

**Seventh 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**

21 December 2011

English Only

Geneva, 5–22 December 2011

Combined proposals made to the Committee of the Whole

Submitted by the Chair of the Committee of the Whole

Revision

Solemn Declaration

Insert after paragraph (i):

(i) *bis*. Their conviction that the Convention mandates the elimination of bacteriological (biological) weapons, provides assistance and protection against bacteriological (biological) weapons and promotes international cooperation for the use of biological agents and toxins for peaceful purposes;

Replace paragraph (iii) with:

(iii) Their reaffirmation of their firm commitment to the purposes of the Preamble and all the provisions of the Convention, and their full compliance with their obligations under the Convention. Their conviction of the importance of this commitment in upholding the Convention's integrity and maximizing its contribution to international peace and security;

Insert after paragraph (iii):

(iii) *bis*. Their reaffirmation of the autonomous and independent status of the BWC, took cognizance of the resolutions of the United Nations on combating terrorism. The Conference, in this regard, invited States Parties to consult and cooperate both bilaterally and regionally on ways to prevent terrorists;

In paragraph (vi) replace the word “complete” with “composite”.

Article I

In paragraph 4 replace the bold text with:

that have no justification for prophylactic, protective or other peaceful purposes

Article III

Replace paragraph 8 with

8. The Conference reaffirms that Article III is sufficiently comprehensive to cover any recipient whatsoever at the international, national or sub-national levels. The Conference calls for appropriate measures **in full conformity with all provisions of the Convention**, including effective national export controls, by all States Parties to implement this Article, in order to ensure that direct and indirect transfers relevant to the Convention, to any recipient whatsoever, are authorized only for purposes not prohibited under the Convention.

Insert after paragraph 10 *bis.*:

10 *ter.* The Conference underlines that a non-discriminatory multilateral guidelines negotiated by all States Parties to the Convention concerning the transfer of bacteriological (biological) toxins, agents, equipment, materials and technology for peaceful purposes to States Parties would strengthen the Convention and contributes to the non-discriminatory implementation of its provisions. In this regard, the Conference requests the Meeting of states parties in intercessional process to address and develop such guidelines on transfer of biological agents, materials and technology for peaceful purpose.

10 *Quarter.* The Conference underlines that States Parties shall have the right to report, through ISU any transfer denials on the exchange of equipment, material, and technology for the use of toxin and agents for peaceful purposes. In this regard, the Conference requested the ISU to submit a report on transfer denials to the annual meetings of States parties.

10. *Quinquies.* The Conference urged all State Parties to refrain from supplying or transferring any biological agents, toxins, equipment, materials and technologies to non-signatories. The Conference recognized that such transfers to non-signatories would jeopardize the universality of the Convention as well as global and regional peace and security.

Article IV

Insert after paragraph 13 *bis.*:

13 *ter.* The Conference reiterates that national implementation measure of States Parties shall be in full conformity with all provisions of the Convention. In this regard, the Conference urges States Parties that have legislation imposing restrictions and or limitations on the transfer of equipment, material and technology for peaceful purposes, to take necessary actions to ensure that their legislation avoid hampering the economic development of States parties.

13. *quarter.* The Conference underlined that national implementation also necessitates that the States parties shall take measures to ensure free trade in equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for the use of bacteriological (biological)agents and toxins for peaceful purposes.

13. *quinquies.* The Conference takes cognizance of the resolutions of the United Nations on combating terrorism. The Conference, in this regard, invited States Parties to consult and cooperate both bilaterally and regionally on ways to prevent terrorists from acquiring and/or using biological weapons.

Article V

Insert after paragraph 22 *bis.*:

22 *ter.* The Conference urges all States Parties to refrain from baseless allegations that jeopardize the credibility of the Convention and trust exists among States Parties. The Conference, therefore, calls upon the States Parties to refrain from unilateral and discriminatory action concerning any problems which may raise in relation to the objective of or in the application of the provisions of the Convention.

Article VI

Add to the end of paragraph 30 the sentence:

The Conference welcomes national initiatives to provide relevant training to experts that could support the Secretary-General's investigative mechanism.

Article XII

Replace the last sentence in paragraph 60 with :

The Conference therefore **decides** that Review Conferences be held at least every five years.

Insert after paragraph 61:

61 *bis.* The Conference reaffirmed that the practice of consensus decision making by the Review Conferences as well as the MSP have played an important role in achieving common goals, as well as in preserving the integrity of decisions made.

Article XIV

Add to the end of paragraph 63:

Despite this progress a significant number of States have not yet ratified, or acceded to the Convention.

Insert after paragraph 63:

63 *bis.* The Conference stresses the vital importance of achieving universal adherence to the Convention, and urges the States that have not do so to ratify, or accede to the Convention without delay.

Insert after paragraph 64:

64 *bis.* The Conference strongly urges all remaining States not Party to the Convention to ratify or accede to it as a matter of urgency and without preconditions, in the interests of affirming their commitment to global peace and security and to the object and purpose of the Convention.

Renumber paragraph 64 *bis.* to read 64 *ter.*

Insert after the new paragraph 64 *ter.*:

64 *quarter.* The Conference underlines that the objectives of the Convention will not be fully realized as long as there remains even a single state not party

that could possess or acquire biological weapons. It stresses that the continued absence from the Convention of any country keeps open the risk that biological weapons could be developed, acquired, transferred or used.

Insert after paragraph 65:

65 *bis*. The Conference encourages States Parties to strengthen efforts and measures, in their bilateral relations and appropriate diplomatic channels to promote the universality of the Convention. In this context, more attention should be given to States in which the ratification, or accession process have started or are well advanced and to those States waiting for further information, assistance or that have other priorities (document BWC/CONF/.VII/INF.7 of the ISU on Status of universalization, page 3 and 4).

65 *ter*. The Conference recognizes the value of targeted and adapted regional initiatives that would lead to wider accession and adherence to the Convention. In this respect, the Conference reaffirms the importance of the establishment of the Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. In this regard, the Conference urges the 2012 Conference to initiate negotiations on the establishment of the Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

Renumber paragraph 65 *bis*. as 65 *quinquies*..
