

**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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**Federal Republic of Germany**

**TRANSPARENCY IN BIODEFENCE**

The Federal Republic of Germany is one of the few States Parties which has been submitting a national declaration on Confidence-Building Measures (CBM) on an annual basis since 1987 as agreed at the Second Review Conference of the Biological Weapons Convention. German contributions to the CBMs include an annually updated declaration of biodefence installations and activities.

Alongside the CBM declaration, the German Armed Forces have held a series of Biological Medical Conferences in the past to exchange information on scientific and technological developments in the field of biodefence. These Conferences were announced in the annual CBM declaration and open to participants from all States Parties. The Seventh Conference took place in Munich in October 2000 with participants from 17 countries. Due to administrative problems, this conference will not be held in 2001.

Since the implementation of the German Genetic Engineering Act in 1990, the Federal Armed Forces annually inform the German Bundestag of all research and development activities which include genetic engineering operations - whether conducted by military institutions or by contractors of the German Armed Forces.

To maintain and indeed increase the transparency of biodefence activities of the German Armed Forces and to demonstrate Germany's commitment to increasing global security, the Medical Service of the Federal Armed Forces has decided to publish all commissioned medical research and development projects in the Internet. The listed projects are not restricted to biodefence activities but also include all commissioned research and development areas of the Medical Service. The web site will be updated regularly and can be visited at <http://sanitaetsdienst.bundeswehr.de/news/WehrmedForsc0801.pdf> .

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