

F.No. M-21012/11/2022-TECH
Government of India
Cabinet Secretariat
National Authority (Chemical Weapons Convention)

1st Floor, Chanakya Bhavan, Chanakyapuri,
New Delhi – 110021, 27th May, 2022

Subject: Call for Nominations for Swiss Basic Course to take place in Spiez, Switzerland from 11-15 July 2022 -regarding.

Please find enclosed copy of the Technical Secretariat (TS) Note No. L/ICA/APB-367/22, 16 May, 2022, received from the Implementation Support Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division, Technical Secretariat (TS), Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), Hague, Netherland, seeking nominations from the States Parties of OPCW on the above mentioned subject.

2. The TS, OPCW is planning to conduct a course jointly organised by the Government of Switzerland and the Technical Secretariat. Participants will receive basic training in protection against chemical weapons and detection techniques. The course is related to the offer made by Switzerland under Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention to provide assistance and protection against chemical weapons and will be jointly organised by the Government of Switzerland and the Technical Secretariat. Candidates will be carefully selected and should have a solid technical background in the chemistry associated with assistance and protection against chemical agents. They should be physically fit and be able to wear individual protective equipment for several hours at a time during the practical sessions of the course. The 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. Participation in this course will be mandatory when applying for other courses organised in Switzerland (for example, the Swiss Laboratory Course or the Swiss Advanced Course).

3. In-line with the above, nominations of suitable, qualified and experienced officer(s) of appropriate level in your organization may be sent to this office latest by 12th June, 2022 through the National Authority-CWC online portal- OPCW Training Management System (<https://training.nacwc.gov.in/Login.aspx>) with strict adherence to the "Revised Guidelines for OPCW sponsored events" issued and hosted on the National Authority-CWC website.

This is issued with the approval of Competent Authority.

Encl: As above



Dr. Vimlesh Kumar Bind
Adviser (NACWC)
Tel: 011-24675694
Email: vimlesh.bind@gov.in

To,

1. Shri Sanjeev Kumar Jindal, Joint Secretary (Disaster Management), Room No. 195, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi -110001.
2. The Joint Secretary (Training) & CVO, Department of Defence, Ministry of Defence, South Block, Central Secretariat, Rajpath Marg, New Delhi, Delhi-110011.



ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

OPCW

Johan de Wittlaan 32
2517 JR The Hague
The Netherlands

+31 (0)70 416 33 00
www.opcw.org

The Hague, 16 May 2022

L/ICA/APB-367/22

To: All States Parties of the CWC

CC: National Authorities of the CWC

On behalf of the Government of Switzerland and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Technical Secretariat wishes to invite States Parties to nominate participants for a training course on protection against chemical weapons, to be held in Spiez, Switzerland, from 11 to 15 July 2022.

The course is related to the offer made by Switzerland under Article X of the Chemical Weapons Convention to provide assistance and protection against chemical weapons and will be jointly organised by the Government of Switzerland and the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter "the Secretariat"). Participants will receive basic training in protection against chemical weapons and detection techniques. The course will also provide a basic introduction to chemical warfare agents, and explain the basics of individual protective measures, and of detection and decontamination equipment.

The course, which draws on Switzerland's extensive experience in this area, is intended for specialists who are, or will be, associated with the training of civilians in their home countries in protection against chemical weapons. Its main purpose is to help States Parties establish a basic capability in this area that will directly benefit their civilian populations. Applicants from States Parties that do not yet have such a capability will be particularly welcome. Participation in this course will be mandatory when applying for other courses organised in Switzerland (for example, the Swiss Laboratory Course or the Swiss Advanced Course).

Given the purpose of the course and its technical nature, candidates will be carefully selected and should have a solid technical background in the chemistry associated with assistance and protection against chemical agents. They should be physically fit and be able to wear individual protective equipment for several hours at a time during the practical sessions of the course.

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. 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. Course materials, accommodation, and all meals will be provided to participants by the Government of Switzerland, at no cost to them or to the OPCW. Further details regarding accommodation, venue and transport will be provided in due course. All nominations from States Parties must be formally endorsed by the National Authority.

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 oral and written command of English.

Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas and vaccinations, including transit visas, before travelling to Switzerland. All participants must have a valid, European Union recognised, COVID-19 vaccination.

Interested applicants are invited to register their nomination online through Eventus - the OPCW event management system—no later than 20 June 2022. The Eventus registration link is accessible via the OPCW website at: <https://apps.opcw.org/eventus/Home?eventid=375>

Only selected participants with the approval of their National Authority will be accepted to attend this course.

The endorsement procedure will be done by the National Authority through Eventus.

Additional information about the course may be obtained from the Assistance and Protection Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact persons are Mr Patrick Wengler (email: Patrick.wengler@opcw.org, tel. +31704163423) and Mrs Maria Elena Bruno-Pousadela (email: mariaelena.bruno-pousadela@opcw.org, tel. +31704163217).

Yours sincerely,

Gareth Williams
Head, Assistance and Protection Branch
International Cooperation and Assistance Division
