

**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 WORK OF THE AD HOC GROUP TO THE
BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION**

Working Paper by NAM and Other States

1. The Conference is convinced that the Convention is essential to international and regional peace and security.
 2. The Conference reaffirms its continued determination, for the sake of humankind, to exclude completely the possibility of any use of bacteriological (biological) agents and toxins as weapons, and its conviction that such use would be repugnant to the conscience of humankind.
 3. The Conference notes with regret that the Ad Hoc Group, established by the Special Conference in 1994, was unable to fulfil its mandate, since by the end of the twenty-fourth session it was not able to complete its work and submit its report, to be adopted by consensus, including a draft of a legally-binding instrument to the States Parties to the Convention.
 4. The Conference believes that the threat of biological weapons as instruments of war and terror have reinforced the necessity and urgency to strengthen the effectiveness and improve the implementation of the Convention.
 5. In this regard, the Conference reaffirms that the mandate of the Ad Hoc Group, as agreed by the Special Conference in 1994, remains valid and determines any future work of the Ad Hoc Group.
 6. The Conference stresses the importance for all States Parties to restart and continue the work of the Ad Hoc Group, so as to achieve the objectives that were set forth by the Fourth Review Conference.
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