



ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

OPCW

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The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh wish to invite Member States in SAARC region to nominate candidates for a basic training course on Assistance and Protection against Chemical Weapons and emergency response to chemical incidents, which will be held from 5 to 9 March 2018 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

This course is related to the capacity building program under Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention, pertaining to Assistance and Protection against Chemical Weapons. The course will provide training to up to 20 participants in planning, and building appropriate responses for protection, detection, rescue and decontamination operations in contaminated areas in the event of incidents involving Chemical Warfare Agents or Toxic Industrial Chemicals.

Participants completing the basic course will acquire a general knowledge of chemical-warfare agents, of individual protective equipment, and of detection and decontamination equipment and techniques, as well as an understanding of emergency response to an incident involving chemical warfare agents or other toxic chemicals.

The course will facilitate the exchange of information and experiences regarding the implementation of Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention, and provide a forum for discussion among Member States on future cooperation in the regional and international level and on offers that have been made by Member States to the OPCW under Article X.

Given the purpose of the course, its technical nature and its focus on practical training, candidates will be carefully selected and should be first responders with experience in assistance and protection against chemical weapons. All participants are also expected to be physically fit and able to wear individual protective gear for several hours.

The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor the attendance of a limited number of participants. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, meals, accommodation and medical insurance, and will provide a limited subsistence allowance to

cover sundry expenses. The Secretariat will not cover the travel and accommodation costs of non-sponsored participants.

Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to Bangladesh.

When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. It will purchase the tickets and send them to the sponsored participants. Participants will only be allowed to purchase tickets locally if this leads to further savings for the Secretariat and if the Secretariat authorises it. All participants are expected to arrive **no earlier than 4 March 2018** and to depart **no later than 10 March 2018**. 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. Please be advised that participants must present an OPCW acceptance letter on arrival to register for the course.

All activities during the course will be conducted in English and no interpretation services of any kind will be available. All participants are therefore expected to have a good command of English, both written and oral.

It should be noted that the course is part of a training cycles conducted at the regional level, as such, 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 November 2018.

Applicants are requested to send their application together with the endorsement letter by the National Authority (or Permanent Representation) as well as brief curriculum vitae by email to EmergAssistBr@opcw.org with reference to the name and location of the event in the subject.

All nominations must be received by the OPCW **no later than 12 February 2018**.

The provisional programme for the course and the nomination form is included as Annex to this Note. For additional information, please contact Mr Shahriar Khateri, Senior Assistance and Protection Officer (+31 (0)70 416 3231), email Shahriar.Khateri@opcw.org

Yours sincerely,



Shawn DeCaluwe

Head, Assistance and Protection Branch

To: National Authorities of the relevant States Parties *

Cc.: Permanent Representations of the relevant States Parties *

*Member States of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)

Annexes:

Annex 1: Provisional Programme

**BASIC COURSE ON ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION
AGAINST CHEMICAL WEAPONS
5 - 9 MARCH 2018
DHAKA, BANGLADESH
PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

Time	Activity
<i>Sunday, 4 March 2018</i>	
	Arrival of participants and registration
<i>Monday, 5 March 2018</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, 6 March 2018</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, 7 March 2018</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

Time	Activity
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
13:40 – 16:40	Exercise: Setting up a decontamination station
18:30 – 20:30	<i>Official dinner</i>
<i>Thursday, 8 March 2018</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, 9 March 2018</i>	
08:30 – 10:00	Course review and feedback from participants
10:00 – 11:00	Evaluation session
11:00 – 11:20	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:20 – 12:00	Closing ceremony
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
<i>Saturday, 10 March 2018</i>	
Departure of participants	

¹ WISER = wireless information system for emergency responders.

**BASIC COURSE ON ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION
AGAINST CHEMICAL WEAPONS
5- 9 MARCH 2018
DHAKA, BANGLADESH**

NOMINATION FORM

Please submit the completed form together with the endorsement letter by the National Authority (or Permanent Representation) as well as brief curriculum vitae **by 12 February 2018** to EmergAssistBr@opcw.org with reference to the name and location of the event in the subject.

Please type or use BLOCK LETTERS.

	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
	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	Post code	
		City		
		Country		
	E-mail address			

* Please give the family name and the first name(s) exactly as they appear in the nominee's passport.
** For this and all like items below, please tick the appropriate box.

	Airport of departure	
	Telephone numbers, including country and city codes	Mobile
		Work
		Home
	Has the nominee previously attended a similar course?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If so, when?
	Is sponsorship a condition of participation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>