

**AD HOC GROUP OF THE STATES PARTIES
TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION
OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND
STOCKPILING OF BACTERIOLOGICAL
(BIOLOGICAL) AND TOXIN WEAPONS
AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

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Article II. [DEFINITIONS, ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS] 2/

1. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction - Biological Weapons Convention or Convention - BWC

The Convention was opened for signature on 10 April 1972 and entered into force on 26 March 1975.

[2.(1) Bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons - Biological weapons BW

A type of weapon specifically designed [to cause disease... ~~harm to human beings, animals or plants, the effects of which are based on the properties of micro-organisms and other biological forms, their components and/or products of biological activity (toxins) in causing disease, physical or intellectual incapacitation or death.~~

The term “[~~Bacteriological ...~~] **biological weapon**” shall be applied to the following:

- ...;
- Weapons, equipment and **other** means [~~of delivery~~] designed for the **delivery** and use of biological agents or toxins for hostile purposes or in armed conflict]

3([2). Biological agents ... - **biological agents or bioagents - BA**

Micro-organisms, their genetically modified forms and other biological agents [~~designed...~~] **capable of causing the physical or intellectual incapacitation, death or destruction of human beings, animals or plants and designed for use for hostile purposes or in armed conflict.**

...

5(4). [~~Military~~][~~civilian~~][~~biological defence programme~~] Military or civilian defence programme against biological weapons - **defence programme**

...

6(5). ~~Biosafety Level 3 [High containment]~~ High-containment biosafety level (biosafety level 3 under the 1993 WHO classification) - **safety level 3 - BL3**

...

17([16). Toxins

Toxic by-products of micro-organisms, natural poisons of animal or plant origin, whatever their method of production, [~~designed...~~] **capable of causing death, incapacitation, disease and/or destruction of human beings, animals or plants and designed for use for hostile purposes or in armed conflict.**

...

23(22). **Maximum-containment biosafety level (biosafety level 4 under the 1993 WHO classification) - safety level 4 - BL4**

...

24(23). [Aerobiology

The study of **and work with aerosols containing biological agents and toxins.**]