

प्रथम तल, राष्ट्रपति भवन / 1st Floor, Rashtrapati Bhawan

नई दिल्ली-04/ New Delhi-04

Dated the 09th September, 2026

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Invitation to apply for a training course on chemical incident preparedness for hospitals (HOSPREP), to be held in Manila, the Philippines, from 3rd to 6th November 2026- reg.

The undersigned is directed to refer to Technical Secretariat's Note No. S/2562/2026 dated 3rd September, 2026 (**copy enclosed**), seeking nominations on the above-mentioned subject.

2. The NACWC seeks nominations of suitable, qualified and experienced physicians or nurses working at hospitals or other medical facilities designated to attend to victims in a chemical emergency, or other health workers involved in the planning, design, preparedness, and management of hospitals facing chemical emergencies. Additional aspects that may be considered for the selection of candidates include previous experience and knowledge of chemical emergencies, accreditation in CBRNE programmes, participation in previous national or regional events on hospital preparedness, responsibilities related to operational and clinical aspects of the response to chemical emergencies, and other relevant information.

3. The candidates are required to apply through the online portal - NACWC Training Management System (<https://nacwc.gov.in/tms>) and submit all the requisite documents supporting their eligibility for the said courses, along with the duly filled proforma, as per the 'Guidelines for the OPCW sponsored events' issued by NACWC, latest by 21st September, 2026.

4. The Head of the concerned Department/Organization may also certify that the applicant is clear from vigilance angle and no departmental proceeding against the nominee is contemplated or inquired into. Further, it may also please be ensured that nominated individuals have good command of English, both written and oral.

5. After attending the course, nominated individuals shall be expected to make a report and a brief presentation to the National Authority.

Encl.: 1

(Vivek Prakash)

Under Secretary & HoO

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To

1. The Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Kartavya Bhawan -1, New Delhi -110001.
2. The Director, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), 29, Ansari Nagar, Ansari Nagar East, New Delhi, Delhi 110029.



S/2562/2026
3 September 2026
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A HOSPITAL PREPAREDNESS COURSE FOR
STATES PARTIES IN THE ASIA REGION
MANILA, THE PHILIPPINES
3 – 6 NOVEMBER 2026**

1. The OPCW Technical Secretariat (the Secretariat) wishes to invite States Parties in the Asia Region to nominate participants for a training course on chemical incident preparedness for hospitals (HOSPREP), to be held in Manila, the Philippines, from 3 to 6 November 2026.
2. The training course will be jointly organised by the Government of the Philippines and the Secretariat. The main objective of the HOSPREP training is to establish a methodology for assessing institutional needs and providing solutions to common challenges faced by medical institutions dealing with the threat of chemical incidents. The training, which focuses primarily on hospital preparedness, is aimed at strengthening capacity-building in the hospitals and medical institutions of States Parties that may be called upon to respond in the aftermath of an attack involving chemical warfare agents or toxic industrial chemicals. It will also promote the exchange of experiences, different approaches, and strategies for reducing gaps at medical institutions, and increasing operational resilience when faced with such events.
3. The training programme will address the following topics: general concepts of chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals; risk assessment for medical facilities; lessons learned in chemical emergencies; hospital preparedness; specific issues in hospital response; development of strategies and management in hospital models; preparation of programmes for health personnel; reception of victims and intra-hospital evaluation; processing of biological samples; and demonstration of national capacities in preparedness and response to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive (CBRNE) threats and incidents.
4. The Secretariat expects to sponsor a maximum of 25 participants from medical facilities in Asian States Parties that are designated to respond to chemical emergencies. Candidates for this course should be physicians or nurses working at hospitals or other medical facilities designated to attend to victims in a chemical emergency, or other health workers involved in the planning, design, preparedness, and management of hospitals facing chemical emergencies. Additional aspects that may be considered for the selection of candidates include previous experience and knowledge of chemical emergencies, accreditation in CBRNE programmes, participation in previous national or regional events on hospital preparedness, responsibilities related to operational and clinical aspects of the response to chemical emergencies, and other relevant information.



5. Applications must be endorsed by the National Authority of the candidate's country and should specify whether or not sponsorship is a condition of their participation. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, accommodation, airport transfers, medical insurance, and meals. In addition, it will provide a limited subsistence allowance to cover sundry expenses.
6. The Secretariat will seek the most economical options when making travel arrangements for sponsored participants. Sponsored participants are expected to **arrive no earlier than Monday, 2 November and to depart no later than Saturday, 7 November 2026**. 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 that they participate in the course. In the case of unforeseen circumstances, participants should immediately contact the focal points responsible for the course (see paragraph 10 below).
7. The course will be delivered in English. Participants are therefore expected to be proficient in English. In addition, all necessary visas (if required) should be obtained by the participants before travelling to the Philippines.
8. Interested applicants are requested to register their nominations online through Eventus—the OPCW event management system—**no later than 25 September 2026**. The registration link is accessible via the OPCW website (<https://eventus.opcw.org>). Fields marked with an asterisk (*) in the online registration system are mandatory and must be answered in order for the candidate's application to be considered for this event. The Secretariat strongly encourages States Parties and National Authorities to seek, support, and endorse applications from qualified women candidates.
9. Only selected participants with an OPCW acceptance letter will be permitted 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 connection with the attendance of any selected participant.
10. The provisional programme for the training course is included as the Annex to this Note. 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 Mr Miguel Albaladejo Pomares (Email: miguel.albaladejopomares@opcw.org). Administrative questions relating to this training course may be addressed to Ms Benita Striukyte (Tel: +31 70 416 3420; Email: benita.striukyte@opcw.org) in the Assistance and Protection Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division.

Annex: Provisional Programme

Annex

**HOSPITAL PREPAREDNESS COURSE FOR STATES PARTIES
IN THE ASIA REGION
MANILA, THE PHILIPPINES
3 – 6 NOVEMBER 2026**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity
Monday, 2 November 2026	
Arrival of participants	
Day 1: Tuesday, 3 November 2026 (Venue: Hotel)	
08:00–08:30	Registration of participants
08:30–09:30	Opening ceremony Group photo Course overview and administrative briefing
09:30–09:50	Introduction of participants
09:50–10:15	The Chemical Weapons Convention and Article X on assistance and protection: Medical action
10:15–10:45	Role of the National Authority in the Philippines
10:45–11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00–11:45	An overview of chemical weapons: classification, properties and routes of exposure of chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals, chemical industrial accidents, and chemical terrorism
11:45–12:30	Detection of chemical warfare agents
12:30–13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30–14:15	Orientation with personal protective equipment (PPE) and decontamination procedures
14:15–14:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
14:30–16:30	Practical session with PPE (Level C): donning and doffing and equipment demonstration
16:30–16:45	End of day summary and discussion
Day 2: Wednesday, 4 November 2026 (Venue: Hotel)	
08:30–09:30	Neurotoxic agents: Basic concepts and theoretical review
09:30–10:30	Blister agents: Basic concepts and theoretical review
10:30–10:50	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:50–11:40	Choking agents: Basic concepts and theoretical review
11:40–12:30	Haematotoxic agents: Basic concepts and theoretical review
12:30–13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30–14:15	Medical evacuation from the incident zone and triage of chemical casualties
14:20–15:10	Principles of decontamination of chemical casualties and pre-hospital and hospital procedures
15:10–15:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:30–16:45	Review of three case studies, both local and international
16:45–17:00	End of day summary and discussion

Time	Activity
Day 3: Thursday, 5 November 2026 (Venue: Hospital)	
08:30–09:30	Hospital emergency planning
09:30–10:30	Analysis of an incident with multiple victims
10:30–10:50	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:50–12:30	Tabletop exercise
12:30–13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30–14:00	Field exercise: Briefing
14:00–16:00	Field exercises: – donning – receiving patients transported by ambulance – decontamination of victims – medical procedures – doffing
16:00–16:30	End of day and debriefing
16:30–17:00	Transfer to hotel
Day 4: Friday, 6 November 2026 (Venue: Hotel)	
08:30–09:30	Mental health and psychosocial intervention for first responders and pre-hospital medical care in chemical emergencies
09:30–10:30	Riot control agents and disabling agents: Basic concepts and theoretical review
10:30–11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11:00–12:00	Block to be confirmed
12:00–12:30	Course evaluation and feedback
12:30–13:00	Closing and certificate awarding ceremony
13:00–14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
	End of course
Day 5: Saturday, 7 November 2026	
Departure of instructors and participants	