

# 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

8 April 2022

Chinese and English only

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Preparatory Committee

Geneva, 20 December 2021 and 4-11 April 2022

Item 7 of the agenda

Comprehensive consideration of all provisions of the Convention

## Progress on Dissemination of the Tianjin Biosecurity Guidelines for Codes of Conduct for Scientists

Submitted by China and Pakistan

1. Since the Meeting of the States Parties to Biological Weapons Convention in November 2021<sup>1</sup>, participants of the Tianjin Process, including Tianjin University (TJU), Johns Hopkins University (JHU), InterAcademy Partnership (IAP), together with Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China and Department of State of the United States, have been continuously advancing the global dissemination of the Tianjin Guidelines. Active progress has been made and the main achievements are as follows:

### I. Achievements

2. A side event “Biosecurity for All: The Role of Scientists” to be hosted by the Permanent Mission of China and IAP Secretariat on 6 April 2022, during the Second Preparatory Committee for the Ninth Review Conference of BWC.
3. Tianjin Guidelines incorporated into Youth Declaration for Biosecurity<sup>2</sup>, which has been published on the UN official website and open for endorsements.
4. Tianjin Guidelines uploaded on official websites of, inter alia, TJU, JHU, IAP, Chinese Academy of Sciences(CAS) , and Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
5. Regular dissemination mechanism established. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, in coordination with National Health Commission (NHC), Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) and CAS, provided platforms for the dissemination of the Tianjin Guidelines when relevant conferences and seminars were hosted.
6. Publication of articles promoting Tianjin Guidelines in academic journals. Professors from TJU published two articles on Journal of Biosafety and Biosecurity on the Tianjin Guidelines. Participants of the Tianjin Process are exploring possibility of publishing a joint article on international academic journal, for instance, eLife.
7. The National Institute of Health of Pakistan launched its revised Code of Conduct for Life Scientists. The elements of the Code of Conduct are complementary with the Tianjin

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<sup>1</sup> Previous progress was reported to the Meeting of the States Parties, see BWC/MSP/2020/WP.13.

<sup>2</sup> <http://un.org/disarmament/bwc-youth-declaration-for-biosecurity/>.



Guidelines, and the revised Code is an attempt to apply the Guidelines in a domestic content with periodic updates.

8. Tianjin Guidelines incorporated into biosecurity curriculum and synthetic biology related seminar agendas in TJU, for instance, online class entitled Science and Technology Empowering to Fight against Epidemic and information-sharing workshops on synthetic biology studies.

9. Participate in and presented Tianjin Guidelines at events and activities targeting biosecurity management personnel, research practitioners, faculties and students working in the biological facilities aiming to advocate responsible biological scientific research, and to encourage research institutions to strengthen regulation and self-discipline. These events and activities are listed as follows:

- 16 December 2021, representative from MFA of China presented at 2021 Training Course for Laboratory Directors and Safety Officers, hosted by China CDC.
- 16-17 December 2021, representatives from MFA of China and TJU presented at 2021 International Workshop on Biosafety Laboratory Management and Techniques, hosted by Wuhan Institute of Virology, CAS.
- 17 December 2021, representative from MFA of China presented at Postgraduate Course in Global Health Diplomacy, jointly organized by China Foreign Affairs University and Peking Union Medical College.
- 21-25 December 2021, representatives from MFA of China and TJU presented at Senior Seminar on National Biosafety and Strategy, hosted by Shanghai Pasteur, CAS.
- 23 December 2021, representative from TJU presented at Synbio China 2021 Engineering Biology Innovation Forum.
- 24 December 2021, representative from TJU presented at Annual Conference of Biosciences.
- 14 January 2022, representative from TJU presented at iGEM Safety and Security Workshop.
- 9 March 2022, representatives from JHU and TJU presented at Biosecurity Diplomacy Workshop for Young Scientists from the Global South, 3rd Edition, 2022<sup>3</sup>.

## II. Working Plan

10. To continuously utilize the platforms under the frameworks of BWC and UN to further disseminate Tianjin Guidelines.

11. To communicate with international organizations, for instance, World Health Organization (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), to closely follow relevant discussions on responsible biological research and to enhance cooperation.

12. To explore the utilization of IAP's regional networks to attract national academy member to adopt Tianjin Guidelines.

13. To send letters to governments, biological scientific institutions and professional associations introducing and generalizing the wider application of Tianjin Guidelines.

14. To prepare video presentation and give access to interested institutions or individuals who are interested in adopting, endorsing and/or disseminating Tianjin Guidelines.

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<sup>3</sup> <http://un.org/disarmament/youth-for-biosecurity-2022-cohort/>.

15. To incorporate the Tianjin Biosecurity Guidelines in the national biosafety/biosecurity curriculum of Pakistan.

16. To present Tianjin Guidelines at international conferences and forums in the forms of posters, papers and/or presentations, (e.g., EuroScience Open Forum (ESOF), American Biological Safety Association (ABSA) International 2<sup>nd</sup> Biosecurity Symposium, Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO) International Convention, American Society of Microbiology (ASM) Microbe).

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