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F.No. M-21012/2/2023-TECH

Government of India

Cabinet Secretariat

National Authority (Chemical Weapons Convention)

1st Floor, Chanakya Bhavan, Chanakyapuri,
New Delhi – 110021, 30th January, 2023

Subject: Call for Nominations for Analytical Chemists from Laboratories Supporting Customs Services Łukasiewicz Research Network Institute of Industrial Organic Chemistry Warsaw, Poland 22 – 26 May 2023- regarding.

The National Authority for Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC) has been set up under the cabinet Secretariat, Government of India to fulfil the obligations of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and to act as the National focal point for effective liaison with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and other State parties on matter relating to the convention. Further as per Section 9(iii) of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) rule 2016, 'the Authority shall function as the nodal agency for facilitating the participation of the officials and other nationals in the training courses conducted or coordinated with the Organisation and also other institutions working in the area related to the Convention.'

2. In this regards, Indian National Authority has received the details of an online course vide Note No. S/2122/2023, 11th January, 2023, of the above course received from the Technical Secretariat (TS), Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), Hague, Netherland, seeking nominations on the above mentioned subject.

3. It is further informed that, this Programme is technical in nature and purpose of the course is to strengthen national capacities to assist qualified analytical chemists from laboratories that support, or plan to support, customs services or offices in acquiring further experience and practical knowledge of the analysis of chemicals related to the Chemical Weapons Convention. In addition, the course will facilitate the adoption of good laboratory practices for the implementation of the Convention. The applicant should have at least three years of experience in an analytical laboratory, and currently working in a chemical laboratory providing support or planning to support customs services in their home country and have not attended similar events organised by the OPCW in the last three years; and have a good written and oral command of English.

4. In-line with the above, one nominations of suitable, qualified and experienced officer(s) of appropriate level along with relevant documents as per the above TS note in your organization may be sent to this office latest by 20th February, 2023 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.

5. 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. The Joint Secretary (Customs), Central Board of Excise & Customs, North Block, New Delhi-110001, Telephone: 011-23092978, Fax: 011-23093475, Email: js.cus-cbec@nic.in
2. Director General National Academy of Customs, Indirect Taxes & Narcotics (NACIN), Central Board of Excise & Customs, Ministry of Finance, Sector -29, Faridabad-121008.

3. Director (Revenue Laboratories) (Addl. Charge), Central Revenues Control Laboratory (Headquarter), Hill Side Road, Pusa New Delhi-110012, Phone: 011-25847926, Fax: 011-25843495, Email: dir.crcl-cbec@nic.in
4. Head/Joint Director, Custom House Laboratory, 60, Krishna Block Rajaji Salai, Opp, Dist, Seethakadi Nagar, Collectorate, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600001, India, Behind Hotel Bright, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600001
5. Head/Chemical Examiner Gr.-I, Custom House Laboratory, Custom House, Marmagoa, Goa-403803.
6. Head/Joint Director, Custom House Laboratory, 1st Floor, Office of the Commissioner of Customs, Custom House, Near Balaji Temple, Kandla Port, Gandhidham, Gujarat.
7. Chemical Examiner Gr-I, Customs House Laboratory, O/o The Commissioner of Customs, Custom House, Willingdon Island, Kochi, Kerala, Pin – 682009
8. Custom House Laboratory, 1, Council House Street 2nd Floor, BBD Bag, Kolkata - 700 001
9. Head / Chemical Examiner Gr-I, Customs Chemical Laboratory, New Custom House, Panambur, Mangaluru, Karnataka – 575010
10. Head/Joint Director, New Custom House Laboratory, New Customs House, Ballard Estate, Mumbai- 400001
11. Head/Chemical Examiner Grade I, Customs House Laboratory, Custom House, New Harbour Estate, Tuticorin 628004
12. Head/Chemical Examiner Grade-I, Central Excise & Customs Laboratory, 3rd Floor Central Excise Building, Subhanpura, Vadodara-390023
13. Joint Director, Govt. Opium & Alkaloid Work, Ghazipur- 233001 (U.P)
14. Head/Chemical Examiner Gr.-I, Opium Laboratory, GOAW, Neemuch- M.P-458441,

Dr. Vimlesh Kumar Bind

डा. विमलेश कुमार बिन्द / Dr. Vimlesh Kumar Bind
सलाहकार / Adviser
राष्ट्रीय प्राधिकरण / National Authority
रासायनिक हथियार समझौता / Chemical Weapons Convention
मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय / Cabinet Secretariat
भारत सरकार, नई दिल्ली / Govt. of India, New Delhi

Email

DR AMIT KUMAR

Invitation Note -" Course for Analytical Chemists from Laboratories supporting Customs Services", Warsaw, Poland, 22 - 26 May 2023

From : julia gonzalez <julia.gonzalez@opcw.org> Mon, Jan 23, 2023 05:08 PM
Subject : Invitation Note -" Course for Analytical Chemists from Laboratories supporting Customs Services", Warsaw, Poland, 22 - 26 May 2023 2 attachments
Cc : massimo derienzo <massimo.derienzo@opcw.org>

Dear Sir/Madam,

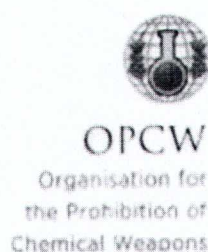
Please find attached below the Invitation Note for the "Course for Analytical Chemists from Laboratories supporting Customs Services" to be held in Warsaw, Poland, from 22 to 26 May 2023.

Please note that all applications must be received by the Secretariat no later than **3 March 2023**. The applications should be submitted through Eventus, the OPCW event management platform (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>).

Your kind assistance in circulating information on the course among the relevant national institutions would be highly appreciated.

Kind regards,

Julia



Julia González Rodríguez
International Cooperation Branch
International Cooperation and Assistance Division
Johan de Wittlaan 32 - 2517 JR - The Hague - The Netherlands
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**Invitation to Apply for a Course for Analytical Chemists from Laboratories
Supporting Customs Services Łukasiewicz (1).pdf**
274 KB

**OPCW****Technical Secretariat**

S/2122/2023
11 January 2023
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

**INVITATION TO APPLY FOR A COURSE FOR ANALYTICAL CHEMISTS
FROM LABORATORIES SUPPORTING CUSTOMS SERVICES
ŁUKASIEWICZ RESEARCH NETWORK
INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIC CHEMISTRY
WARSAW, POLAND
22 – 26 MAY 2023**

Purpose of the course

1. The Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) of the OPCW wishes to inform Member States that it will hold a course on the development of analytical skills for analytical chemists supporting customs services. The course is scheduled to be held at the Institute of Industrial Organic Chemistry (Instytut Przemysłu Organicznego (IPO)) in Warsaw, Poland, from 22 to 26 May 2023. The aim of the course is to assist qualified analytical chemists from laboratories that support, or plan to support, customs services or offices in acquiring further experience and practical knowledge of the analysis of chemicals related to the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”). In addition, the course will facilitate the adoption of good laboratory practices for the implementation of the Convention. The course will accommodate a maximum of 20 participants.

Content

2. The training course will include a variety of lectures and laboratory work. The lectures will cover general aspects of the OPCW, the Convention, and the Verification Annex to the Convention. It will also cover the chemical structure and properties of scheduled chemicals, the methods of separation and structure elucidation, and the detection and analysis of scheduled chemicals at various concentration levels. The role of customs service laboratories in promoting chemical safety will also be discussed.
3. Practical laboratory work will include:
 - (a) gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) and analyte identification using the Automated Mass Spectral Deconvolution and Identification System (AMDIS) and the OPCW Central Analytical Database (OCAD);
 - (b) sampling and sample preparation methods for GC-MS analysis;
 - (c) hand-held Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) and Raman spectroscopy for rapid identification; and
 - (d) a visit to a customs laboratory.



Sponsorship

4. The cost of the course and of accommodation for all participants will be covered by the Secretariat. In addition, the Secretariat will pay for international travel, lunch, coffee breaks, and medical and travel insurance for all participants while the course is being conducted, in accordance with OPCW rules. The Secretariat will select the participants based on their qualifications and experience.
5. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas, including Schengen Area travel visas, before travelling to Poland. The Secretariat will cover the costs of these visas by reimbursing participants upon production of the original receipts. The original invoices will be delivered by hand to representatives of IPO. The Secretariat will also send information to the selected participants on how to apply for Schengen Area visas.
6. The Secretariat will not pay for medical assistance. Therefore, participants should be fit to travel. All participants taking prescribed medication should arrive with supplies sufficient for the duration of the event.
7. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. The Secretariat will purchase tickets and send them to the participants. The participants shall keep the boarding passes that will be delivered by hand to representatives of IPO.

Admission requirements

8. The course is open to those who:
 - (a) have a minimum of a first degree (BSc or equivalent) in chemistry or analytical chemistry from a recognised university or institution, with relevant practical and theoretical experience in analytical chemistry, including the use of GC and GC-MS;
 - (b) are citizens of OPCW Member States; and
 - (c) have at least three years of experience in an analytical laboratory, and currently work in a chemical laboratory providing support or planning to support customs services in their home country.
9. The course will be conducted in English. Candidates must therefore have a good command of both written and spoken English. Any candidate who, upon arrival, is found not to meet this requirement will not be allowed to continue with the course.
10. Participants will be required to sign both a set of terms and conditions for participation in the course and a confidentiality agreement with the OPCW.

Application procedure

11. Interested candidates are invited to submit their applications online through Eventus, the OPCW event management system (<https://apps.opcw.org/eventus>). Applicants must first create an account and then register for the event.

12. Each application must be endorsed digitally on the Eventus platform by the nominee's respective National Authority. Only nominations endorsed by the National Authority or Permanent Representation of the candidate's country to the OPCW will be considered. Nominees must include in their curricula vitae, in terms of their practical and work experience, the analytical techniques with which they have experience as well as a list of major items of analytical equipment in their laboratories.
13. Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.
14. All applications must be received by the Secretariat **no later than 3 March 2023**. Additional information may be obtained from the International Cooperation Branch of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division. The contact persons are: Mr Massimo de Rienzo, Senior Programme Officer (Tel: +31 (0) 70 416 3458) and Ms Julia Gonzalez, Senior Project Assistant (Tel: +31 (0) 70 416 3239). They can also be contacted by email at icb.events@opcw.org.

Annex: Provisional Programme

Annex

**COURSE FOR ANALYTICAL CHEMISTS FROM LABORATORIES
SUPPORTING CUSTOMS SERVICES
IPO, WARSAW, POLAND
22 – 26 MAY 2023
PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

Time	Activity
<i>Sunday, 21 May 2023</i>	
Arrival of participants	
<i>Day 1 – Monday, 22 May 2023</i>	
09:00 – 09:15	Registration
09:15 – 09:45	Welcome address
09:45 – 10:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:00 – 10:30	Safety briefing
10:30 – 11:30	Introduction to the OPCW and the Convention and its Verification Annex
11:30 – 13:00	Scheduled chemicals and their chemistry
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 14:30	Analysis strategy
14:30 – 15:00	Element-specific detectors
15:00 – 15:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:15 – 16:00	Sampling collection: handling toxic chemicals, chain of custody, and security
16:00 – 16:30	Sample preparation
16:30 – 17:00	Tour of the laboratory
<i>Day 2 – Tuesday, 23 May 2023</i>	
09:00 – 18:00	Visit to a customs laboratory
<i>Day 3 – Wednesday, 24 May 2023</i>	
09:00 – 09:30	Retention indices
09:30 – 10:00	AMDIS and NIST ¹
10:00 – 10:30	OCAD
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:45 – 12:00	Practical uses of AMDIS and the OCAD for analyte identification
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00 – 17:00	Practical session: working with and troubleshooting GC-MS instruments
<i>Day 4 – Thursday, 25 May 2023</i>	
09:00 – 10:00	Hand-held instruments: FTIR spectroscopy, Raman spectroscopy, and LC-MS ²
10:00 – 10:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:15 – 12:00	Practical session: working with hand-held instruments
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00 – 15:00	Portable GC-MS instruments: possibilities and limitations
15:00 – 15:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
15:15 – 17:00	Discussion of analysis instruments: portable vs laboratory-based instruments

¹ NIST = National Institute of Standards and Technology of the United States Department of Commerce.

² LC-MS = liquid chromatography–mass spectrometry.

<i>Day 5 – Friday, 26 May 2023</i>	
09:00 – 10:00	Role of customs in supporting the Convention
10:00 – 10:15	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
10:15 – 11:15	The role of analytical chemistry, specifically sampling and analysis, in the support of both customs and the Convention
11:15 – 13:00	Group work: How do we proceed from here?
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 15:30	Evaluation and knowledge transfer session: – Discussion – Lessons learned and suggestions – Wrap-up of the training course
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
16:00 – 17:00	Closing ceremony
<i>Saturday, 27 May 2023</i>	
Departure of participants	

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