

**FIFTH 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**

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THE UNIVERSALITY OF THE BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

Working paper by NAM and Other States

Introductory / Preambular Paragraphs to the Final Declaration

Their reaffirmation that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction is essential for the maintenance of international and regional peace and security.

Their recognition of the particular importance of strengthening the Convention through multilateral negotiations for a legally binding Protocol to the Convention.

Their reiteration that the effective contribution of the Convention to international and regional peace and security would be enhanced through universal adherence to the Convention.

Their dissatisfaction at the fact that after three decades, since the entry into force of the Convention, universality has not yet been achieved and believe that non-adherence or non-ratification by non-States Parties to the Convention pose a threat to international and regional peace and security,

Their call on all non-States Parties, particularly those that are advanced in the field of biological science and technology, to accede to the Convention at the earliest.

Their commitment to spare no effort, whether through bilateral or multilateral means, to call on non-States Parties to ratify or accede to the Convention without further delay in order to realize its universality.
