

NEW ZEALAND

Statement of Compliance with the Biological Weapons Convention for 2010 Calendar Year

Article I

New Zealand has never developed, produced, stockpiled or otherwise acquired or retained biological agents or toxins in quantities that have no justification for defence or other peaceful purposes, or the weapons, equipment or means of delivery designed to use such agents or toxins for hostile purposes in armed conflict.

Article II

Article II does not apply to New Zealand (see note under Article I).

Article III

New Zealand is in full compliance with Article III.

New Zealand implements controls on the transfer of goods which could be used for the development or production of biological weapons. All export applications are treated on a case-by-case basis under regulations implemented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The New Zealand Government has alerted Government and private research laboratories to the possibility that they may receive requests from other countries for information or equipment that could be used for the production of biological weapons, and advised them of the likely characteristics of a suspicious request.

The New Zealand Government has undertaken consultations with Government and private research laboratories to gather information for the purposes of its Confidence Building Measures Declaration to the Biological Weapons Convention.

Only a small number of facilities in New Zealand deal with listed human, animal, or plant pathogens.

Article IV

The New Zealand Nuclear Free Zone, Disarmament and Arms Control Act 1987 implements the Convention in New Zealand, and specifically prohibits the manufacture, stationing, acquisition, possession or control of any biological weapon (as defined in Article I of the Biological Weapons Convention) in New Zealand.

Article V

To date, New Zealand has not invoked the provisions of Article V, nor have the provisions of article V been invoked with respect to New Zealand. New Zealand has participated fully in the confidence building measures established following the Second Review Conference, and has made declarations under the scientific and technological data exchange every year since that time, declaring New Zealand conducts no research related to any aspect of biological warfare, including research for protective or defensive purposes, that there have been no suspicious outbreaks of

infectious diseases and similar occurrences caused by biological agents or toxins, and that we have encouraged the publication of results and promotion of knowledge and contacts.

Articles VI and VII

New Zealand has not invoked the provisions of Articles VI and VII, nor have the provisions of these articles been invoked against New Zealand.

Articles VIII and IX

New Zealand is a party to the Chemical Weapons Convention which Entered into Force on 29 April 1997, and has submitted full initial and subsequent annual national declarations to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.

Article X

The ability of New Zealand research and health workers to communicate with and exchange materials with colleagues overseas is not inhibited and is encouraged. New Zealand contributes training and scholarship assistance as part of its overseas development assistance for developing countries. Cooperation for peaceful purposes in New Zealand takes place with Government research institutions, quasi-Governmental institutions, universities, and the private sector, primarily in the fields of medicine and public health, animal research, and food technology. Results of all research are published in international and national scientific journals, and are discussed at local and international conferences. Reference laboratory services are available to researchers and health workers in other countries, and materials are regularly exchanged with other countries, particularly in the South Pacific.

CBM A, Part 1

Exchange of data on research centres and laboratories

1. Name(s) of facility National Centre for Biosecurity and Infectious Disease

2. Responsible public or private organization or company Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

3. Location and postal address 66 Ward Street, Upper Hutt
New Zealand

4. Source(s) of financing of the reported activity, including indication if the activity is wholly or partly financed by the Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

5. Number of maximum containment units within the research centre and/or laboratory, with an indication of their respective size (m²)

400 m²

6. If no maximum containment unit, indicate highest level of protection

BLS 3+

7. Scope and general description of activities, including type(s) of micro-organisms and/or toxins as appropriate

New Zealand's Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries operates a BSL3+ containment laboratory in Upper Hutt (near Wellington). This facility is also used by the Institute of Environmental Science and Research (ESR). It is used for diagnostic and applied research; including test validation, test development and surveys. Primary objectives are to have a capability allowing New Zealand to:

- demonstrate its animal and human health status; and
- demonstrate strains of certain microorganisms not found in this country.

An example of a current research project is the surveillance for highly pathogenic avian influenza in water birds. The laboratory is also used for the diagnostic testing of veterinary medical samples where a higher (3+) level of containment is required.

As New Zealand has no national biological defence research and development programme there are no BW-relevant microorganisms involved in the work at this national laboratory.

CBM A, Part 2 (i)

National Biological Defence Research and Development Programme Declaration

New Zealand does not have a national programme to conduct biological defence research and development within its territory, or under its jurisdiction or control.

CBM A, Part 2 (ii)

N/A (See CBM A, Part 2(i))

CBM A, Part 2 (iii)

N/A (See CBM A, Part 2(i))

CBM B (i)

Background Information on Outbreaks of Reportable Infectious Diseases

Human Diseases (please refer references for further information)

Disease	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
AIDS ¹	26	17	33	38	49	29	31	48	28	39
Barmah Forest virus infection	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	2	0
Brucellosis	0	2	0	2	0	0	4	3	0	1
Campylobacteriosis	10146	12494	14788	12215	13836	15873	12778	6694	7175	7346
Chikungunya fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
Cholera	3	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	2
Congenital Rubella ²	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Creutzfeldt Jakob disease ³	1	3	3	8	0	5	5	5	8 ⁴	5
Cryptosporidiosis	1208	975	817	611	889	737	924	764	854	954
Cysticercosis	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	0	0
Decompression sickness	23	7	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Dengue fever	93	70	55	8	11	19	114	113	139	51
Diphtheria	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enterobacter sakazakii	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Gastroenteritis ⁵	940	1087	1026	1363	557	937	622	687	714	492
Giardiasis	1604	1547	1570	1514	1231	1214	1402	1660	1638	1985
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b	11	3	12	4	7	9	15	9	10	8
Hepatitis A	61	106	70	49	51	123	42	89	44	46
Hepatitis B	56	67	61	38	59	62	73	38	55	51

¹ Source: The AIDS Epidemiology Group (University of Otago)

² Source: The NZ Paediatric Surveillance Unit (NZPSU)

³ Source: The NZ Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease Registry

⁴ 2 definite cases, 6 probable sporadic CJD

⁵ Gastroenteritis is not a notifiable disease per se except in persons with a suspected common source or with a high risk occupation, and the term 'gastroenteritis' provides a catch-all category for enteric diseases that are not notifiable and for syndromic reports from the public where the causative pathogen may never be known.

Hepatitis C	58	53	40	24	29	35	31	23	32	17
Hepatitis NOS	2	0	5	2	2	0	1	2	2	3
Hydatid disease	7	2	0	1	2	0	6	7	3	4
Invasive pneumococcal disease ⁶	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	127	697	535
Japanese encephalitis	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lead absorption	130	91	120	95	71	78	76	215	273	201
Legionellosis	46	49	77	62	85	52	64	73	74	178
Leprosy	3	4	4	3	2	4	8	5	3	3
Leptospirosis	99	140	113	102	85	87	66	118	69	81
Listeriosis ⁷	18	19	24	26	20	19	26	27	28	23
Lyme Disease	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Malaria	54	61	46	33	32	30	25	40	50	44
Measles	82	21	66	32	19	18	24	12	248	48
Meningococcal disease	648	555	542	343	226	160	104	122	133	97
Mumps	56	64	56	45	61	47	73	76	63	41
Non seasonal influenza A (H1N1) ⁸	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3668	1826
Paratyphoid fever	32	16	18	28	25	23	23	25	25	19
Pertussis	1334	1068	585	3485	2719	1120	332	417	1398	873
Poliomyelitis (vaccine related) ⁹	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Psittacosis	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Puerpal infection	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Rheumatic fever	117	93	151	77	79	109	140	153	140	168
Rickettsial disease	5	6	1	2	1	13	2	10	5	14
Ross River virus infection	3	1	1	5	1	2	0	1	3	5
Rubella	30	33	26	23	13	8	11	9	4	4
Salmonellosis	2417	1880	1401	1081	1382	1335	1275	1339	1128	1146

⁶ Invasive pneumococcal disease became a notifiable disease on 17 October 2008.

⁷ Includes perinatal and non perinatal cases.

⁸ Non seasonal influenza became a notifiable disease on 29 April 2009.

⁹ Source: The NZ Paediatric Surveillance Unit (NZPSU)

Shigellosis	157	112	87	140	183	102	129	113	119	105
Taeniasis	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	5	3	3
Tetanus	4	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	1	7
Toxic shellfish poisoning	2	1	4	0	3	1	3	1	1	9
Trichinosis	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis disease ¹⁰	369	381	423	375	330	350	283	296	299	307
Typhoid fever	27	23	20	31	30	42	48	29	34	31
VTEC/STEC infection ¹¹	76	73	104	89	92	87	100	124	143	138
Yersiniosis	429	472	436	407	383	453	502	508	430	406

¹⁰ Includes new cases and relapse or reactivation cases of Tuberculosis disease.

¹¹ Includes Escherichia coli 0157 and non 0157.

Animal Diseases

Disease	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Anthrax ¹²	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Psittacosis	low sporadic occurrence	low sporadic occurrence	Low sporadic occurrence	Low sporadic occurrence	Low sporadic occurrence	Low sporadic occurrence	Low sporadic occurrence	Low sporadic occurrence	Low sporadic occurrence	Low sporadic occurrence
Enzootic bovine leukosis	**	**	**	**	**	**	9*	1*	0*	0*
Tuberculosis (cattle, farmed deer)	3904	3467	1284	1337	895	370	935	825	284	222
Tuberculosis (pig, goat, cat, ferret)	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	9	22
Echinococcus (cattle, sheep) ¹³	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leptospirosis	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Aujeszky's disease ¹⁴	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Equine viral arteritis ¹⁵	6	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1
Scrapie ¹⁶	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bovine spongiform encephalopathy ¹⁷	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Notes: The numbers where given, indicate the number of confirmed individual animal cases.

* Statistics available for dairy cattle only

** Statistics not available/recorded

¹² Disease eradicated in New Zealand. Last occurred in 1954.

¹³ Disease eradicated in New Zealand. Last occurred in 2000.

¹⁴ Disease eradicated in New Zealand. Last occurred in 1995.

¹⁵ While the EVA virus was inadvertently introduced into New Zealand in 1998 in infected Standardbred stallions, horses in New Zealand have never shown clinical signs. One of two remaining shedder stallions in New Zealand died in 2008. Hence there is now only one shedder stallion (Standardbred) in New Zealand and he is subject to controls in accordance with the New Zealand EVA Control Scheme.

¹⁶ Disease eradicated in New Zealand. Last occurred in 1954.

¹⁷ Never recorded

CBM B (ii)

Information on outbreaks of infectious diseases and similar occurrences, that seem to deviate from the normal pattern.

N/A

CBM C

Encouragement of publication of results and promotion of use of knowledge.

As there is no research in New Zealand relevant to a BW defence programme, there are no publications for listing.

CBM D

Active promotion of contacts between scientists, other experts and facilities engaged in biological research directly related to the Convention, including exchanges and visits for joint research on a mutually agreed basis.

N/A

CBM E

Declaration of legislation, regulations and other measures

<u>Relating to</u>	<u>Legislation</u>	<u>Regulations</u>	<u>Other measures</u>	<u>Amended since last year</u>
(a) Development, production, stockpiling, acquisition or retention of microbial or other biological agents, or toxins, weapons, equipment and means of delivery specified in Article 1	YES	YES	YES	NO
(b) Exports of micro-organisms and toxins	YES	YES	NO	NO
(c) Imports of micro-organisms and toxins	YES	YES	NO	NO

The New Zealand Nuclear Free Zone, Disarmament and Arms Control Act 1987 implements the Convention in New Zealand

Other relevant legislation includes:

- The Terrorism Suppression Act 2002
- The Customs and Excise Act 1996
- The Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act (HSNO Act)1996
- The Biosecurity Act 1993

Relevant regulations include:

- Customs Export Prohibition Order 2008
- Import Health Standards

CBM F

Declaration of past activities in offensive and/or defensive biological R&D programmes.

1. Date of entry into force of the Convention for New Zealand

26 March 1975

2. Past offensive biological research and development programmes

There have been no past activities in offensive biological research and development programmes in New Zealand.

3. Past defensive biological research and development programmes

There have been no past activities in defensive biological research and development programmes in New Zealand.

CBM G

Declarations on vaccine production facilities, licensed by the State Party for the protection of humans.

New Zealand has no **human** vaccine production capability or capacity.

New Zealand has a small, fairly specialised, animal vaccine production capability. Vaccines produced reflect its animal health needs for certain bacterial or viral diseases important in New Zealand's agricultural (sheep, cattle, deer, horse, pig and poultry) industry. There is also a small range of vaccines produced for the domestic small animal market, primarily cats and dogs. Other vaccines are sourced from reputable manufacturers overseas.

