



S/2325/2024
10 October 2024
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
FOR A REGIONAL TRAINING COURSE FOR MEMBER STATES IN THE
LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN GROUP ON MEDICAL ASPECTS
OF ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION AGAINST CHEMICAL WEAPONS
RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL
4 – 8 NOVEMBER 2024**

1. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (the Secretariat) wishes to invite Member States of the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC) 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 Brazil, the Brazilian Air Force, and the Secretariat, and will take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 4 to 8 November 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 18 participants (9 female and 9 male) from interested Member States of the GRULAC region. The profiles of interested candidates should meet the criteria listed below:
 - (a) This training course is designed for health professionals who work at hospitals that may attend to victims in a chemical emergency, or who work at medical facilities designated for this purpose.
 - (b) Applications may be accepted from physicians, nurses, and other health professionals from the GRULAC region, including professionals from civilian and military hospitals; medical institutions may also apply.



- (c) Candidates should be involved or plan to be involved in medical preparedness and response to chemical incidents at their institutions, including professionals working with vulnerable populations that may be affected.
5. Member States and National Authorities are strongly encouraged to support the nominations and endorse the applications of suitable female candidates for the training.
6. Consideration for the selection process will be given only to candidates who have completed their application through Eventus—the OPCW event management system (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>). A complete application should include:
 - (a) all personal information requested in the application form (using the national passport as a reference for the names);
 - (b) an endorsement of the candidate by the National Authority of their country (specifying whether sponsorship is a condition of their participation);
 - (c) a curriculum vitae, as well as any other additional relevant information which should be uploaded to Eventus; and
 - (d) valid passport information (including a copy of the personal identification pages of the passport, uploaded to Eventus). **Passports must be valid for at least six months from the start date of the event (4 November 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 explosive (CBRNE) programmes and programmes on medical treatment in disaster situations; participation in previous national or regional events on relevant subjects; roles and responsibilities in regard to emergency-related medical education; and coordination, preparedness, response, and follow-up to incidents involving chemical warfare agents or toxic industrial chemicals.
8. The course will be conducted in Spanish with interpretation into English. Applicants must therefore be proficient in either English or Spanish to participate.
9. For selected participants, the Secretariat and Brazil 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, 3 November and to depart no later than Saturday, 9 November 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 for their cancellation. In addition, all necessary visas (if required) should be obtained by participants before travelling to Brazil.

11. Interested applicants are requested to register their nomination online through Eventus **no later than 14 October 2024**. Applications should include an endorsement from the respective National Authority of their country.
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. Member States are requested to inform the International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the Secretariat 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 Aureliarita Marcellus (Tel: +31 70 416 3483; Email: aureliarita.marcellus@opcw.org) in the Assistance and Protection Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division.

Annex: Provisional Programme

Annex

**REGIONAL TRAINING COURSE FOR MEMBER STATES IN THE LATIN
AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN GROUP ON MEDICAL ASPECTS OF
ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION AGAINST CHEMICAL WEAPONS
RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL
4 – 8 NOVEMBER 2024**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Time	Activity	Presenter
<i>Sunday, 3 November 2024</i>		
	Arrival of participants to the hotel	
<i>Monday, 4 November 2024 – Galeão Air Force Hospital</i>		
08:00 – 08:30	Registration	
08:30 – 09:15	Opening ceremony and group photo	OPCW and Brazilian representatives
09:15 – 09:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
09:30 – 09:45	Course overview, administrative briefing	Air Force Team
09:45 – 10:40	Introduction of the host country and the host institute – Introduction of participants	Air Force Team
10:40 – 11:15	The Chemical Weapons Convention and Article X on assistance and protection – Medical Action Plan	Eduardo Herrera – OPCW
11:15 – 12:00	Implementation of the Convention in Brazil	Sérgio Frazao – National Authority
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
13:00 – 14:00	Preparing a hospital for the care of victims of incidents involving chemical weapons or toxic industrial chemicals – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Air Force Colonel – Dr Jayme
14:00 – 15:00	Adapting the hospital environment to hot, warm, and cold zones (perspectives on receiving victims at the hospital) – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Alexandre Maurmo – Eletronuclear Medical Assistance Foundation
15:00 – 16:00	Communications on a chemical event in the hospital – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Air Force Captain – Dr Moisés
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
16:15 – 17:00	Chemical warfare agent detection – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Army Major – Engineer Monique Cardozo
17:00 – 17:45	Practical demonstration of detection of chemical warfare agents – Practical session	
17:45 – 17:55	Daily summary and discussion	Air Force Team – OPCW
18:30 – 20:00	Reception	To be confirmed

Time	Activity	Presenter
Tuesday, 5 November 2024		
08:00 – 08:35	Neurotoxic agents – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Air Force Colonel – Dr Jayme
08:35 – 09:10	Blister agents – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Air Force Colonel (Ret) – Dr Heitor
09:10 – 09:45	Choking agents – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Air Force Lieutenant Colonel – Dr Fonseca
09:45 – 10:20	Haematotoxic agents – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Air Force 1st Lieutenant – Dr Fernandes
10:20 – 10:40	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
10:40 – 11:25	Riot agents and disabling agents – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Air Force Captain – Dr Moisés
11:25 – 12:00	Use of white phosphorus – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Air Force Colonel (Ret) – Dr Heitor
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
13:00 – 13:35	New chemical warfare agents – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Brazilian Army CBRN Defence Institute (IDQBRN) – Army Laboratory
13:35 – 14:10	Toxic industrial chemicals with potential terrorist uses – Basic concepts and theoretical review (online)	MSc Pharmacist – Camilla Gomes Colasso
14:10 – 14:30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
14:30 – 15:00	Chemical burns – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Air Force 1st Lieutenant – Dr Ajuz
15:00 – 15:30	Chemical burns by smoke inhalation – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Cel Med Aer Eucir
15:30 – 16:00	Regenerative medicine – New therapeutic proposals for the treatment of chemical burns	Dr Patrício Centurion Rivas
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffee break</i>	
16:15 – 16:45	Chemical Dispersal Devices	Eduardo Herrera – OPCW
16:45 – 16:55	Summary of the day and discussion	Air Force Team – OPCW
Wednesday, 6 November 2024		
08:00 – 08:35	Difficulty of performing in hospital with personal protective equipment (PPE)	Air Force Colonel (Ret) – Dr Heitor
08:35 – 09:10	PPE levels A and B	Army CBRN Defence Battalion Team
09:10 – 09:45	Intrahospital PPE levels C and D – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Air Force 1st Lieutenant – Nurse Barbosa
09:45 – 10:20	PPE donning and doffing – Hands on	Army CBRN Defence Battalion Team
10:20 – 10:35	<i>Coffee break</i>	
10:35 – 12:00	PPE donning and doffing – Hands on (continuation)	Army CBRN Defence Battalion Team
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>	

Time	Activity	Presenter
13:00 – 13:45	“What awaits you?” – Actions to be taken with the team in the face of unknown agents	Air Force Team
14:00 – 17:30	Cultural visit	
18:00 – 22:00	<i>Dinner</i>	To be confirmed
<i>Thursday, 7 November 2024</i>		
08:30 – 09:30	Transport and evacuation of contaminated patients to the hospital	Air Force Colonel – Dr Dalton
09:30 – 10:20	Triage of chemical casualties – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Air Force Lieutenant Colonel – Dr Fonseca
10:20 – 11:00	Decontamination of victims, members of the response team, and materials in a hospital environment – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Air Force Major – Dr Fernandes
11:00 – 11:10	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:10 – 12:10	Practical session: – Receiving patients transported by aircraft/ ambulance – Decontamination of victims – Medical procedures	Air Force Team
12:10 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
13:00 – 15:00	Clinical simulation (use of dummy mannequins)	Air Force Team
15:00 – 15:20	<i>Coffee break</i>	
15:20 – 16:50	PPE withdrawal dynamics – Hands-on session	Air Force Team
16:50 – 16:55	Summary of the day and discussion	Air Force Team
<i>Friday, 8 November 2024</i>		
08:00 – 08:30	Management of corpses of victims of chemical agents – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Air Force Captain – Dr Otani
08:30 – 09:00	Psychological approach to chemical weapons victims and the response team – Basic concepts and theoretical review	PhD Psychologist – Dayse de Marie Oliveira
09:00 – 09:30	Innovation of chemical warfare agents with the use of artificial intelligence – Basic concepts and theoretical review	Air Force Colonel (Ret) – Dr Heitor
09:30 – 10:30	Course evaluation session and participant feedback	Air Force Team – OPCW
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	
11:00 – 12:00	Closing ceremony	OPCW and Brazilian representatives
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
<i>Saturday, 9 November 2024</i>		
All day	Departure of participants	