



---

S/2367/2025

12 February 2025

ENGLISH and FRENCH only

**NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT**

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR A TRAINING COURSE FOR AFRICAN STATES  
PARTIES ON CHEMICAL INCIDENT PREPAREDNESS FOR HOSPITALS  
NAIROBI, KENYA  
12 – 16 MAY 2025**

1. The OPCW Technical Secretariat (the Secretariat) wishes to invite States Parties from Africa to nominate participants for a training course on chemical incident preparedness for hospitals (HOSPREP), to be held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 12 to 16 May 2025.
2. The training course will be jointly organised by the Government of Kenya 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, whose primary focus is 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 African 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. The participation of women candidates is encouraged.



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 Sunday, 11 May 2025 and to depart no later than Saturday, 17 May 2025**. 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 and French, with simultaneous interpretation provided in both languages. Participants are therefore expected to be proficient in either English or French. In addition, all necessary visas (if required) should be obtained by the participants before travelling to Kenya.
8. Interested applicants are requested to register their nominations online through Eventus—the OPCW event management system—**no later than 2 March 2025**. The registration link is accessible via the OPCW website (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>). 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. Further details will be issued at a later stage. Additional information may be obtained from the focal points for this course in the Assistance and Protection Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division: Mr Babatunde Olowookere (Tel: +31 653 274 684; Email: [babatunde.olowookere@opcw.org](mailto:babatunde.olowookere@opcw.org)) and Ms Toko Okazaki (Email: [toko.okazaki@opcw.org](mailto:toko.okazaki@opcw.org)).

Annex:           Provisional Programme

## Annex

**TRAINING COURSE FOR AFRICAN STATES PARTIES  
ON CHEMICAL INCIDENT PREPAREDNESS FOR HOSPITALS  
NAIROBI, KENYA  
12 – 16 MAY 2025**

**PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
<b><i>Sunday, 11 May 2025</i></b>		
Arrival of OPCW team and participants; Transfer to accommodation		
<b><i>Monday, 12 May 2025</i></b>		
08:00 – 08:30	Registration and administrative/practical briefing about the course	Kenya National Authority (NA)
08:30 – 09:30	Opening ceremony	OPCW and Kenya NA
09:30 – 10:00	<i>Group photo and coffee/tea break</i>	Kenya NA
10:00 – 10:20	Course overview and objectives	OPCW
10:20 – 11:00	The Chemical Weapons Convention and Article X on assistance and protection	OPCW
11:00 – 12:00	Kenya's national protection programme and assistance efforts under Article X of the Convention	Kenya NA
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>	Kenya NA
13:30 – 14:00	Classification, properties, and routes of chemical warfare agent exposure	OPCW and Kenya NA
14:00 – 14:30	General principles of emergency operations	OPCW
14:30 – 14:50	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	Kenya NA
14:50 – 15:20	Hospital emergency planning	OPCW and Kenya NA
15:20 – 15:50	Chemical incident planning	OPCW
15:50 – 16:50	Medical treatment for chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals	OPCW
16:50 – 17:20	Daily summary and discussion	OPCW
17:20 –	Transfer to accommodation	Kenya NA
<b><i>Tuesday, 13 May 2025</i></b>		
08:30 – 09:00	Nerve agents: Toxicological effects, signs and symptoms, and diagnosis and medical treatment	OPCW
09:00 – 09:30	Blister agents: Toxicological effects, signs and symptoms, and diagnosis and medical treatment	OPCW
09:30 – 10:00	Blood agents: Toxicological effects, signs and symptoms, and diagnosis and medical treatment	OPCW
10:00 – 10:20	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	Kenya NA

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>			<b>Instructor</b>
10:20 – 10:50	Choking agents: Toxicological effects, signs and symptoms, and diagnosis and medical treatment			OPCW
10:50 – 11:20	Incapacitating agents (psychochemical agents) and novel riot control agents			OPCW
11:20 – 12:00	Personal protective equipment (PPE): Chemical suits, levels of chemical protection, and donning and doffing			OPCW
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>			Kenya NA
13:30 – 15:00	Group 1 practical session with PPE: Donning and doffing level C	Group 2 practical session with PPE: Donning and doffing level B	Group 3 practical session with PPE: Donning and doffing level A	OPCW
15:00 – 15:30	Principles of decontamination of chemical casualties and pre-hospital and hospital procedures			Kenya NA
15:30 – 15:50	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>			Kenya NA
15:50 – 16:20	Medical evacuation and triage of chemical casualties			Kenya NA
16:20 – 18:00	Visit to Kenyatta National Hospital			Kenya NA
18:00 – 18:30	Daily summary and discussion			OPCW
18:30 –	Transfer to accommodation			Kenya NA
<b><i>Wednesday, 14 May 2025</i></b>				
08:30 – 09:15	Mental health and psychosocial intervention for first responders and pre-hospital medical care in chemical emergencies			Kenya NA
09:15 – 10:15	Group 1 (Table-top scenarios)	Group 2 (Table-top scenarios)	Group 3 (Table-top scenarios)	OPCW
10:15 – 10:25	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>			Kenya NA
10:25 – 12:00	Group 1 (Table-top scenarios)	Group 2 (Table-top scenarios)	Group 3 (Table-top scenarios)	OPCW
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>			Kenya NA
13:30 – 15:00	Practical session: Dry and wet decontamination			OPCW
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>			Kenya NA
15:30 – 17:20	Practical session: Dry and wet decontamination			Kenya NA
17:20 – 17:50	Daily summary and discussion			OPCW
17:50 –	Transfer to accommodation			Kenya NA

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
<b><i>Thursday, 15 May 2025</i></b>		
08:30 – 09:30	Medical management of chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals in hospitals	OPCW and Kenya NA
09:30 – 11:30	Practical exercise 1: Emergency medical response to chemical incidents	OPCW
11:30 – 12:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	Kenya NA
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch	Kenya NA
13:30 – 15:00	Practical exercise 2: Emergency medical response to chemical incidents	OPCW
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	Kenya NA
15:30 – 17:00	Group discussion	OPCW
17:00 – 17:15	Daily summary and discussion	OPCW
17:15 –	Transfer to accommodation	Kenya NA
<b><i>Friday, 16 May 2025</i></b>		
08:30 – 10:00	Feedback from participants	OPCW
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>	Kenya NA
10:30 – 11:50	Evaluation session and closing ceremony	OPCW and Kenya NA
11:50 –	Transfer to accommodation	Kenya NA
<b><i>Saturday, 17 May 2025</i></b>		
Departure of participants		