

Diplomatic Building Blocks

A training course in support of the 2008 BTWC Meetings of Experts and States Parties

Date: 18–19 March 2008

PREVENTING THE MISUSE OF BIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY: BEYOND THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STATE

Questions for consideration during the plenary debate

1. How large is your country's life science community?
2. Who in your country deals with dangerous pathogens? (Universities, laboratories, industry, ...)
3. What functions do, or might, codes play in your country?
4. Consider the different audiences for any code of conduct (i.e. doctors, life scientists, etc). Do any codes of conduct already exist for these professions?
5. Are there any agencies in your country who can take on the role of ensuring codes of conduct are observed?
6. Do you think that scientists are capable of self-governance or whether governments should regulate?
7. Would a universal code of conduct for life scientists be appropriate and beneficial for your country?
8. What elements could and should be included in such a code of conduct?
9. How do you view that the question of codes of conduct can be integrated into the BTWC regime?