

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
FOR A COURSE ON ANALYTICAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT
AT THE SWEDISH DEFENCE RESEARCH AGENCY (FOI)
UMEÅ, SWEDEN
21 AUGUST – 1 SEPTEMBER 2017**

Content

2. The ASDC will have two parts:
 - (a) The first week will be focused on basic training and on gaining hands-on experience in gas chromatography (GC) and gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS). Participants will receive theoretical and practical training in GC and GC-MS, covering hardware, system validation and optimisation, and troubleshooting.
 - (b) The second week will be focused on the preparation of environmental samples and on GC and GC-MS analyses of such samples for chemicals related to the Convention. During this week, participants will be provided with intensive hands-on training in the preparation of different sample matrices for later analysis by GC with element-selective detectors and by GC-MS in electron-impact and chemical-ionisation modes. Participants will also be introduced to a range of extraction, clean-up, and derivatisation procedures.
3. The ASDC will accommodate a maximum of 20 participants from Member States whose economies are developing or are in transition. The Secretariat will select the participants based on their qualifications and experience. **Only selected candidates will be notified by the Secretariat. The Secretariat encourages qualified female candidates to apply for this course.**

Sponsorship

4. The cost of the courses themselves, as well as accommodation for all participants, will be covered by the Secretariat. In addition, the Secretariat will pay for international travel, meals, and medical and travel insurance for all participants.

Admission requirements

5. 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, especially in GC and GC-MS;
 - (b) are citizens of Member States whose economies are developing or in transition; and
 - (c) have been working in a chemical laboratory or research institution in their home country for at least five years.
6. The course will be conducted in English. Candidates must therefore have a strong command of both written and spoken English. Any candidate who is found not to meet this requirement upon arrival may not be allowed to continue the course.

Selection procedure

7. Applications will be carefully screened on the basis of the criteria specified in paragraph 5 above. Only the most suitable applicants will be interviewed. **Applicants who have already participated in ASDC programmes will NOT be considered for selection.**

Those who are interested, please accomplish the attached Application Form and have it signed by your immediate Supervisor and Division Chief, and submit to the PPDC Secretariat, Fellowships/Scholarships Unit on or before **30 JUNE**, 2017.