

Ninth 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

14 February 2022

Original: English

Preparatory Committee

Geneva, 20 December 2021 and 4-11 April 2022

Item 7 of the agenda

Comprehensive consideration of all provision of the Convention

The overall financial status of the Convention and financial implications of proposals for follow-on action after the Ninth Review Conference

Background information document submitted by the Implementation Support Unit

Summary

The Preparatory Committee decided to request the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) to prepare a background information document on the overall financial status of the Convention and the financial implications of proposals for follow-on action after the Ninth Review Conference (see BWC/CONF.IX/PC/2, sub-paragraph 27(b)). The ISU has duly prepared this document. The information presented here on the financial implications of different options for follow-on action after the Ninth Review Conference is not intended to prejudge any decisions of the Preparatory Committee or Review Conference, it is purely intended to aid States Parties' preparations for the Review Conference. The ISU can, upon request, prepare additional information prior to the Ninth Review Conference.

I. Introduction

1. This document has been prepared in accordance with the request from the Preparatory Committee for the Ninth Review Conference for the Implementation Support Unit to prepare a background information document on the overall financial status of the Convention and the financial implications of proposals for follow-on action after the Ninth Review Conference. The 2017 Meeting of States Parties noted with concern the financial situation of the Convention on account *inter alia* of systemic issues with the current funding arrangements as well as arrears in payment of assessed contributions. It agreed that the Meetings of States Parties would be responsible for managing the intersessional programme, including taking necessary measures with respect to budgetary and financial matters by consensus with a view to ensuring the proper implementation of the intersessional programme. The 2018, 2019 and 2020 Meetings of States Parties have therefore each included a specific agenda item on "Management of the intersessional programme: Budgetary and financial matters".

2. The 2017 Meeting of States Parties also requested the Chairperson of the 2018 Meeting of States Parties to prepare an Information Paper in consultation with the United Nations Office at Geneva, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, the Implementation Support Unit and States Parties on measures to address financial



predictability and sustainability for the meetings agreed by the States Parties and for the Implementation Support Unit for review by States Parties in 2018. This information paper was submitted to the 2018 Meeting of States Parties (BWC/MSP/2018/5).

3. On the basis of this information paper, the 2018 Meeting of States Parties recognized that the Convention's financial difficulties stem from three principal sources: non-payment of contributions by some States Parties, delays in receipt of contributions from other States Parties and financial requirements of the United Nations with respect to activities not funded from the Regular Budget of the United Nations. In order to address these, the Meeting of States Parties endorsed a number of financial measures. These measures were intended to encourage timely payment of assessed contributions by States Parties, to ensure liquidity, to avoid deficit spending and the accumulation of liabilities and to request reporting on implementation by future Chairpersons. A Working Capital Fund was established as an interim measure, to be reviewed at the Ninth Review Conference for its effectiveness and the possibility explored to be financed by assessed contributions.

4. The measures adopted were reviewed at the 2019 and 2020 Meetings of States Parties. Under the relevant agenda item, reports by the Chairpersons of the Meetings of States Parties were also considered, and briefings were provided by the Implementation Support Unit.

5. This report summarizes the overall financial situation of the Convention, the implementation of the financial measures endorsed by the 2018 Meeting of States Parties and provides basic information on financial implications of proposals for follow-on action after the Ninth Review Conference.

II. The overall financial situation of the Convention

6. The overall financial situation of the Convention is being monitored on a regular basis by the United Nations Office at Geneva and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. Reports on the status of contributions to the Convention are provided to States Parties on a monthly basis. These reports provide detailed information in the form of tables which *inter alia* show the cash available to the Convention as a result of the receipt of assessed contributions and the total unpaid contributions, a breakdown of the outstanding receivables by State Party, a breakdown of the outstanding receivables by State Party and by year and a monthly snapshot of the expenditures and legal commitments for expenditure. As requested by the 2018 Meeting of States Parties, the monthly reports also provide information on collections and use of the Working Capital Fund.

7. Alongside the monthly status of contributions reports, the United Nations Office at Geneva also provides a monthly cash-flow analysis for the Convention. These monthly analyses provide an assessment of the funds available compared against the obligations and therefore show whether sufficient funds are available to allow the implementation of the agreed programme of activities.

8. Both of these reports are sent to all Permanent Missions and National Contact Points on a monthly basis by the Implementation Support Unit and are posted on the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) website. During 2020, the United Nations Office at Geneva and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs launched an interactive online tool that will make it easier for States Parties to access information on the status of their contributions, with filters allowing users to quickly drill down to pertinent information, and charts showing snapshots of the current financial status of the Convention. A link to this 'Dashboard' is provided on the BWC website and is included in the monthly messages to States Parties.¹

9. The table below shows the current financial situation of the Convention, as of 31 January 2022. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the consequent postponement of all BWC meetings from 2020 to 2021, States Parties agreed in 2021 by written silence procedure

¹ See <https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiZTcxZTYwZTgtODMyZC00MzQwLWFhM2tMDdiODlkNjY4NmNlIiwidCI6IjBmOWUzNWRiLTU0NGYtNGY2MC1iZGNjLTVIYTQxNmU2ZGM3MCIsmMiOjh9>.

to extend the financial period for the 2020 meetings into 2021 in order to have funds available in 2021 for the postponed meetings. States Parties furthermore agreed by written silence procedure to extend the financial period for the 2021 meetings into 2022 to cover the costs of the second session of the Preparatory Committee and the Ninth Review Conference. This latter decision by written silence procedure was affirmed by the 2020 Meeting of States Parties.

10. With regard to the 2020 budget, a total of USD 1,428,485.48 has been received from States Parties. The amount billed to States Parties was USD 1,519,800 meaning that USD 91,314.52 remains to be collected. The collection rate for 2020 was therefore 94 per cent as of 31 January 2022.

11. With regard to the 2021 budget, a total of USD 1,725,860.97 has been received from States Parties. The amount billed to States Parties was USD 1,864,700, meaning that USD 138,839.03 remains to be collected. The collection rate for 2021 is therefore 92.6 per cent.

12. Regarding the 2019 budget, the accounts have been closed with a collection rate of 94.8%.

Table 1: Overall financial situation as of 31 January 2022

BWC

<u>2021 cost estimates</u>	
Assessed contributions billed to States	\$1,864,700.00
Assessed contributions paid by States	\$1,725,860.97
Subtotal: Outstanding assessments for 2021	-\$138,839.03
<u>2020 cost estimates</u>	
Assessed contributions billed to States	\$1,519,800.00
Assessed contributions paid by States	\$1,428,485.48
Subtotal: Outstanding assessments for 2020	-\$91,314.52
<u>Closed projects (2019 and earlier)</u>	
Subtotal: Outstanding contributions for closed projects	-\$98,747.90
Total outstanding contributions	-\$328,901.45

III. Implementation of the measures endorsed by the 2018 Meeting of States Parties

13. Paragraph 21 of the report of the 2018 Meeting of States Parties contained measures to encourage timely payment of invoices by States Parties. Several States Parties in arrears have paid their outstanding amounts since the Eighth Review Conference. In order to facilitate the payment of small outstanding contributions, on 14 August 2019 the United Nations Office at Geneva informed all Member States that such outstanding receivables can be settled by cash payment at the UBS bank branch in the Palais des Nations.

14. As requested in sub-paragraph 21 (c), the Chairpersons of the Meetings of States Parties have contacted States Parties in arrears. For example, on 9 February 2021, the Chairperson wrote to his counterparts in 22 States Parties with significant arrears to the Convention encouraging them to pay their outstanding assessed contributions at the earliest possible date. On 16 September 2021, the Chairperson wrote again to those States Parties with outstanding contributions for 2020 and 2021 to encourage them to pay as soon as possible to ensure the availability of sufficient funds for the full implementation of the work programme. Throughout 2020 and 2021, the Chairperson continued to raise the issue of financial arrears in his letters to States Parties and also in interactions with regional groups and individual States Parties.

15. In accordance with sub-paragraph 21(e) of the report of the 2018 Meeting of States Parties, the United Nations Office at Geneva sent invoices for the 2020 budget in early

September 2019 and invoices for the 2021 budget in early September 2020. As the meetings originally scheduled to take place in 2020 and 2021 had to be postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, conference-servicing costs were not expended as planned and States Parties agreed to extend the relevant financial periods. However, costs relating to the Implementation Support Unit were incurred in 2020 and 2021. The costs of the ISU in 2022 will be covered through the additional cost estimate agreed by the 2020 Meeting of States Parties (see BWC/MSP/2020/6). In this case, the United Nations Office at Geneva could not send the invoices in advance and will send the invoices in the first quarter of 2022.

16. In accordance with sub-paragraph 22(a) of the report of the 2018 Meeting of States Parties, the United Nations Office at Geneva established a Working Capital Fund as an interim measure, to be reviewed at the Ninth Review Conference for its effectiveness and the possibility explored to be financed by assessed contributions, pending other possible steps to assure liquidity. The Fund is financed by voluntary contributions and used solely as a source of short-term financing pending receipt of reasonably anticipated contributions, taking into account the average collection rate and pattern of payments over the preceding three years.

17. The terms of reference of the Working Capital Fund were outlined in the letter on budgetary and financial matters dated 31 January 2019 from the Chairman of the 2018 Meeting of States Parties which was prepared in consultation with States Parties.² The formal establishment of the Fund was announced in a letter to all States Parties from Ms. Anja Kaspersen, then Director of the Geneva Branch of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, on 7 May 2019. The United Nations Office at Geneva and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs have also prepared model templates for exchange of letters and bilateral agreements for those States Parties wishing to contribute to the Fund. Since its establishment the Fund, has received the following voluntary contributions:

Table 2: Total value of the WCF as of 31 January 2022

Canada	\$70,286.27
China	\$39,345.28
France	\$183,324.84
Germany	\$210,021.21
India	\$10,000.00
Ireland	\$22,586.11
Kazakhstan	\$10,000.00
NTI	\$50,000.00
Russian Federation	\$50,000.00
Spain	\$62,219.80
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	\$69,534.87
<i>Interest income</i>	\$4,677.74
Total	\$781,996.12

18. The total amount received in the Working Capital Fund as of 31 January 2022 of USD 781,996.12 is 102.9 per cent of the target level that was set in the 31 January 2019 letter from the Chairman of the 2018 Meeting of States Parties. The availability of cash in the Working Capital Fund at the time that the contracts of the staff members of the Implementation Support Unit were due for renewal has facilitated the extension of contracts for a period longer than would have otherwise been possible. The Fund acted as a guarantee covering the contract extensions, but in the end the funds were not utilized because additional contributions were received in time to cover the payroll charges. In early 2022, the Working

² See [https://docs-library.unoda.org/Biological_Weapons_Convention_-_Meeting_of_States_Parties_\(2018\)/2019-0131%2B2018%2BMSP%2BChair%2Bletter%2Bon%2Bfinancial%2Bmeasures.pdf](https://docs-library.unoda.org/Biological_Weapons_Convention_-_Meeting_of_States_Parties_(2018)/2019-0131%2B2018%2BMSP%2BChair%2Bletter%2Bon%2Bfinancial%2Bmeasures.pdf)

Capital Fund has been used to temporarily finance the 2022 costs for the ISU. Once the 2022 ISU costs are billed and paid by States Parties, the Working Capital Fund will be replenished.

19. In accordance with sub-paragraph 22(b) of the report of the 2018 Meeting of States Parties, the accounts for 2019 were kept open until August 2020. At this time, a final balance was determined and any surplus funds were allocated back to States Parties as a credit against their next assessment.³ The United Nations Office at Geneva issued 2021 invoices reflecting 2019 credits for those State Parties which paid their assessed contributions before the 2019 closing. For those State Parties which did not pay their assessed contributions before the 2019 closing, the arrears remained the initial assessment invoiced to the relevant State Parties for the year in question.

20. Paragraph 23 of the report of the 2018 Meeting of States Parties contained measures to avoid deficit spending and the accumulation of liabilities by the United Nations. In accordance with sub-paragraph 23(a), the United Nations Office at Geneva determined that the average collection rate for the preceding three years was 93.7 per cent. Expenditure during 2020 was kept to the level of USD 1,527,579 and was monitored on a monthly basis through the abovementioned cash-flow analysis reports sent to all States Parties. As the 2020 financial period has not yet been closed, the final 2020 costs are not known at this stage.

21. The United Nations Office at Geneva has provided a detailed breakdown of the closing of the 2019 accounts to States Parties.⁴ This breakdown shows that arrears for unpaid contributions remain the amount of the initial assessment invoiced to the relevant State Party for the year in question, in accordance with sub-paragraph 23(b) of the report of the 2018 Meeting of States Parties. The breakdown also shows that, in accordance with sub-paragraph 23(c) of the same report, credits due to States Parties that paid for a given financial year were calculated on the basis of the final cash balance following the closure of the accounts for that financial year. From the meetings in 2019 and onwards, Signatory States and Non-Signatory States that attend meetings of the Convention have been invoiced for the costs of the meetings in which they participate on the basis of their shares in the scale of assessments of the United Nations, in accordance with sub-paragraph 23(d) of the report of the 2018 Meeting of States Parties.

22. The further measures contained in paragraph 24 of the report of the 2018 Meeting of States Parties primarily concern reporting and the mandate for this current report. Regular reporting on expenditure, collections and use of the Working Capital Fund is provided in the monthly reports produced by the United Nations Office at Geneva.

23. While the measures adopted by the 2018 Meeting of States Parties effectively addressed liquidity issues and structural problems going forward, there is still a problem related to addressing outstanding contributions from activities prior to 2019, which amounted to USD 98,747.90 at 31 January 2022. The Chairpersons of the Meetings of States Parties raised this issue with the delegations concerned and recommend that the future Chairpersons continue this practice. The Implementation Support Unit will continue to raise the issue of outstanding contributions from activities prior to 2019 with the States Parties concerned during the course of its activities. This approach has had some success during 2020 and 2021 and States Parties with outstanding contributions are encouraged to pay them at the earliest possible date.

IV. Additional measures adopted by the 2020 Meeting of States Parties

24. The 2020 Meeting of States Parties considered some additional financial measures recommended by the United Nations Office at Geneva based on experience implementing the measures agreed in 2018. States Parties agreed to request the United Nations Office at Geneva to send invoices based on the cost estimates at least 90 days before the start of the

³ See <https://front.un-arm.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/BWC2019CLOSINGRev.1AnnexIforwebsitevalues-v4.pdf>.

⁴ *Ibid.*

financial period or 60 days after the States Parties have adopted the budget for the next financial period, whichever is later, to encourage early payment by those in a position to do so and improve liquidity. They also agreed that the credit calculation should be based on the same UN assessment rates used at the time of the preparation of the preliminary assessment.

25. An additional measure recommended by the United Nations Office at Geneva proposed that amounts received from States Parties in arrears will become available for distribution to the States Parties having paid their initial assessment on time. Every five years, for all the closed budget years, the total available cash will be distributed back to those States Parties which paid on time. However, this proposed measure could not be agreed by the 2020 Meeting of States Parties.

V. Cost estimates for options for possible follow-on action

26. This section is intended to facilitate States Parties' preparations for the Ninth Review Conference by presenting cost estimates for a range of different options for follow-on action after the Review Conference. States Parties have yet to agree on such follow-on action, including its possible form and structure, so this paper only provides factual information to aid discussions, it does not prejudge the outcome of future discussions and decisions yet to be taken. Financial information is provided on conference-servicing costs as well as on non-conference servicing costs.

27. Several proposals for follow-on action have been made in working papers submitted to earlier meetings. This background document does not refer to specific proposals submitted by States Parties. Instead, it provides general financial information which should be of use to States Parties when considering possible follow-on action. The information presented in this paper should also allow States Parties to extrapolate costs for various options for future follow-on action. If requested, the ISU can prepare an addendum to this document providing costs estimates for additional options.

28. The cost estimates presented are provisional and actual costs of any agreed future work programme after the Ninth Review Conference will depend on a variety of factors which cannot be predicted at this stage.

29. Costs estimates approved by previous review conferences have included both conference-servicing and non-conference servicing costs.⁵ The former include all costs associated with the meetings (*inter alia*, interpretation during the meetings, processing, reproduction and translation of documentation, and conference room support), while since the Sixth Review Conference the latter has included the costs of the Implementation Support Unit (*inter alia*, staff costs, equipment and travel). This section follows the same structure.

A. Conference-servicing costs

30. This section provides provisional financial information on a series of different options for follow-on action, particularly in terms of meetings which the Ninth Review Conference could decide to establish in the period before the Tenth Review Conference. The options are not presented in any particular order of preference or priority. The options are based on previous practice under the Convention, or on proposals made by States Parties in the context of preparations for the Ninth Review Conference.

31. As with all previous meetings, the meetings for which financial information is presented below are all assumed to take place at the United Nations Office at Geneva. The provisional cost estimates, including 13% programme support costs, based on information provided by the Financial Resources Management Service of the United Nations Office at Geneva, are as follows:

(a) One four-day meeting with full services, similar to the Meetings of States Parties held from 2018-2020 – approximately USD 157,905;

⁵ For example, see [BWC/CONF.VII/4/Rev.1](#).

(b) One five-day meeting with full services, similar to the Meetings of States Parties held from 2003-2015 – approximately USD 182,594;

(c) A series of five-back-to-back meetings with full services over eight days, similar to the Meetings of Experts held from 2018-2020 – approximately USD 366,940;

(d) One ten-day meeting with full services, similar to the Meetings of Experts from 2002-2005 or the meetings of the Ad Hoc Group during the 1990s and early 2000s – approximately USD 427,503.

32. From the information presented above, financial implications for various possible options for follow-on action after the Ninth Review Conference can be calculated. Some illustrative examples are provided below for information purposes only (these only include the conference-servicing costs, non-conference servicing costs (e.g. the costs relating to the ISU) are addressed in Section B below):

(a) One four-day meeting and a series of five back-to-back meetings over eight days per year, all with full services (translations and interpretation), identical to the 2018-2020 intersessional programme. The cost per year of the conference-servicing element would therefore be approximately USD 524,845;

(b) Two five-day meetings per year, both with full services (translation and interpretation), identical to the 2012-2015 intersessional programme. The cost per year of the conference-servicing element would therefore be approximately USD 365,188;

(c) One ten-day meeting and one five-day meeting per year, both with full services (translation and interpretation), identical to the 2003-2005 intersessional programme. The cost per year of the conference-servicing element would therefore be approximately USD 610,097;

(d) Five ten-day meetings per year with full services (translation and interpretation), similar to the Ad Hoc Group meetings during the 1990s and early 2000s. The cost per year of the conference-servicing element would therefore be approximately USD 2,137,515.

33. Smaller meetings of shorter duration and of an informal nature with no interpretation or documentation can also be arranged on a case-by-case basis. As such, they are not included in the above options. Some useful cost estimates focused particularly on the establishment of a science and technology review mechanism under the Convention can be found in a publication by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research.⁶

B. Non-conference servicing costs

34. This section provides financial information on the non-conference servicing costs which could be considered for follow-on action in the period after the Ninth Review Conference.

Implementation Support Unit

35. The Sixth Review Conference decided to establish an Implementation Support Unit (ISU) funded by States Parties with three fixed-term staff members, a decision that was renewed by the Seventh and Eighth Review Conferences.⁷ The current composition of the ISU is one P5 Chief of Unit, one P4 Political Affairs Officer and one P3 Political Affairs Officer.

36. To facilitate States Parties' consideration of any further renewal of the mandate of the ISU, or of any expansion of its staff as a result of possible additional tasks mandated to the ISU by the Ninth Review Conference, the following costs are provided (these are standard costs which can vary depending on several factors):

⁶ See <https://unidir.org/exploring-science-and-tech>.

⁷ See [BWC/CONF.VI/6](#), Part III, paragraph 5, [BWC/CONF.VII/7](#), Part III, paragraph 31 and [BWC/CONF.VIII/4](#) Part III, paragraph 8.

<i>Table 3: UN standard salary costs (2022)</i>	<i>Year 1⁸</i>	<i>Following years</i>
P5 Senior Political Affairs Officer	341,584	318,284
P4 Political Affairs Officer	311,459	288,159
P3 Political Affairs Officer	253,197	238,597
P2 Associate Political Affairs Officer	203,977	189,377
G6 Administrative Assistant	206,540	191,940

37. The costs of the ISU also include small annual budget lines for travel and equipment. During the 2012-15 intersessional programme these amounts were USD 20,000 and USD 5,000 respectively per annum. As described in the report submitted by the ISU on the performance of its activities,⁹ the small size of the travel budget has had implications for the regional distribution of ISU activities. These amounts were increased to USD 40,000 and USD 15,000 respectively in the cost estimates for 2021 and 2022.

38. The annual costs of the ISU are included in the assessed contributions sent to States Parties on an annual basis. In addition, the United Nations applies a flat rate of 13% to cover programme support costs.

39. The estimated cost for a continuation of the ISU with the current level of staffing and travel and equipment budgets (one P5, one P4, one P3 and USD 55,000 for travel and equipment) plus the 13% programme support costs and staff separation liabilities would amount to approximately USD 1,030,000. For information purposes only, adding two additional staff members (e.g. one at the P4 level and one at the P3 level) would increase the cost per annum of the ISU to approximately USD 1,600,000.

Participation of national experts in BWC meetings

40. Some proposals for follow-on action after the Ninth Review Conference involve the participation of national experts in meetings in Geneva with the costs of their participation covered from the annual budget of the Convention. Based on its experience administering the sponsorship programme that was established by the Seventh Review Conference, the ISU can provide the following financial information:

- (a) Average cost of return economy flights to Geneva (outside of Europe) – USD 1,500;
- (b) Average cost of return economy flights to Geneva (within Europe) – USD 500;
- (c) Daily subsistence allowance (DSA) rate for Geneva – approximately USD 400 per day.

41. These figures can be used to establish an approximate cost of USD 68,000 for bringing national experts from 20 States Parties to Geneva for a five-day meeting.¹⁰ While the costs of flights could be much less than the averages given above, the DSA rate for Geneva is set by the United Nations and is not subject to much variation.

Outreach and capacity-building events

42. The budget for the Convention currently does not make provision for outreach events to raise awareness about the Convention or to conduct capacity-building activities. Such

⁸ The costs provided for each post include programme support costs at the standard UN rate of 13% and other recurring and non-recurring annual standard common service costs. They do not include staff separation liabilities.

⁹ BWC/CONF.IX/PC/8.

¹⁰ Based on average costs for 10 experts travelling from outside Europe and 10 experts travelling from within Eastern and Western Europe and with DSA paid for six nights to allow participants to arrive one day prior to the meeting.

events have been conducted using voluntary contributions provided by States Parties in a position to do so. For example, based on extensive experience organizing regional workshops since the Eighth Review Conference, the average cost of a regional workshop amounts to approximately USD 60,000.

C. Extrapolations

43. Based on the information presented in the sections above, various options can be extrapolated. The following information is presented for illustrative purposes only, and all financial information presented is subject to change:

Scenario 1: A continuation of the current format of meetings and institutional support would amount to approximately USD 1,556,000 per year.

Scenario 2: An expansion of the meetings to fifteen days per year (ten days for the Meetings of Experts and five days for the Meeting of States Parties) with the same institutional support would amount to approximately USD 1,640,000 per year.

Scenario 3: An expansion of the meetings to fifteen days per year (ten days for the Meetings of Experts and five days for the Meeting of States Parties) with an additional two staff members in the ISU would amount to approximately USD 2,210,000 per year.

Scenario 4: An expansion of the meetings to fifteen days per year (ten days for the Meetings of Experts and five days for the Meeting of States Parties) with an additional two staff members in the ISU and funds for the sponsorship programme and some outreach and capacity-building events would amount to approximately USD 2,586,000 per year.

VI. Scale of assessments

44. Once approved by the States Parties, the cost estimates prepared by the Secretariat are used to calculate the scale of assessments. Since the Seventh Review Conference, the costs of the intersessional programme have been shared by all States Parties to the Convention, based on the United Nations scale of assessments pro-rated to take into account differences in membership between the Convention and the United Nations.¹¹ In addition, one of the measures endorsed by the 2018 Meeting of States Parties was that signatory States and Observer States should contribute to the costs of the meetings in which they participate on the basis of their shares in the scale of assessments of the United Nations.

45. For illustrative purposes, the scale of assessments for the Ninth Review Conference and its Preparatory Committee is included in the Annex to this document. The document shows the individual assessment for each State Party towards the total cost of the meetings which is USD 1,864,700.

46. The annual budget for the Convention is relatively small when compared with other conventions and the assessed contributions for individual States Parties are accordingly also small. Based on the scale of assessments for 2021, almost two-thirds (64 per cent) of the current 183 States Parties pay less than USD 1,000 per year towards the Convention. Of these, 54 States Parties pay less than USD 100 per year and 26 States Parties pay less than USD 20 per year.

47. For illustrative purposes, under scenario 4 above which envisages a total cost of USD 2,586,000 per annum, of the current 183 States Parties, 106 States Parties would pay less than USD 1,000 per year and 43 States Parties would pay less than USD 100 per year.

48. Given the small size of the Convention's budget and the large number of States Parties among which the costs are shared, modest increases in the budget would have a minimal impact on the assessed contributions for most States Parties.

¹¹ BWC/CONF.VII/7, Part III, paragraph 37.

VII. Conclusions

49. The information provided in this document is intended to provide States Parties with data in order that they can assess the overall financial situation of the Convention, review the implementation of the financial measures endorsed by the 2018 Meeting of States Parties and consider the financial implications of proposals for follow-on action after the Ninth Review Conference. Upon request, the ISU can prepare an addendum to this paper with additional financial data for the information of States Parties to be circulated in advance of the Review Conference.

Annex

[English only]

2021 scale of assessments for the Biological Weapons Convention

Preparatory Committee and Ninth Review Conference of the States Parties to the BWC and BWC Implementation Support Unit staff costs

	Percentage of UN 2021 assessment	Prorated % of contributions	Assessed contributions US\$	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	
A. States Parties				
1	Afghanistan	0.007	0.007	132
2	Albania	0.008	0.008	150
3	Algeria	0.138	0.139	2,592
4	Andorra	0.005	0.005	94
5	Angola	0.010	0.010	187
6	Antigua and Barbuda	0.002	0.002	37
7	Argentina	0.915	0.921	17,183
8	Armenia	0.007	0.007	132
9	Australia	2.210	2.226	41,502
10	Austria	0.677	0.682	12,714
11	Azerbaijan	0.049	0.049	921
12	Bahamas	0.018	0.018	338
13	Bahrain	0.050	0.050	939
14	Bangladesh	0.010	0.010	187
15	Barbados	0.007	0.007	132
16	Belarus	0.049	0.049	921
17	Belgium	0.821	0.827	15,418
18	Belize	0.001	0.001	19
19	Benin	0.003	0.003	56
20	Bhutan	0.001	0.001	19
21	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	0.016	0.016	300
22	Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.012	0.012	226
23	Botswana	0.014	0.014	263
24	Brazil	2.948	2.969	55,361
25	Brunei Darussalam	0.025	0.025	469
26	Bulgaria	0.046	0.046	864
27	Burkina Faso	0.003	0.003	56
28	Burundi	0.001	0.001	19
29	Cabo Verde	0.001	0.001	19
30	Cambodia	0.006	0.006	113
31	Cameroon	0.013	0.013	244
32	Canada	2.734	2.753	51,343
33	Central African Republic	0.001	0.001	19
34	Chile	0.407	0.410	7,643

Preparatory Committee and Ninth Review Conference of the States Parties to the BWC and BWC Implementation Support Unit staff costs

35	China	12.005	12.090	225,447
36	Colombia	0.288	0.290	5,408
37	Congo	0.006	0.006	113
38	Cook Islands	0.001	0.001	19
39	Costa Rica	0.062	0.062	1,164
40	Côte d'Ivoire	0.013	0.013	244
41	Croatia	0.077	0.078	1,446
42	Cuba	0.080	0.081	1,503
43	Cyprus	0.036	0.036	676
44	Czech Republic	0.311	0.313	5,840
45	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	0.006	0.006	113
46	Democratic Republic of the Congo	0.010	0.010	187
47	Denmark	0.554	0.558	10,404
48	Dominica	0.001	0.001	19
49	Dominican Republic	0.053	0.053	995
50	Ecuador	0.080	0.081	1,503
51	El Salvador	0.012	0.012	226
52	Equatorial Guinea	0.016	0.016	300
53	Estonia	0.039	0.039	732
54	Eswatini	0.002	0.002	37
55	Ethiopia	0.010	0.010	187
56	Fiji	0.003	0.003	56
57	Finland	0.421	0.424	7,906
58	France	4.427	4.458	83,136
59	Gabon	0.015	0.015	282
60	Gambia	0.001	0.001	19
61	Georgia	0.008	0.008	150
62	Germany	6.090	6.133	114,367
63	Ghana	0.015	0.015	282
64	Greece	0.366	0.369	6,874
65	Grenada	0.001	0.001	19
66	Guatemala	0.036	0.036	676
67	Guinea	0.003	0.003	56
68	Guinea-Bissau	0.001	0.001	19
69	Guyana	0.002	0.002	37
70	Holy See	0.001	0.001	19
71	Honduras	0.009	0.009	169
72	Hungary	0.206	0.207	3,869
73	Iceland	0.028	0.028	526
74	India	0.834	0.840	15,662
75	Indonesia	0.543	0.547	10,198
76	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0.398	0.401	7,474
77	Iraq	0.129	0.130	2,422
78	Ireland	0.371	0.374	6,967

*Preparatory Committee and Ninth Review Conference of the States Parties to the BWC and BWC Implementation
Support Unit staff costs*

79	Italy	3.307	3.330	62,104
80	Jamaica	0.008	0.008	150
81	Japan	8.564	8.625	160,827
82	Jordan	0.021	0.021	395
83	Kazakhstan	0.178	0.179	3,343
84	Kenya	0.024	0.024	450
85	Kuwait	0.252	0.254	4,732
86	Kyrgyzstan	0.002	0.002	37
87	Lao People's Democratic Republic	0.005	0.005	94
88	Latvia	0.047	0.047	882
89	Lebanon	0.047	0.047	882
90	Lesotho	0.001	0.001	19
91	Liberia	0.001	0.001	19
92	Libya	0.030	0.030	563
93	Liechtenstein	0.009	0.009	169
94	Lithuania	0.071	0.072	1,334
95	Luxembourg	0.067	0.067	1,258
96	Madagascar	0.004	0.004	76
97	Malawi	0.002	0.002	37
98	Malaysia	0.341	0.343	6,404
99	Maldives	0.004	0.004	76
100	Mali	0.004	0.004	76
101	Malta	0.017	0.017	319
102	Marshall Islands	0.001	0.001	19
103	Mauritania	0.002	0.002	37
104	Mauritius	0.011	0.011	206
105	Mexico	1.292	1.301	24,263
106	Monaco	0.011	0.011	206
107	Mongolia	0.005	0.005	94
108	Montenegro	0.004	0.004	76
109	Morocco	0.055	0.055	1,032
110	Mozambique	0.004	0.004	76
111	Myanmar	0.010	0.010	187
112	Nauru	0.001	0.001	19
113	Nepal	0.007	0.007	132
114	Netherlands	1.356	1.366	25,465
115	New Zealand	0.291	0.293	5,464
116	Nicaragua	0.005	0.005	94
117	Niger	0.002	0.002	37
118	Nigeria	0.250	0.252	4,695
119	Niue	0.001	0.001	19
120	North Macedonia	0.007	0.007	132
121	Norway	0.754	0.759	14,160
122	Oman	0.115	0.116	2,160
123	Pakistan	0.115	0.116	2,160

Preparatory Committee and Ninth Review Conference of the States Parties to the BWC and BWC Implementation Support Unit staff costs

124	Palau	0.001	0.001	19
125	Panama	0.045	0.045	845
126	Papua New Guinea	0.010	0.010	187
127	Paraguay	0.016	0.016	300
128	Peru	0.152	0.153	2,855
129	Philippines	0.205	0.206	3,850
130	Poland	0.802	0.808	15,061
131	Portugal	0.350	0.352	6,572
132	Qatar	0.282	0.284	5,296
133	Republic of Korea	2.267	2.283	42,573
134	Republic of Moldova	0.003	0.003	56
135	Romania	0.198	0.199	3,719
136	Russian Federation	2.405	2.422	45,165
137	Rwanda	0.003	0.003	56
138	Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.001	0.001	19
139	Saint Lucia	0.001	0.001	19
140	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.001	0.001	19
141	Samoa	0.001	0.001	19
142	San Marino	0.002	0.002	37
143	Sao Tome and Principe	0.001	0.001	19
144	Saudi Arabia	1.172	1.180	22,010
145	Senegal	0.007	0.007	132
146	Serbia	0.028	0.028	526
147	Seychelles	0.002	0.002	37
148	Sierra Leone	0.001	0.001	19
149	Singapore	0.485	0.488	9,108
150	Slovakia	0.153	0.154	2,874
151	Slovenia	0.076	0.077	1,427
152	Solomon Islands	0.001	0.001	19
153	South Africa	0.272	0.274	5,108
154	Spain	2.146	2.161	40,301
155	Sri Lanka	0.044	0.044	826
156	State of Palestine	0.008	0.008	150
157	Sudan	0.010	0.010	187
158	Suriname	0.005	0.005	94
159	Sweden	0.906	0.912	17,014
160	Switzerland	1.151	1.159	21,615
161	Tajikistan	0.004	0.004	76
162	Thailand	0.307	0.309	5,766
163	Timor-Leste	0.002	0.002	37
164	Togo	0.002	0.002	37
165	Tonga	0.001	0.001	19
166	Trinidad and Tobago	0.040	0.040	751
167	Tunisia	0.025	0.025	469
168	Turkey	1.371	1.381	25,747

*Preparatory Committee and Ninth Review Conference of the States Parties to the BWC and BWC Implementation
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169	Turkmenistan	0.033	0.033	619
170	Uganda	0.008	0.008	150
171	Ukraine	0.057	0.057	1,071
172	United Arab Emirates	0.616	0.620	11,568
173	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	4.567	4.599	85,765
174	United Republic of Tanzania	0.010	0.010	187
175	United States of America	22.000	22.156	413,144
176	Uruguay	0.087	0.088	1,634
177	Uzbekistan	0.032	0.032	601
178	Vanuatu	0.001	0.001	19
179	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	0.728	0.733	13,672
180	Viet Nam	0.077	0.078	1,446
181	Yemen	0.010	0.010	187
182	Zambia	0.009	0.009	169
183	Zimbabwe	0.005	0.005	94
	Grand total	99.295	100.000	1,864,700
