

F.No. M-21012/15/2024-TECH
Government of India, Cabinet Secretariat
National Authority Chemical Weapon Convention

1st Floor, Chanakya Bhawan, Chanakya Puri,
New Delhi, dated: 28th May, 2024

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject:- Call for Nominations for an International Training Course on the Medical Aspects of Assistance and Protection Against Chemical Weapons Xi'an, China 14 – 18 October 2024- regarding.

Technical Secretariat (TS) Note No. S/2285/2024, 14 May, 2024 along with invitation from Implementation Support Branch, Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), The Technical Secretariat (the Secretariat) wishes to invite States Parties to nominate participants for a training course on the medical management of persons affected by the use of chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals. The training course will be jointly organised by the National Authority of China and OPCW Secretariat and will take place in Xi'an, China, from 14 to 18 October 2024.

2. The purpose of this training course is to strengthen medical preparedness and response capabilities at hospitals in the aftermath of an attack involving chemical weapons agents or toxic industrial chemicals. It will also promote the exchange of experience, therapeutic approaches, and treatment protocols, as well as strategies for addressing gaps in medical capabilities. The course will address the following: general concepts of chemical weapons agents and toxic industrial chemicals; the identification, diagnosis, treatment, and medical management of persons affected by chemical weapons agents and toxic industrial chemicals; lessons learned from incidents involving chemical weapons agents and toxic industrial chemicals; hospital preparedness and response; and medical follow-up for individuals dealing with the long-term effects of exposure to chemical weapons agents or toxic industrial chemicals.

3. In line with above, nomination of a suitable, qualified and experienced Medical Officer of an appropriate level along with relevant documents, adhering to the 'Revised Guidelines for OPCW sponsored events' issued by NACWC may please be communicated to this office latest by 16th June, 2024 through the online portal-OPCW Training Management System (<https://training.nacwc.gov.in/Login.aspx>). The Head of the concerned Department/Organization may also certify that the applicant is clear from vigilance angle and no departmental proceeding against him is contemplated or inquired into.

4. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

End: As above



Arjun Singh
28/05/2024

(Dr Arjun Singh)
Joint Director

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To,

1. The Secretary, Department of Health Research and Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Department of Health Research, 2nd Floor, IRCS Building, 1, Red Cross Road, New Delhi – 110001

2. The Director General, Directorate General of NDRF, 6th floor, NDCC-II Building, Jai Singh Road, New Delhi – 110001.
3. Colonel PP (Concepts & Training), Directorate General of Perspective Planning (CBRN), General Staff Branch, IHQ of Ministry of Defence (MoD), (Army), Room No.-123, 'A' Wing, Sena Bhawan, New Delhi – 110011.
4. The Joint Secretary (IS-I), Internal Security-I Division, North Block, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi – 110001.
5. The Joint Secretary (Training) & CVO, Department of Defence, Ministry of Defence, South Block, Central Secretariat, Rajpath Marg, New Delhi – 110 011.
6. The Joint Secretary (Disaster Management), Hall 'B', 3rd Floor, NDCC-II Building, Jai Singh Road, New Delhi – 110 001
7. Director General, DGHS, Room No. 401-404, A-Wing, Nirman Bhawan, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, New Delhi-110011
8. Colonel (CBRN), O/o DCIDC (Medical), Wing 7, Ground Floor, West Block-III, RK Puram, HQ Integrated Defence Staff, Ministry of Defence, New Delhi-110066

Arjun Singh
28/05/2024

Dr. ARJUN SINGH
Joint Director
National Authority
Chemical Weapons Convention
Cabinet Secretariat
Government of India, New Delhi





OPCW

Technical Secretariat

S/2285/2024
14 May 2024
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR AN INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON
THE MEDICAL ASPECTS OF ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION AGAINST
CHEMICAL WEAPONS
XI'AN, CHINA
14 – 18 OCTOBER 2024**

1. The Technical Secretariat (the Secretariat) wishes to invite States Parties to nominate participants for a training course on the medical management of persons affected by the use of chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals. The training course will be jointly organised by the National Authority of China and the Secretariat and will take place in Xi'an, China, from 14 to 18 October 2024.
2. The purpose of this training course is to strengthen medical preparedness and response capabilities at hospitals in the aftermath of an attack involving chemical weapons agents or toxic industrial chemicals. It will also promote the exchange of experience, therapeutic approaches, and treatment protocols, as well as strategies for addressing gaps in medical capabilities.
3. The course will address the following: general concepts of chemical weapons agents and toxic industrial chemicals; the identification, diagnosis, treatment, and medical management of persons affected by chemical weapons agents and toxic industrial chemicals; lessons learned from incidents involving chemical weapons agents and toxic industrial chemicals; hospital preparedness and response; and medical follow-up for individuals dealing with the long-term effects of exposure to chemical weapons agents or toxic industrial chemicals.
4. The Secretariat expects to sponsor a maximum of 20 participants from interested States Parties. The profiles of interested candidates should meet the criteria listed below:
 - (a) This training course is designed for medical professionals who work at hospitals that may attend to victims in a chemical emergency, or those working at medical facilities designated for this purpose.
 - (b) Physicians from all OPCW regions may apply, including professionals from civilian and military hospitals; medical institutions may also apply.
 - (c) Candidates should have background experience in one of the following: emergency medical care, anaesthesia, toxicology, neurology, dermatology, internal medicine, surgery, burns and plastic surgery, intensive care, haematology, ophthalmology, or medical profession dealing with emergencies involving toxic industrial chemicals.



5. States Parties and National Authorities are strongly encouraged to support nominations and endorse the applications of suitable female candidates for the training.
6. Only applicants who have completed their application through Eventus, the OPCW's event management system (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>), will be considered for the selection process. A complete application should include:
 - (a) all personal information fully completed in the applications form (using the national passport as a reference for the names);
 - (b) endorsement of the candidate by the respective National Authority (specifying whether sponsorship is a condition of their participation);
 - (c) a curriculum vitae, as well as any other additional relevant information uploaded in Eventus; and
 - (d) valid passport information (including an uploaded copy of the personal identification pages). **Passports must be valid for at least six months from the start date of the event (14 October 2024).**
7. Additional information provided by candidates in the Eventus platform will be carefully considered. This may include: previous experience and participation in emergency training (including emergency chemical training); accreditation in chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosives (CBRNE) and programmes on medical treatment in disaster situations; participation in previous national or regional events in a relevant subject; roles and responsibilities in regard to emergency-related medical education, coordination, preparedness, response, and follow-up.
8. Candidates must be proficient in English, as the course will be conducted entirely in English and no interpretation services will be provided.
9. For selected participants, the Secretariat and China will cover the costs of travel, accommodation, airport transfers, medical and travel insurance, and meals. In addition, a limited subsistence allowance will be provided (after the event) to cover sundry expenses.
10. The Secretariat will seek the most economical options when making travel arrangements for sponsored participants. Participants are expected to **arrive no earlier than Sunday, 13 October 2024** and to **depart no later than Saturday, 19 October 2024**. The Secretariat will not cover expenses that are not related to the course or that result from unauthorised changes in travel arrangements. Once the Secretariat has purchased their tickets, sponsored participants will be responsible for ensuring their participation. In the case of unforeseen circumstances, participants should immediately contact the substantive officers responsible for the course (see contact information in paragraph 13 below) and subsequently submit a formal letter explaining the reasons of the cancellation. In addition, all necessary visas (if required) should be obtained by the participants before travelling to China.
11. Interested applicants are requested to register their nomination online through Eventus **no later than 21 June 2024**, including obtaining the endorsement of the respective National Authority of their country.

Annex

**INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON THE MEDICAL ASPECTS OF
ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION AGAINST CHEMICAL WEAPONS
XI'AN, CHINA
14 – 18 OCTOBER 2024**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity	Presenter
<i>Sunday, 13 October 2024</i>		
	Arrival of participants	
<i>Monday, 14 October 2024</i>		
08:30 – 09:10	Opening ceremony	OPCW and Chinese representatives
09:10 – 09:30	<i>Group photo</i>	
09:30 – 10:00	Introduction of participants	All participants
10:00 – 10:40	The Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention) and Article X on assistance and protection	Eduardo Herrera, OPCW
10:40 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
11:00 – 11:30	Briefing on implementation of the Convention in China	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China
11:30 – 12:00	China's national protection programme and assistance efforts under Article X of the Convention	Ministry of National Defence of China
12:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00 – 15:00	Chemical threat: Chemical weapons, chemical industrial accidents, and chemical terrorism	Wei-hua Yu, Chun-xu Hai
15:00 – 16:00	Classification, properties, and routes of exposure to chemical weapons agents	Jiang-zheng Liu, Xu Xin-yue
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
16:15 – 17:40	Visit to the training room and laboratory of the chemical defence medicine department	Rui Liu, Xu Xing-yue
17:40 – 18:00	Summary of the day and discussion	OPCW
18:30 – 20:00	Reception hosted by the OPCW	OPCW
<i>Tuesday, 15 October 2024</i>		
08:30 – 09:30	Long-term health effects of exposure to sulfur mustard	Shahriar Khateri
09:30 – 10:30	Blister agents: Toxicological effects, signs and symptoms, diagnosis and medical treatment	Kai Xiao, Deqing Kong
10:30 – 10:50	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
10:50 – 12:00	Nerve agents: Toxicological effects, signs and symptoms, diagnosis and medical treatment	Yong-an Wang, Xxiaodi Zhang
12:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00 – 15:00	Blood agents: Toxicological effects, signs and symptoms, diagnosis and medical treatment	Zhong-min Zou, Wei Zhang

12. Only selected participants with an OPCW acceptance letter will be allowed to participate in this course. Candidates who have been selected to participate will be contacted no later than two weeks after the submission deadline. States Parties are requested to inform the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of any administrative or other problems that may arise in relation to the attendance of any selected participant.
13. For technical matters, the focal points for this training course are Mr Eduardo Herrera (Tel: +31 70 416 3466; Email: eduardo.herrera@opcw.org) and Ms Toko Okazaki (Email: toko.okazaki@opcw.org). Administrative questions relating this training course may be addressed to Ms María Elena Bruno-Pousadela (Tel: +31 70 416 3217; Email: mariaclena.bruno-pousadela@opcw.org) in the Assistance and Protection Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division.

Annex: Provisional Programme

15:00 – 16:00	Choking agents: toxicological effects, sign and symptoms, diagnosis and medical treatment	Xiao-di Zhang, Jiangzheng Liu
16:00 – 16:20	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
16:20 – 17:20	Incapacitating agents (psychochemical agents) and novel riot control agents	Rui Liu, Deqing Kong
17:20 – 17:50	Summary of the day and discussion	OPCW
Wednesday, 16 October 2024		
08:30 – 09:25	Principles of decontamination of chemical casualties and pre-hospital and hospital procedures	Wei Zhang, Hao Wu
09:25 – 10:20	Medical evacuation and triage of chemical casualties	Yi Wan, Kui Liu
10:20 – 10:35	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
10:35 – 11:30	Medical management of exposure to chemical weapons agents/toxic industrial chemicals in hospital	Xi-jing Zhang, Su Bin-xiao
11:30 – 12:00	Chemical and radiological/nuclear (combined) emergencies	Eduardo Herrera, OPCW
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch	
13:00 – 18:00	Study visit	
18:00 – 20:00	Dinner	
Thursday, 17 October 2024		
08:30 – 09:30	Donning and doffing of individual protective equipment (IPE)	Deqing Kong, Hao Wu
09:30 – 11:00	Visit to Xijing Hospital first-aid centre and patient simulator	Gui-tao Yang, Su Bin-xiao
11:00 – 12:00	Visit to Qindu Hospital Museum	
12:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00 – 15:30	Table-top Exercise: Emergency medical response to a chemical incident	Wen-li Li, Qian Zhang
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
16:00 – 17:30	Summary of the day and discussion	OPCW
18:00 –	Reception hosted by the university	Air Force Medical University (AFMU)
Friday, 18 October 2024		
08:30 – 09:30	Feedback from participants	OPCW
09:30 – 10:30	Evaluation session, student discussion, and communication	AFMU – OPCW
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
11:00 – 12:00	Closing ceremony	
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
13:00 –	Departure of participants	
Saturday, 19 October 2024		
All day	Departure of participants	

Revised Guidelines For OPCW Sponsored Events

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Organization for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, Technical Secretariat (OPCW-TS) identifies requirements of different States Parties and invites nominations every year for Safety and Security of Chemical Industries, Laboratory Skill Development, Customs, Assistance and Protection against the use of Chemical Weapons and internship for University Students.

The event calendar for training/workshop/seminar/meeting etc. provided by the OPCW annually is being uploaded on the National Authority Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC) website seeking nominations from various stakeholders. The aforesaid training calendar and related Office Memo's (OMs) are uploaded on NACWC's website along with OPCW-TS Note. Several subject specific trainings are also communicated to concerned Central/ State Departments and Private Institutions for seeking nominations.

The nominations of Central Government Departments/Institutions/Organizations while sending the nominations (in the format provided by TS, OPCW) are requested to adhere to the NACWC stated deadlines. Nominations of Central Government officials should invariably be accompanied with Departmental vigilance clearance certificate. The nominations from Central Government Departments/Institutions/Undertakings should fill the details through OPCW training management system, routing the application through the concerned Ministry. The details to be filled online are stated in Annexure-I.

The nominations of State Government Institutions/private entities/individuals should be routed through concerned Department/Ministry under the respective State Government filling the details online through OPCW training management system. The details to be filled online are stated in Annexure-II.

The nominations of Central/State/Private entities/individuals for the OPCW sponsored events on Chemical Emergencies/Disaster Management should be sent through proper channel and routed through concerned Department/Ministry under the respective Central/State Government by filling the details through OPCW training management system. The details to be filled online are stated in Annexure-III.

For chemical facilities Private entities/individuals for the OPCW sponsored events other than Chemical Emergencies/Disaster Management are required to be filled on line through OPCW training management system. The details to be filled online are stated in Annexure-IV.

The details of nominations for the OPCW sponsored events can be filled online through OPCW Training Management System (<https://training.nacwc.gov.in>) available on the NACWC web portal (<https://nacwc.nic.in>).

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The nomination by NACWC for the concerned training/workshop/seminar/meeting etc. will be purely on the basis of merit i.e. preference will be given to Schedule-2 and 3 chemical facilities as well as candidates working with the National Authority or other Government Agency responsible for implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention. The Endorsement letter, subsequent to the approval of Chairman, NACWC will be issued to nominee of Central/State/Private Entities. If the OPCW requests that the nominations are to be submitted online then it will be the responsibility of nominated individual(s) to fill the personal and other details on-line on the OPCW website (<http://apps.opcw.org/eventus>) and the nominee(s) should ensure that Performa prescribed in the Format of EVENTUS also is filled by them and the prescribed guidelines are required to be fulfilled by the nominee(s). The OPCW will communicate the invitation to the nominee(s) subject to fulfilling the requirement.

It is expected that the Nominee(s) exhibit excellent conduct while attending the concerned event. After completion of the training/seminar/workshop, a detailed report along with presentation is required to be submitted to the NACWC.

While proceeding to attend the concerned event organized by the OPCW, the nominee:

Should have basic knowledge of the CWC Act, 2000.

Make sure about the passport i.e. valid and protect the passport and report it promptly if it is lost, stolen or damaged during the period of a specific program.

Must familiarize with the visiting countries.

Make sure about the proper visas for the countries the participant is visiting or transiting and check any other entry or exit requirements.

Take personal responsibility for travel choices, safety, finances and behavior overseas, including obeying the laws of the visiting country.

If get arrested or detained for some reason, insist on Consular access (under the Vienna Convention) to a representative from the nearest Indian Embassy/Consulate.

Make sure of proper coordination with the NACWC (contact point JS/JD Tel. No: 24675763/24675691) and the Indian Embassy in the concerned visiting country.

Presentation may be given in the specific event by the participant(s) should be in consultation with the NACWC.

Should not illuminate irrelevant information which has national concern during the program.

Who is outside from the Government Sector should adhere to the instructions given by the representative from the NACWC.

From the Government Sector should adhere to the instructions given by the NACWC.

Should focus on the subject matter for which the event is being organized.

Are expected to implement the lessons learnt from the event attended in his day-to-day working/duties.

Should share their lessons/experiences acquired during the event attended with the NACWC and parent institution.

Must submit individual tour report to the NACWC within one week period after returning from the program attended.