



NATO EOD CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE
I.OLBRACHTA 5, 911 01 TRENCIN, SLOVAK REPUBLIC
e-mail: eodws24@eodcoe.org tel.: (0421) 960 333 571; fax: (0421) 960 333 504;
www.eodcoe.org



Trencin, 11 June 2024

Ref.Nº: I EOD COE – 20-11/2024

TO: See Distribution List

SUBJECT: **The 10th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Workshop 2024 – Calling Letter**

Reference: The 10th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Workshop 2024,
5-6 Nov 2024 – Save the Date Letter; dated 11 December 2023

1. The NATO Explosive Ordnance Disposal Centre of Excellence is pleased to inform all Subject Matter Experts in the area of EOD, C-IED, CBRN, DAT, and MILENG from all NATO and Interoperability Platform Countries (IPC) that the 10th EOD Workshop 2024 (10th EOD WS 24) will be organised in X-Bionic Hotel, Samorin, Slovakia **from 05 to 06 Nov 2024**. The event is planned to be organised only in person (no VTC options will be available).
2. The overarching topic of the 10th EOD WS 24 is “*Consistent EOD Capability Development*”. Particular objectives and themes will focus on elaboration of the following:
 - Block 1: EOD as a Helper Around the Globe
 - Block 2: EOD Training of Today and for Tomorrow
 - Block 3: Technological Helix and Synergies of Innovations
 - Block 4: AI and EOD
3. All Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) are encouraged to participate in the determined topics/projects. The potential participants are requested to fill in the Personal Application Form (PAF; see Enclosure 3) before **the 11th of October 2024**.
4. The 10th EOD WS 24 will be limited to 100 attendees (in-person participation). Based on this, the registrations will be considered on a proportional basis for Nations and Entities.
5. **The applicants will be notified about approval or rejection of their registration NLT the 11th of October 2024.**
6. The SMEs willing to contribute to their presentations are advised to indicate their topics and to request time allocation within their PAF.
7. There will be limited space for industry SMEs (exhibitors) to have their company desk displays in the X-Bionic hotel (in front of the Workshop plenary room), during coffee breaks. The potential exhibitors are recommended to make such

NATO UNCLASSIFIED
Releasable to IPC

arrangements exclusively with X-Bionic hotel management, after the coordination with the EOD COE representatives. The companies that already have collaboration agreements signed with the EOD COE will have priority.

8. The classification of the workshop is NATO UNCLASSIFIED Releasable to IPC. All timings used in this document are CET (Brussels).
9. The main OPR in the EOD COE: MAJ Adrian PETER, email: eodws24@eodcoe.org, phone: +421 960 333 571, mobile: +421 948 378 780.
10. The POCs in the EOD COE:
 - a. Mr Juraj HALAMA, email: eodws24@eodcoe.org, phone: +421 960 333 537, mobile: +421 911 727 338.
 - b. Mr Marian LACHYTA, email: eodws24@eodcoe.org, phone: +421 960 333 515, mobile: +421 911 710 855,
 - c. Fax: +421 960 333 504;



Frantisek MIHALOVIC
Colonel, SVK Army
Director

ENCLOSURE:

1. Topics, Objectives, Instructions, and Tentative agenda.
2. Administrative Instructions.
3. Personal Application Form (PAF).

DISTRIBUTION LIST:

- SHAPE - attention to all NATO countries NMRs and IPCs via MPD;
- (Interoperability Platform Countries - Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Ireland, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, New Zealand, Serbia, Switzerland, Tunisia, Ukraine, and the United Arab Emirates);
- Key speakers (upon preliminary agreements);
- NATO Command structures via JFC (Naples, Brunssum, Norfolk);
- NATO EOD COIs via NATO NSO Forums (EODWG/MILENGWG/JCBRND CDG/C-IEDWG);
- NATO EOD COE POCs (EDA, UN, and others) and specific invitees.

Internal (EOD COE):

- DIR
- ADC
- AST
- CIS
- IKM
- ETD
- TECHD
- TSD
- SPT

The 10th EOD Workshop 2024
Topics, Objectives, Instructions, and Tentative agenda

The 10th EOD WS 2024 topics/projects and derived subtopics are merged into four blocks:

1. BLOCK 1 (05 NOV 2024 at 0915-1230 hrs CET):
Topic/project: **EOD as a Helper Around the Globe** - The aim of this block is to provide the audience with some observations, lessons, experiences, insights, threats and challenges that were and will have to be addressed within the EOD capability developments in the future.
2. BLOCK 2 (05 NOV 2024 at 1400-1615 hrs CET):
Topic/project: **EOD Training of Today and for Tomorrow** – The aim of this block is to share current national approaches to the EOD operator training with identified gaps/deficiencies and indicated possible/desired future improvements in national EOD operator training processes.
3. BLOCK 3 (06 NOV 2024 at 0900 - 1230 hrs CET):
Topic/project: **Technological Helix and Synergies of Innovations** – the block presenters will inform the audience about particular efforts/projects related to technological solutions and inventions during training, combat missions and post-conflict activities. The topic is not limited to EOD and other aspects like IEDD, demining, reconnaissance and explosive threat detection.
4. BLOCK 4 (06 NOV 2024 at 1330 - 1630 hrs CET):
Topic/project: **AI and EOD** – the block presenters will inform the audience about particular efforts/projects related to AI and its applicability within the EOD area. The selected AI capabilities and challenges will be highlighted and subsequently, the participants will be encouraged to provide their views on the issue via a distributed survey.

05 NOV 2024 at 0915-1230 hrs CET	
Block 1 (Topic/project)	EOD as a Helper Around the Globe
Block facilitator	Mr Juraj HALAMA
Speakers	EOD operators and Staff Officers (those willing to contribute by their presentations as they indicated within PAFs)
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To share lessons and experiences from cases/incidents from homeland or international environment (kind of case studies) 2. To share views on upcoming threats and challenges to be considered within the EOD Capability developments (consisting of national approaches in EOD capability building, including training activities, seeing capability development as a multidisciplinary integrated task, ...)
Expected Focus/Subtopics (e.g.)	<p>For the <u>objective 1</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Particular incidents in homeland or deployments... • An EOD task accomplished within the domestic urban area (UXO, IED, ...) • EOD support during routine training or national exercises (e.g. malfunction of munitions during Live Fire Exercise) • An Underwater EOD task, CBRN EOD lessons based on an incident during practice, ... <p>For the <u>objective 2</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lessons from own national EOD capability developments reflecting increasing terrorist attacks in homelands • Lessons obtained from building and training the national EOD capability in respective affected areas (Ukraine Conflict, Middle East Conflict, Africa, Asia ...)
Instructions / recommendation	<p>For the <u>objective 1</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is expected that an EOD operator will describe a maximum of two incidents/cases in detail (i.e. case studies, including lessons). • A briefing should focus on the EOD Operator's decision-making process and his earned experience and lessons. • The scope of incident types is not limited (CMD, IEDD, UWMD, or any others). • He/she should provide a general picture of the situation, details on his/her approach and composition of UXO or IED, a scale of entries considering how to tackle the task, a procedure to solve the problem (if possible), actions that went wrong or perfectly, and his/her ideas and lessons, which could be beneficial mainly for any EOD Operator safety. • This part of the meeting is fully dedicated to detailing of the EOD incident/cases, which bring added value at the working level among EOD operators (principle: EOD operators to EOD operators +). Therefore, any general briefs or descriptions without earned experience and lessons should be avoided. • All EOD operators are strongly encouraged to describe in detail even the cases, which could be very ordinary or specific from their own perspective. It was learnt that something obvious for a particular EOD operator might be a very learning point for the others. • Due to the sensitivity of the info sharing at the EOD operator level (in respect of Render Safe Procedures) all briefings should be in line with the meeting classification NATO

	<p>UNCLASSIFIED.</p> <p>For the <u>objective 2</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EOD SOs are advised to focus on their analyses of upcoming threats and their impacts on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ EOD capability developments in the homeland ○ building and training the national EOD capabilities in respective affected areas (Ukraine Conflict, Middle East Conflict, Africa, Asia ...)
--	--

05 NOV 2024 at 0915-1230 hrs CET	
Block 2 (Topic/project)	EOD Training of Today and for Tomorrow
Block facilitator	COL Zsolt Lajos SZILÁGYI
Speakers	NATO and IPC authorities responsible for national EOD E&T
Objectives	To introduce a particular/ national approach to meet NATO EOD-related E&T standards.
Envisaged Focus/Subtopics (e.g.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National approach to NATO EOD-related proficiency vs. initial EOD training, including curricula of the course, focused on the graduate end state – minimum level of knowledge and skills. • Collective Training within national EOD force elements (EOD FE). • Experience and opportunities of the EOD FEs intervention within national and multinational exercises.
Instructions/recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All key speakers for respective subtopics are supposed to make their presentations with a focus on the implementation of the NATO EOD standards within the particular E&T area. Detailed briefing content and allocated timeframe will be tailored directly with the EOD COE OPR. • All participants are supposed to be ready to contribute from their perspectives on challenges with the implementation of the NATO EOD standards into EOD training events (including exercises, seminars or other activities where information can be shared).

06 NOV 2024 at 0900-1230 CET	
Block 3 (Topic/project)	Technological Helix and Synergies of Innovations
Block Facilitator	LTC Damian PIÓRKO/LTC Witold Plezia
Speakers	SMEs in related areas of demining, EOD/IEDD and VR/XR
Objectives	1. To provide the audience with technological solutions to demining, EOD/IEDD missions and training
Expected Focus/Subtopics (e.g.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drones impact on combat and non-combat activities • Virtual and Extended reality as a training and situational awareness tool • Multisensory – big data delivery in real-time • Conflict zones' UXO/IEDs disposal ops – lessons learned
Instructions/recommendation	Participants are advised to familiarise themselves in advance with the read-ahead materials distributed by the EOD COE

06 NOV 2024 at 1330 - 1630 CET	
Block 4 (Topic/project)	AI for EOD
Block Facilitator	Mr Vojtech FUCEK
Speakers	SMEs in related areas of AI or/and EOD
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To provide the audience with some insights on AI and its applicability in the EOD area 2. To obtain some feedback from the participants on AI applicability within the EOD area
Expected Focus/Subtopics (e.g.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductory into AI and its capabilities for the EOD • Efforts in development of AI-EOD applications • Challenges in these efforts • Survey relating to AI and EOD
Instructions/recommendation	Participants are advised to familiarise themselves in advance with the read-ahead materials distributed by the EOD COE.

Tentative Agenda (CET used)

04 November 2024 (Monday)	
	Travel day (recommended)

05 November 2024 (Tuesday)	
0800 – 0900	In processing, Registration
0900 – 0905	EOD COE Director’s welcome address
0900 - 0910	SACT (FOGO)’s welcome address
0910 – 0915	Security and Admin brief
Block 1 - EOD as a Helper Around the Globe	
0915 – 1230	Targeted Briefings with Questions & Answers
1230 – 1400	Lunch
Block 2 - EOD Training of Today and for Tomorrow	
1400 - 1615	Targeted Briefings with Questions & Answers
1645 - 1815	Ice Breaker

06 November 2024 (Wednesday)	
Block 3 - Technological Helix and Synergies of Innovations	
0900 – 1230	Targeted Briefings with Questions & Answers
1230 – 1330	Lunch
Block 4 - AI and EOD	
1330 - 1630	Targeted Briefings with Questions & Answers

**coffee breaks will be accordingly*

The 10th EOD Workshop 2024

Administrative instructions

1. General

The OPR in the EOD COE: MAJ Adrian PETER, email: eodws24@eodcoe.org, phone: +421 960 333 571, mobile: +421 948 378 780, fax: +421 960 333 504.

The main POCs in the EOD COE:

- a. Mr Juraj HALAMA, email: eodws24@eodcoe.org, phone: +421 960 333 537, mobile: +421 948 957 004,
- b. Mr Marian LACHYTA, email: eodws24@eodcoe.org, phone: +421 960 333 515, mobile: +421 911 710 855,

You are advised to contact the POCs or OPR directly when you need assistance with administrative issues (accommodation, meals and refreshments, local transport, and other support).

2. Location and Accommodation:

The Workshop will be held in the X-Bionic Hotel, in Samorin, Slovakia.

Participants are recommended to make their own accommodation reservations via email: reception@x-bionicsphere.com

For the suggested prices (from 130 to 150 Euros/night/person for bed) you have to use the Promo Code: WS2024. Please be aware that room bookings via online reservation systems (e.g. booking.com...) do not guarantee discounted prices. There is a 50% discount for Hotel Wellness offered as well.

Please note that some hotel rooms are pre-reserved **till the 5th of October 2024**. After this date, the availability of rooms is not guaranteed, however (if rooms are available) the offered discounts should be still valid.

X-Bionic Sphere
Dubová ulica 2254/33
931 01 Šamorín-Čilistov
Slovak Republic
GPS: Latitude: 48.01589 N, Longitude: 17.30096 E
Tel: +421 313 262 111
Email: reception@x-bionicsphere.com
<https://www.x-bionicsphere.com/hotel/>

3. Transport and parking

From Vienna airport (Austria) to X-Bionic Sphere, Samorin (Slovakia, approx 80 km southeast from Vienna):

- The most feasible way to get directly to X-Bionic Sphere, Samorin is to use a rental car from the Vienna airport (i.e. www.europcar.com, www.avis.com, <https://www.hertz.com>, ...) or
- Take a bus from Vienna airport to the main Bus Station in Bratislava, Slovak capital, (i.e. <http://www.eurolines.sk/en.html>,...) and then take another bus from Bratislava AS (bus station) to X-Bionic Sphere, Samorin (i.e. <http://cp.atlas.sk/bus/spojenie/>)

Please, be aware that **local transportation will not be provided by the EOD COE.**

4. Registration

All Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) are encouraged to participate in the determined topics/project. The applicants are requested to fill in Personal Application Forms (PAF - see below at Enclosure 3) before the **11th of October 2024**.

PAF can be filled in either:

- submitted via <https://www.eodcoe.org> (*preferred*)
- or sent to email: eodws24@eodcoe.org;

The in-person applicants will be notified about either approved or rejected registration the latest the **11th of October 2024**.

5. In-Processing

The allocated time for the in-processing is on the 5th of November 2024 from 08.00 to 09.00 in front of the main hotel plenary room.

You are requested to bring with yourself:

- Passport / ID;
- NATO Travel order (if applicable);
- Euro currency in cash for the Conference fee

6. Conference fee

The conference fee includes most of the admin/support issues and is set for **150 EUR**.

The conference fee is expected to be paid in cash only (EURO currency) during in-processing on the 5th of November 2024.

All attendees (paying the conference fee) will be provided with confirmation of paying (in hard copy).

7. Meals

Refreshments and lunches during the meeting will be served in the X- Bionic Hotel facility.

8. ICE Breaker

The ICE breaker will be held on the 5th of November 2024 from 1645 – 1815 hrs in the X-Bionic Hotel, Samorin.

9. Dress Code

The dress code throughout the whole meeting and the ICE Breaker will be smart casual.

10. Electricity

Voltage in the Slovak Republic is 220 V /50Hz, and power outlets Type C and Type E are used. If bringing a laptop or other electric devices, participants are reminded to bring suitable “worldwide” adapters with them.

11. Security

The classification of the seminar is **NATO UNCLASSIFIED releasable to IPC**.

Essential security rules will be applied (no guns, weapons, and other hazardous stuff are allowed). Security restrictions and rules are going to be presented during the security briefing (on the 5th of November 2024).

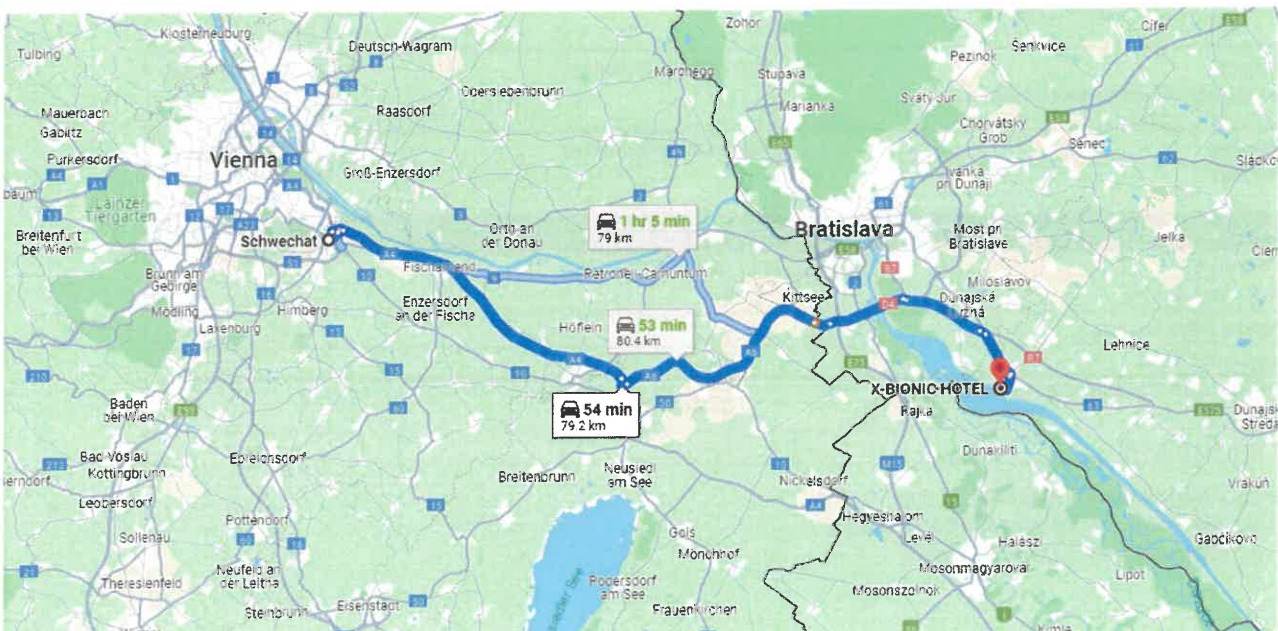
12. Presentations/Video management

All approved briefers are expected to deliver their presentations for the respective blocks before the 25th of October 2024.

Particular presentations can be sent directly to the email address: eodws24@eodcoe.org. In case of bigger presentations (more than 10MB), the guest speakers are recommended to upload their presentations or video files to any open/commercial cloud storage. In that case, these guest briefers are requested to send to cis@eodcoe.org their link and password for those uploaded files.

The speakers are recommended to communicate any other issues related to their presentations via their block facilitators (email: eodws24@eodcoe.org).

13. Map of location (see below)



NATO UNCLASSIFIED
Releasable to IPC

The 10th EOD Workshop 2024

05 - 06 November 2024; X-Bionic Hotel, Šamorín, Slovakia

Personal Application Form (PAF)

Should you have any questions or any problems appear during the registration (when submitted via <https://www.eodcoe.org>), then please send a message to e-mail: eodws24@eodcoe.org

I intend to participate in the event:

Personal Details ¹		
Last (Family) Name		
First (Given) Name		
Nationality		
ID number (ID card, Passport, etc.)		
Service (Army, AF, Navy, Marine corps, SOF)		
NATO rank/grade (e.g.LTC/OF-4)		
Current position within the home organisation/unit (e.g.1st EOD Platoon)		
Email address (where you are available)		
Cell phone number (incl. country code)		
Home/Parent Unit/Organisation Details		
Name of Unit (e.g. 5th Armoured Bgde)		
Country		
City		
ZIP code		
Street number ²		
P.O.Box ³		
Phone Number (incl. country code)		
Website (optional)		
Email Address of the unit		
If planning to give a presentation in some block ¹		
<input type="checkbox"/> Block1 EOD as a Helper Around the Globe	Title of the presentation:	Duration (in mins):
<input type="checkbox"/> Block2 EOD Training of Today and for Tomorrow	Title of the presentation:	Duration (in mins):
<input type="checkbox"/> Block3 Technological Helix and Synergies of Innovations	Title of the presentation:	Duration (in mins):
<input type="checkbox"/> Block4 AI and EOD	Title of the presentation:	Duration (in mins):
Travel arrangements (in-person participant)		
Mode of travel	<input type="checkbox"/> air <input type="checkbox"/> car <input type="checkbox"/> train	
Arrival / date and time		
Departure / date and time		
Your reserved hotel		
ICE Breaker (on 05 November 2024 in the evening) - I intend to participate	yes <input type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/>	
Any remarks/requests		

¹ Use only **English characters** to fulfil the form² If your organisation uses the street number for mailing³ If your organisation uses P.O.Box for mailing

The processor: Mr Juraj HALAMA
Approved by: MAJ Adrian PETER
Number of pages: 13
Value symbol and storing period: S-3
Number of printouts: 1
Printout No. 1: for the Registry



