	Departure of participants

Annex 2**COURSE ON MEDICAL ASPECTS OF ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION
AGAINST CHEMICAL WEAPONS****XI'AN, CHINA**

18 – 22 SEPTEMBER 2017

NOMINATION FORMPlease submit the completed form, along with a brief curriculum vitae, **by 14 July 2017** to:

The Director, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, OPCW

Attn: Assistance and Protection Branch

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

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

Subject line of the email: China Medical Training

Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS

Family name of nominee ¹			
First name(s)			
Date of birth	Day	Month	Year
Citizenship			
Gender ²	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	
Passport number			
Date of issue	Day	Month	Year
Expiry date	Day	Month	Year
Place of issue			
Areas of expertise			
Employer			
Position			
Contact address (please do not give a post-office box number)	Street		
	Number	Postcode	
	City	Country	
Airport of departure			
Email address			
Telephone numbers, including country and city codes	Home		
	Work		
	Mobile		
Has the nominee taken part in a course of this kind before?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
	If so, when and where?		

¹ Please give the family name and the first name exactly as they appear in the nominee's passport.

² For this and similar items, please tick the appropriate box.

Is sponsorship a condition of participation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Does the nominee have any special dietary requirements?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If so, please describe: