

Geneva, 20 November – 8 December 2006

Item 10 of the agenda

**Review of the operation of the Convention
as provided for in its Article XII**

UNITED STATES PROGRESS ON 2003-2005 WORK PROGRAM TOPICS

Submitted by the United States of America

1. The United States has been supportive of the 2003–2005 intersessional Work Program as defined in the Decision of the Fifth Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) Weapons and on Their Destruction.

The adoption of national measures to implement the prohibitions set forth in the Convention, including the enactment of penal legislation

2. Since the Fifth Review Conference, the United States has done the following in an effort to “promote common understanding and effective action on the adoption of national measures to implement the prohibitions set forth in the Convention, including the enactment of penal legislation”:

- (i) Provided expert presentations at the 2003 Meeting of BWC Experts;
- (ii) Developed model legislation, including guidance for penal legislation, for the enactment of national measures for the BWC and making that model legislation available to both States Parties and Non-States Parties upon request;
- (iii) Conducted workshops upon the request of five States Parties to the Convention on national implementing legislation, including penal legislation;
- (iv) Encouraged and assisted Interpol in the establishment of a database of national legislation by country.

National mechanisms to establish and maintain the security and oversight of pathogenic microorganisms and toxins

3. Since the Fifth Review Conference the United States has done the following:
 - (i) Provided expert presentations at the 2003 Meeting of BWC Experts;
 - (ii) Developed model legislation on pathogen security practices and shared that model legislation with both States Parties and Non-States Parties upon request;
 - (iii) Funded the World Health Organization, working with the OIE and FAO in the development of standards for biosecurity;
 - (iv) Conducted numerous workshops upon the request of States Parties on pathogen security best practices through the efforts of the United States Departments of Defense, Health and Human Services, Energy, and State;
 - (v) Assisted a number of States Parties in the consolidation and securing of national collections of dangerous pathogens.

Enhancing international capabilities for responding to, investigating and mitigating the effects of cases of alleged use of biological or toxin weapons or suspicious outbreaks of disease

4. Since the Fifth Review Conference the United States has done the following:
 - (i) Provided expert presentations at the 2004 Meeting of BWC Experts;
 - (ii) Updated its list of experts who could be called upon to help in such an investigation;
 - (iii) Provided numerous workshops on disease investigation and monitoring to States Parties primarily through the efforts of the United States Departments of Defense and Health and Human Services;
 - (iv) Supported the revision of WHO's International Health Regulations, which require States to notify the WHO of any unexpected or unusual public health event within the State's territory, irrespective of whether the incident is due to a natural outbreak or a deliberate release.

Strengthening and broadening national and international institutional efforts and existing mechanisms for the surveillance, detection, diagnosis, and combating of infectious diseases affecting humans, animals, and plants

5. Since the Fifth Review Conference the United States has done the following:
 - (i) Provided expert presentations at the 2004 Meeting of BWC Experts;

- (ii) Provided training in disease detection and monitoring for numerous States Parties primarily through the efforts of the United States Departments of Defense and Health and Human Services;
- (iii) Particularly focused on global training for surveillance, detection, diagnosis, and combating of Avian Influenza.

The content, promulgation, and adoption of codes of conduct for scientists

6. Since the Fifth Review Conference the United States has done the following:
- (i) Provided expert presentations at the 2005 Meeting of BWC Experts;
 - (ii) Established a subcommittee to the United States' National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity (NSABB) to advise the U. S. Government on guidelines for codes of conduct for scientists;
 - (iii) Promoted domestic and international awareness on the need for development of codes of conduct through the efforts of the National Academy of Sciences.
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