

**2009 Meeting
Geneva, 7-11 December 2009**

**Meeting of Experts
Geneva, 24-28 August 2009**

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

**Consideration of, with a view to enhancing international
cooperation, assistance and exchange in biological
sciences and technology for peaceful purposes, promoting
capacity building in the fields of disease surveillance,
detection, diagnosis, and containment of infectious diseases**

**UK ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF CONFERENCES DEALING WITH
CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SURVEILLANCE, DETECTION,
DIAGNOSIS AND CONTAINMENT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Introduction

1. As part of its contribution to this year's Meeting of Experts the United Kingdom would like to advise delegations of two conferences that are taking place in the UK in September 2009. Both address issues of direct relevance to the 2009 agenda - enhancing international cooperation, assistance and exchange in biological sciences and technology for peaceful purposes, promoting capacity building in the field of disease surveillance, detection, diagnosis and containment of infectious diseases. Although both of these events are reported in Form D pages 42-43 of the UK's Confidence Building Measure Return for 2009, the United Kingdom is circulating this Working Paper now to give additional notice to State Parties' experts who might be interested in attending and give them adequate time to notify the organisers.

15th Veterinary Laboratories Agency Conference

2. The first event is the 15th Veterinary Laboratories Agency Conference, which will take place on 2-4 September and is entitled: VLA International Conference – Animal Diseases 2009. It includes several symposia, one of which is entitled *Improving Capability in Developing Countries*. The aims of this symposium are to highlight partnerships and describe the roles of various international organisations concerned with infectious disease of animals in creating

improved laboratory capacity in developing countries. Details, including on how to register, can be found at: http://www.defra.gov.uk/vla/news/new_conf_vla2009.htm.

Health Protection 2009

3. The second event is Health Protection 2009, organised by the Health Protection Agency, which will take place between 14-16 September. This will focus on the latest scientific research and its practical application to key areas of health protection, such as preventing and controlling infectious diseases and preparing for potential or emerging threats to health. Further details, including how to apply and the latest programme, can be found at: <http://www.healthprotectionconference.org.uk/>.
