

## **Switzerland**

**REPORT BY SWITZERLAND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FINAL DECLARATION OF THE THIRD REVIEW CONFERENCE 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.**

Bern, 23 April 2004

**Declaration form on nothing to declare or nothing new to declare**

<b>Measure</b>	<b>Nothing to declare</b>	<b>Nothing new to declare</b>
A Part 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A Part 2 (i)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A Part 2 (ii)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A Part 2 (iii)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
B (i)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B (ii)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
D	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
F	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
G	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Date: 23 April 2004

State Party to the Convention: **Switzerland**

**Exchange of information on outbreaks of infectious diseases and similar occurrences caused by toxins**

**General remarks:**

1. Human diseases

The Swiss Federal Office of Public Health (*Office fédéral de la santé publique*) is responsible for the surveillance and reporting of diseases. A nationwide notification system is regulated by the Ordinance on the Notification of Communicable Human Diseases (*Ordonnance du 13 janvier 1999 sur la déclaration des maladies transmissibles de l'homme*), which is based on the Federal Law on Epidemics (*Loi fédérale du 18 décembre 1970 sur la lutte contre les maladies transmissibles de l'homme*).

On the basis of this ordinance every medical practitioner is obliged to report the occurrence of certain notifiable diseases. In addition, medical laboratories have to report the identification of notifiable agents. The results of this survey are published in the weekly *Bulletin de l'office fédéral de la santé publique* (internet: [www.admin.ch/bag/infreporting/bulletin.html](http://www.admin.ch/bag/infreporting/bulletin.html)). The *Bulletin*, which also contains detailed reports on the epidemiological situation in the country, is transmitted to the World Health Organisation (*Organisation mondiale de la santé*).

2. Animal diseases

According to the Federal Law on Animal Epidemics (*Loi du 1<sup>er</sup> juillet 1966 sur les épizooties*) and the corresponding ordinances, certain animal diseases have to be reported to the Federal Veterinary Office (*Office vétérinaire fédéral*) which in turn is responsible for the reporting to the OIE (*Office International des Epizooties*) concerning the diseases covered by the A- and B-list of the OIE. Epidemiological data are regularly published in the weekly *Bulletin de l'office vétérinaire fédéral* and on the internet ([www.bvet.admin.ch](http://www.bvet.admin.ch)).

3. Plant diseases

The Federal Office of Agriculture (*Office fédéral de l'agriculture*) reports regularly to the EPPO (*European Plant Protection Organisation*) concerning the occurrence of communicable plant diseases. Certain plant diseases are notifiable according to the Federal Law on Agriculture (*Loi fédérale du 29 avril 1998 sur l'agriculture*) and the corresponding Ordinance on Plant Protection (*Ordonnance sur la protection des végétaux du 5 mars 1962*).

**Background information on outbreaks of reportable infectious diseases in humans**

Disease	Number of cases per year			
	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b><u>Bacterial:</u></b>				
Anthrax / Bacillus anthracis	0	0	0	0
Brucella species	16	11	12	5
Francisella tularensis	0	0	0	0
Plague	0	0	0	0
Salmonella typhi	33	28	38	27
Shigella species	404	474	382	322
Tetanus	4	4	0	3
<b><u>Viral:</u></b>				
Tick-borne-encephalitis virus	94	107	53	116
Viral hemorrhagic fever	0	0	4	1
<b><u>Protozoal:</u></b>				
Malaria / Plasmodium species	321	322	272	232

**Background information on outbreaks of reportable infectious diseases in animals**

Disease	Number of cases per year			
	2000	2001	2002	2003
African swine fever	0	0	0	0
Anthrax	0	0	0	0
Aujesky's disease	0	0	0	3
Bluetongue	0	0	0	0
Brucellosis, bovine	0	0	0	7
Brucellosis, caprine and bovine	0	0	0	12
Foot and mouth disease	0	0	0	0
Goat pox	0	0	0	0
Hog cholera (swine fever)	0	0	0	0
Newcastle disease	0	0	0	40
Peste des petits ruminants	0	0	0	0
Rabies	0	0	0	0
Rift Valley fever	0	0	0	0
Rinderpest	0	0	0	0
Sheep pox	0	0	0	0
Swine vesicular disease	0	0	0	0
Teschen disease	2	2	0	0
Vesicular stomatitis	0	0	0	0

**Active promotion of contacts**

1. Planned international conferences, symposia, seminars, and other similar forums for exchange

- name of the conference, etc.                      Chemical Biological Medical Treatment Symposium V (CBMTS V)
  
- arranging organization(s), etc.                      Spiez Laboratory, in cooperation with Applied Science Analysis, Inc. (Aberdeen, Maryland, USA)
  
- time    April 2004
  
- place    Spiez, Switzerland
  
- main subject(s) for the conference, etc.    CBMTS V will bring together professionals most concerned with and directly involved in the scientific, technical and operational aspects of problems associated with the chemical, biological and toxin (CBT) threat to include all actions associated with CBT agent, agrochemical and industrial poisonings. It will address the topics of chemical and biological terrorism and anti-terrorism matters.
  
- conditions for participation
  
- point of contact for further information, registration, etc.    Internet: [www.asanltr.com/cbmts/](http://www.asanltr.com/cbmts/)

2. Information regarding other opportunities

The ***Indo-Swiss Collaboration in Biotechnology*** (ISCB) was initiated in 1974. In October 1999, a new program phase started, which will last for a period of five years (1999-2004). The overall responsibility for the programme is held by the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC) in Berne and the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) in New Delhi. For the current programme phase, the funding amounts to a total of 8 mio CHF from SDC and 4 mio CHF from DBT.

The ISCB programme supports joint projects with at least one Swiss and one Indian partner to create synergies across institutes and national borders. Detailed information can be obtained via the internet ([www.biotech.biol.ethz.ch/india/](http://www.biotech.biol.ethz.ch/india/)).

Since 1990, the Swiss National Science Foundation, commissioned by SDC, manages a programme called **Scientific Co-operation between Eastern Europe and Switzerland** (SCOPEs). A new phase was launched at the end of 1999, with a budget of 14 million CHF for the years 2000-2003. SCOPEs funds institutional partnerships, conference participation for partners, and joint research projects with partners in Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Macedonia, Romania, Russia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. Detailed information on projects in the field of biology and medicine can be obtained via the internet ([www.snf.ch/en/rep/int/int\\_sco.asp](http://www.snf.ch/en/rep/int/int_sco.asp)).