

**Working Group on the Strengthening of the
Convention on the Prohibition of the Development,
Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological
(Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their
Destruction**

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English only

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**Topics to be considered by the Working Group on the
strengthening of the BWC**

Submitted by the Russian Federation

(a) Measures on international cooperation and assistance under Article X:

- Development with a view to establishing a mechanism open to all States Parties to facilitate and support the full implementation of international cooperation and assistance under Article X;
- Development of guidelines and procedures for mobilizing resources, including financial resources on a voluntary basis to address gaps and needs;
- Collaboration with international organizations and networks related to combating infectious diseases at all levels, as well as regional and sub-regional cooperation to promote implementation of all articles of the Convention.

**(b) Measures on scientific and technological developments relevant to the
Convention:**

- Development with a view to establishing a mechanism to review and assess scientific and technological developments relevant to the Convention and to provide States Parties with relevant advice;
- Development of a voluntary model code of conduct for biological scientists and all relevant personnel, and biosecurity education, by drawing on the work already done on this issue in the context of the Convention, adaptable to national requirements.

(c) Measures on confidence-building and transparency:

- Confidence Building Measures submissions in terms of quantity and quality;
- Various ways to promote transparency and confidence building under the Convention.

(d) Measures on compliance and verification:

- Definitions of terms and objective criteria;
- Declaration of data pertaining to the obligations under the Convention;
- Consultation, clarification and cooperation;



- Investigations;
- Inspections;
- Notifications.

(e) Measures on national implementation of the Convention:

- Measures related to Article IV of the Convention;
- Issues related to Article III, including effective measures of export control, in full conformity with all Articles of the Convention, including Article X.

(f) Measures on assistance, response and preparedness under Article VII:

- A set of guidelines and formats to assist a State Party, if required, when submitting an application for assistance in the framework of Article VII;
- Procedures, including the establishment and use of the assistance database, to improve the prompt and efficient response without preconditions to a request of assistance by a State Party under Article VII;
- Examination of how the concept of mobile biomedical units might contribute to effective assistance, response and preparation with a view to enhancing implementation of the Convention;
- Exploration of approaches by which States Parties, individually or collectively, might contribute to the strengthening of international response capabilities for infectious disease outbreaks, whether natural or deliberate in origin;
- Exploration of means to prepare for, respond to and render assistance in case of the possible hostile use of biological agents and toxins against agriculture, livestock as well as the natural environment.

(g) Measures on organizational, institutional and financial arrangements:

- Consideration of the full range of approaches and options to further strengthen the Convention and its functioning through possible additional legal measures or other measures in the framework of the Convention.
