

**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 PROHIBITION OF THE USE OF BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

Working paper by NAM and Other States

The Conference emphasizes the importance of the full and effective implementation of Article X and the necessity of strengthening it.

The Conference underlines the extent of the provisions on scientific and technological cooperation for peaceful purposes negotiated by the Ad Hoc Group established by the 1994 Special Conference and considers the results of the work of the Ad Hoc Group constitute a basis for strengthening Article X in the future:

Each State Party undertakes to implement specific measures designed to enhance compliance with and ensure effective and full implementation of Article X of the Convention among the States Parties. The implementation of such measures shall be aimed at:

- (a) Promoting scientific and technological exchanges and fostering international co-operation, as appropriate, on a multilateral, regional or bilateral basis in the field of peaceful bacteriological (biological) and toxin activities;
- (b) Facilitating free trade and the fullest possible exchange in biological agents, toxins, equipment and materials for peaceful purposes in order to enhance the economic and technological development of States Parties, and ensuring the right of States Parties to participate in such exchanges to the fullest extent possible;
- (c) Avoiding hampering the economic and technological development of States Parties through any restrictions incompatible with the obligations undertaken under the Convention or limitations on the transfer, for purposes consistent with the objectives and the provisions of the Convention, of scientific knowledge, technology, equipment and materials.

Each State Party undertakes to facilitate, and has the right to participate in, the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for the use of microbial and other biological agents, and toxins for peaceful purposes and, in its implementation of these measures, to ensure that any transfers or exchanges of materials, equipment, technology shall take

place in compliance with the provisions of Articles III and X of the Convention.

Each State Party undertakes to promote and support the following activities, in furtherance of any current endeavours relevant to and in accordance with the Convention, where appropriate, individually, jointly, through arrangements with relevant international organizations and agencies including, but not limited to the Food and Agricultural Organization, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, International Vaccine Institute, Organization Internationale des Epizooties, Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Industrial Development Organization or World Health Organization and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity:

- (a) The publication, exchange and dissemination of information, including through workshops, training programmes and conferences, on current and recent developments, as well as research and development on the peaceful uses of microbial or other biological agents and toxins, on biosafety, prophylactics and protection, biotechnology, Good Laboratory Practice and current Good Manufacturing Practice, and diagnosis, surveillance, detection, treatment and prevention of diseases caused by microbial or other biological agents and toxins, in particular infectious diseases;
- (b) The work of existing laboratories on the prevention, surveillance, detection and diagnosis of diseases caused by microbial and other biological agents or toxins, in particular infectious diseases and to improve the capabilities of such laboratories and their effectiveness, through, *inter alia*, the provision of training and technical advice, equipment and reagents;
- (c) The improvement and development of the capabilities of States Parties, including laboratories, upon the specific request of, and in co-operation with, the State Party concerned, in the surveillance, prevention, detection, diagnosis and treatment of diseases caused by microbial and other biological agents or toxins, in particular infectious diseases, as an integral part of a global effort to improve the monitoring of emerging and re-emerging diseases in humans, animals and plants;
- (d) The improvement and development of research capabilities, including research institutes, in relevant fields of biosciences and biotechnology for peaceful purposes, through collaborative research programmes and projects, upon the specific request of, and in co-operation with, the State Party concerned, in particular in the use of micro-organisms and toxins for medical, agricultural, veterinary and industrial purposes;
- (e) The establishment, operation and updating of biological data bases on information relevant to the purposes of the Convention, as well as improving accessibility to such data bases;
- (f) The monitoring, diagnosis, detection, prevention and control of outbreaks of

diseases, and international co-operation on the research, development and production of vaccines;

- (g) Transfer among States Parties of technology for the peaceful uses of genetic engineering, the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases caused by microbial and other biological agents or toxins, in particular infectious diseases, and for other relevant fields of biosciences and biotechnology for peaceful purposes;
 - (h) Participation on a fair and equitable basis and as wide a geographic basis as possible at the bilateral, regional or multilateral levels in the application of biotechnology and scientific research and development, for the prevention, surveillance, detection, diagnosis and treatment of diseases caused by microbial and other biological agents or toxins, in particular infectious diseases;
 - (i) The establishment and conduct of training programmes on the diagnosis, surveillance, detection, prevention and treatment of diseases caused by microbial and other biological agents or toxins, in particular infectious diseases;
 - (j) The establishment of a framework of co-operative research activities aimed at improving and strengthening the capabilities of States Parties in the field of prophylaxis and protection against diseases caused by microbial and other biological agents or toxins, in particular infectious diseases.
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