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IEODCOE-9-5/2024

Ref. N°: A. NATO EOD COE 2024 Courses Portfolio;
B. Bi-SC D 075-007: Education and Individual Training Directive
C. STANAG 2143, EOD Principles and Minimum Standards of Proficiency

TO: See Distribution List

SUBJECT: Calling Notice for Homemade Explosives Course – Basic (HMEC-B) – Ramnicu Valcea, Romania, 17 - 19 September 2024

DATE: **22.** March 2024

1. Based on the NATO/IP customer's demand for education and training in the EOD area, the NATO EOD COE delivers the **Homemade Explosives Course – Basic (HMEC-B)**.
2. NATO/IP nations are invited to attend the HMEC-B, which will take place at the **Combat Support Training Center in Ramnicu Valcea, Romania, on 17 - 19 September 2024**.
3. The deadline for registration is **2 August 2024**. The maximum number of seats available in the course is limited to 16 students.
4. HMEC-B provides NATO/IP military personnel with high-quality training on Homemade Explosives (HME) identification at an awareness level of proficiency.
5. The HMEC-B course is recorded in the NATO Education and Training Opportunities Catalogue (ETOC) as an Approved course (MEG-EO-31778). All of the latest course details are posted on the EOD COE Website: <https://www.eodcoe.org/en/education-training/education-an-individual-training-eit-activities-2024/hmec-basic/>
6. Please, direct all requests for additional information to the following NATO EOD COE Points of Contact:
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Frantisek MIHALOVIC
Colonel, SVK Army
NATO EOD COE
Director

ANNEXES:

A. Student Information Guide

DISTRIBUTION LIST

External:

Action:

SHAPE J2, B, J5, J7 via SHAPE Registry
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Information:

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ANNEX A

to Calling Notice for HMEC-B, 17-19 SEPTEMBER 2024

ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDANCE

1. GENERAL OVERVIEW

a) Scope:

NATO EOD COE will deliver the HMEC-B in cooperation with the Combat Support Training Center, Ramnicu Valcea, Romania. Two days will be dedicated to basics – classroom-led lessons about explosives, their characteristics and HME chemistry plus demonstrations. One day will be focused on the HME clandestine laboratory demonstration with students' participation.

b) Aim:

This course is designed to assist nations in educating EOD non-qualified personnel, or EOD personnel with limited HME knowledge, in relevant information about homemade explosives at an awareness level of proficiency. Students will be able to detect and identify HME precursors by human senses, set up relevant safety measures and report the incident when an HME hazard is present.

c) Target Audience:

Applicants should be EOD non-qualified personnel or EOD personnel with no/rudimentary HME knowledge.

Language skills: IAW STANAG 6001, an adequate understanding of written and spoken English is expected from the course attendees. SLP 2222 is recommended as the minimum level of proficiency.

d) Performance Objectives:

1. Explain the properties of HME and their precursors.
2. Describe the characteristics of HME labs.
3. Examine HME challenges.

e) Security Classification:

The Security Clearance for this course is NATO UNCLASSIFIED.

f) Training Area:

The course will be organized and delivered in the **Combat Support Training Center in Ramnicu Valcea, Romania**. Be aware that the course does not take place in the city of Trenčín, Slovakia, where the EOD COE is located.

2. EXECUTION

Attendees are expected to arrive in front of the Hotel Simfonia in Ramnicu Valcea NLT **on Tuesday, 17 September 2024, 07:45 AM**, where the Combat Support Training Center's bus will pick them up. The course will be finished no later than 17:00 PM on Thursday, 19 September 2024. **No returning flight should be booked before Thursday, 19 September, 22:00 PM.** Monday and Friday are designated as travel days for attendees.

a) Registration:

Nations applying for seats on this course should follow the instructions listed below:

1. Registration can only be done electronically through the EOD COE web page at the following link: <https://www.eodcoe.org/en/education-training/education-an-individual-training-eit-activities-2024/hmec-basic/>
2. The registration deadline is set for **2 August 2024. Registration Forms submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.**
3. All applicants will receive a Confirmation Letter or a Regret Letter from the Action Officer **NLT on 9 August 2024**. It is highly recommended that no applicant starts managing the arrangements before receipt the confirmation of admission to the course!

b) In-processing:

In-processing will be carried out from **08:00 to 08:30 AM** on the 1st day of the course.

Each participant should have an ID (e.g. passport) with them, which was mentioned in the registration form.

c) Course fee:

A course administration fee is 200 € per attendee. The method of payment will be indicated in the Confirmation Letter. Course fees do not apply to students from the NATO EOD COE Sponsoring Nations (CZE, HUN, POL, ROU and SVK) and NCS.

d) Dress code:

The dress code for classroom-led lectures will be Battle Dress Uniform (BDU). Each student is advised to bring his/her waterproof jacket for the demonstrations.

3. SERVICE SUPPORT

a) Training Area Address:

Combat Support Training Center, **31st Tudor Vladimirescu Blvd., Ramnicu Valcea, 240191, Romania, 45°06'21.2"N 24°22'23.0"E**

b) Transportation:

Each attendee is responsible for his own transportation.

Arrival by air/bus/car:

The recommended airport is Otopeni, Bucharest. To reach Ramnicu Valcea attendees can use a rental car or public transportation means (bus).

Bus itineraries (schedules) can be found on the following web pages:

<https://www.autogari.ro/Bus/Otopeni-RamnicuValcea?zi=2023-09-18&pas=1-0-0-0-0>

<https://www.normandiatransfer.ro/rezultat?plecare=16345&sosire=581&zi=04.10.2020&lang=en> (please note that information is available in English).

For those who require transportation, the Simfonia Hotel (for their guests only) can provide airport pick-up service for a fee of 130 EUR+VAT (19%) between 09:00-18:00 and 140 EUR+VAT (19%) between 18:00-09:00.

Please note that an electronic vignette is required for driving on all roads in Romania. Electronic vignettes can be purchased at almost all gas stations in Romania or online: <https://www.e-rovinieta.ro/en/>

c) Accommodation details:

The attendees are responsible for their own accommodation arrangements in Ramnicu Valcea.

Romanian Combat Support Training Center has negotiated accommodation at the Hotel Simfonia, Ramnicu Valcea, www.hotelsimfonia.ro for a special price 82 EUR (standard room for single use per night, including breakfast, free parking and other services). **Please note reservations can be made only by using the hotel's email address and not through booking sites.** It is important for you to provide the e-mail address to which you would like to receive the confirmation.

Once students receive the Confirmation Letter, they are responsible for their individual booking at the e-mail address: contact@hotelsimfonia.ro (refer to the Promo code HMEC-B#24). A copy of the email is to be sent to ROU POC **OF-3 Ion Ovidiu SAMOILA**, samoila.ion@forter.ro.

Hotel Simfonia phone numbers: +40 350 800 000, +40 737 577 606. Credit card payment is available. Prices are in EUR; note that all invoices are issued in RON. The reservation deadline is 7 days before the arrival. After the deadline, the hotel can only confirm requests depending on its availability. **Please keep in mind that free daily transportation will be provided only from/to the Hotel Simfonia.**

d) Real-life information:

- Romania is part of the European Union,
- Currency is RON (1euro / approx 5 RON),
- State emergency – all services: 112.

