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**NOTE BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL**

**EVALUATION OF THE RESULTS OF  
THE THIRTY-SEVENTH OFFICIAL OPCW PROFICIENCY TEST**

1. The Director-General wishes to inform the Member States of the results of the Thirty-Seventh Official OPCW Proficiency Test, which was conducted by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) from April to August 2015. The OPCW Laboratory is accredited by the Raad voor Accreditatie (RvA), the Netherlands, to conduct proficiency testing in compliance with the criteria laid down in ISO/IEC 17043. The test was conducted according to the following quality management system documents:
  - (a) “Standard Operating Procedure for the Organisation of OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/SOP/PT01 (Issue 2, Revision 4, dated 10 April 2015));
  - (b) “Work Instruction for the Preparation of Samples for OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/PT02 (Issue 2, Revision 4, dated 10 April 2015));
  - (c) “Work Instruction for the Evaluation of the Results of OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/PT03 (Issue 3, Revision 2, dated 10 April 2015)); and
  - (d) “Work Instruction for the Reporting of the Results of the OPCW Proficiency Tests” (QDOC/LAB/WI/PT04 (Issue 2, Revision 1, dated 10 April 2015)).
2. Designated laboratories must, in order to retain their designation, demonstrate once per calendar year that they have maintained their capabilities in a proficiency test organised by the Secretariat.
3. Two laboratories offered to assist the Secretariat in conducting the Thirty-Seventh Official OPCW Proficiency Test: the Bundeswehr Research Institute for Protective Technologies and NBC Protection, WIS, Germany, which assisted in sample preparation, and TNO Defence, Security and Safety, the Netherlands, which assisted in evaluating the test results.
4. The preliminary evaluation report was discussed at a meeting between the Secretariat staff and the test participants on 15 July 2015. The participants were given two weeks to comment on the results and to inform the Secretariat whether they accepted the performance evaluation.
5. The evaluating laboratory submitted its final evaluation report to the Secretariat on 14 August 2015.



6. The principal results of the Thirty-Seventh Official OPCW Proficiency Test can be summarised as follows:
  - (a) Seventeen Member States nominated 19 laboratories for test participation;
  - (b) Five new laboratories nominated for this test opted to take this test on a trial basis;
  - (c) The total number of participants for this test is 19, of which 12 were regular participants, 5 were trial participants, and 2 were assisting laboratories;
  - (d) Except for one regular test participant, all other test participants submitted their test analysis report;
  - (e) Three test participants identified and reported, with sufficient analytical data, all of the seven spiked chemicals and received a score of A;
  - (f) Two test participants identified and reported six out of the seven spiked chemicals with sufficient analytical data and received a score of B;
  - (g) Four test participants reported false positive chemicals and failed the test;
  - (h) One test participant failed the test due to not submitting the test analysis report;
  - (i) Two test participants reported a non-scoring chemical;
  - (j) No scores were given to the five trial participants;
  - (k) The sample preparation laboratory and the evaluating laboratory were awarded the maximum performance rating of "A"; and
  - (l) There are five A's, two B's, one C, one D, and five F's in the test scores for the regular participants, including the two A's assigned to the two assisting laboratories.
7. The final results for all of the laboratories participating in the test are presented in the table annexed hereto.
8. The participating laboratories are reminded that if they have made any errors or reported false positives or false negatives (arising from a failure to find a spiking chemical or to provide sufficient supporting data for a chemical that is found), they should take immediate remedial action. Before participating in the next test, each such laboratory is required to submit a detailed follow-up report to the Secretariat stating the cause of the problem and any remedial action it has taken. Any such laboratory failing to submit the required report, including details of the remedial action it has taken, will not be permitted to participate in the next proficiency test.

Annex: Final Results of the Thirty-Seventh Official OPCW Proficiency Test

## Annex

**FINAL RESULTS OF  
THE THIRTY-SEVENTH OFFICIAL OPCW PROFICIENCY TEST**

<b>Laboratory (Participant Code)</b>	<b>No. of Spiking Chemicals Reported<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>No. of Chemicals Scored</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Algeria</b> Institut National de Criminalistique et de Criminologie de la Gendarmerie Nationale (15)	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>#</b>	Spiking chemicals A, B, C, D, E, and F are not reported; Insufficient data for the reported spiking chemical G; Reported a false positive chemical P; No scoring is given for trial participation
<b>Brazil</b> CTEx, Laboratório de Análises Químicas (10)	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>C</b>	Spiking chemicals D, E, and F are not reported
<b>Finland</b> Finnish Institute for Verification of the Chemical Weapons Convention (VERIFIN) (9)	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>F</b>	Spiking chemical D is not reported; Reported a false positive chemical K
<b>Germany</b> Bundeswehr Research Institute for Protective Technologies and NBC Protection	-	-	<b>A</b>	Sample preparation assistance

<sup>1</sup> The spiking chemicals were as follows:

Sample A113: (A)	3-Quinuclidinol
Sample D114: (B)	3-Quinuclidinol
Sample D114: (C)	3,3-Dimethylbutane-2-ol
Sample D115: (D)	Diphenylcarbonate
Sample D115: (E)	Bis(2-phenoxyethyl) sulfide
Sample D115: (F)	Bis-[2-(2-hydroxyphenoxy)ethyl] sulfide
Sample D115: (G)	Thiodiglycol

Laboratory (Participant Code)	No. of Spiking Chemicals Reported <sup>1</sup>	No. of Chemicals Scored	Rating	Comments
<b>India</b> VERTOX Laboratory, Defence Research & Development Establishment (2)	7	7	A	-
<b>India</b> Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Centre for Analysis of Chemical Toxins (6)	7	7	A	Reported a non-scoring chemical H
<b>India</b> Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology (4)	4	4	F	Spiking chemicals D, E, and F are not reported; Reported a false positive chemical I
<b>Jordan</b> Director of Laboratories and Hazardous Material Department, General Directorate of Jordan Civil Defence (14)	0	0	#	Spiking chemicals A, B, C, D, E , F, and G are not reported; Reported 68 non-scheduled irrelevant chemicals with insufficient data; No scoring is given for trial participation
<b>Mauritius</b> Mauritius Forensic Science Laboratory, National Laboratories Complex (12)	-	-	F	No report submitted, thus failed the test
<b>Netherlands</b> TNO Defence, Security and Safety	-	-	A	Evaluation assistance

<b>Laboratory (Participant Code)</b>	<b>No. of Spiking Chemicals Reported<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>No. of Chemicals Scored</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Pakistan</b> Analytical Lab, DESTO, NESCOM, DESTO Labs Complex (16)	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>#</b>	Spiking chemicals D, E, and F are not reported; Reported a false positive chemical Q; No scoring is given for trial participation
<b>Republic of Korea</b> Chemical, Biological and Radiological Defense Research Institute (11)	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>D</b>	Spiking chemical D is not reported; Insufficient data for reported spiking chemicals A, B, C, E, F, and G
<b>Romania</b> Chemical Analysis and Testing Laboratory, Scientific Research Center for CBRN Defence & Ecology (8)	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>F</b>	Spiking chemical D is not reported; Reported a false positive chemical J
<b>Slovakia</b> Reference Chemical Laboratory, military unit (17)	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>F</b>	Spiking chemicals A, B, D, E, and F are not reported; Insufficient data for the reported spiking chemical C; Reported false positive chemical R
<b>Sweden</b> FOI, Swedish Defence Research Agency (5)	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>B</b>	Spiking chemical D is not reported
<b>Switzerland</b> SPIEZ Laboratory, Chemistry Department (3)	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>A</b>	Reported a non-scoring chemical H

<b>Laboratory (Participant Code)</b>	<b>No. of Spiking Chemicals Reported<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>No. of Chemicals Scored</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Turkey</b> Gulhane Military Medical Academy, Medical CBRN Laboratory <b>(13)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>#</b>	Spiking chemicals A, B, D, E, and F are not reported; Insufficient data for the reported spiking chemicals C and G; Reported false positive chemicals J, L, M, and N; No scoring is given for trial participation
<b>Ukraine</b> L.I. Medved's Research Center of Preventive Toxicology, Food and Chemical Safety <b>(18)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>#</b>	Spiking chemicals A, B, C, D, E, F, and G are not reported; No scoring is given for trial participation
<b>United States of America</b> Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center, Forensic Analytical Center, US Army RDCB-DRC-F <b>(7)</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>B</b>	Spiking chemical D is not reported