



**REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

**Confidence Building Measure Return covering 2010**

**Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and  
Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their  
Destruction**

**Submitted to the United Nations on  
13.07.2011**

**Declaration Form on Nothing to Declare or Nothing New to Declare for Use in the Information Exchange**

<b>Measure</b>	<b>Nothing to declare</b>	<b>Nothing new to declare</b>
A, part 2 (i)	X	
A, part 2 (ii)	X	
A, part 2 (iii)		
B (i)		
B (ii)		
C		
D		
E		
F	X	
G	X	

Date: **13.07.2011**

State Party to the Convention: **REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

**Report of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs**

Pursuant to the procedural modalities agreed upon in April 1987 at the “Ad Hoc Meeting of Scientific and Technical Experts for STATES Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,” the Republic of Moldova submits the following information under Article V of the Convention:

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Exchange of Information on All Outbreaks of Infectious Diseases and Similar Occurrences Caused by Toxins

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**Form A – Part 1**

**BWC - Confidence Building Measure**

Exchange of data on research centres and laboratories

**Republic of Moldova**

**13.07.2011**

**Exchange of data on research centres and laboratories**

In accordance with the agreement at the Third Review Conference that States Parties provide data on *"research centres and laboratories that meet very high national or international safety standards established for handling, for permitted purposes, biological materials that pose a high individual and community risk or specialize in permitted biological activities directly related to the Convention,"* the Republic of Moldova is providing data on all facilities designated biosafety level 3 (BSL-3) that were operational during 2010. Data on a BSL-3 facility under the Ministry of Agriculture, currently under construction, will be included in future CBM submissions of the Republic of Moldova beginning with the submission covering the year the facility becomes operational.

**The Republic of Moldova does not have maximum containment laboratories (BSL-4).**

**FORM A, PART 1**  
**CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES**

**Exchange of data on research centres and laboratories<sup>1</sup>**

1. Name(s) of facility<sup>2</sup>

**National Center of Public Health - Declared in accordance with Form A, part 2 (iii).**

2. Responsible public or private organization or company.

**Ministry of Health**

3. Location and postal address.

**67 A, Gh. Asachi str., Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, MD-2028**

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

**Activities are funded by the Ministry of Health. There is no Ministry of Defense funding associated with the reported activities.**

5. Number of maximum containment units<sup>3</sup> within the research center and/or laboratory, with an indication of their respective size (m<sup>2</sup>).

**There are no maximum containment facilities.**

**There is no fixed patient treatment modules integrated with this laboratory.**

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

**BSL-3**

*The Center has the following features required for a BSL-3 facility:*

- **restricted access into the laboratory facility;**
- **one Biological Safety Cabinet (BSC) was purchases and will be installed soon and personal protective equipment is worn during the manipulation of infectious materials;**
- **respiratory protective equipment is also available for use;**

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<sup>1</sup> The containment units which are fixed patient treatment modules, integrated with laboratories, should be identified separately.

<sup>2</sup> For facilities with maximum containment units participating in the national biological defence research and development programme, please fill in name of facility and mark "Declared in accordance with Form A, part 2 (iii).

<sup>3</sup> In accordance with the 1983 WHO Laboratory Biosafety Manual, or equivalent.

- the laboratory is separated from the areas that are open to unrestricted traffic flow within the building;
- surfaces of walls, floors and ceilings are water-resistant and easy to clean;
- ducted air ventilation system that provides sustained directional airflow within the laboratory from areas of lower potential contamination to areas of higher potential contamination is designed but it is old and needs renovation;
- an autoclave for the decontamination of contaminated waste material is available;
- medical examination of all laboratory personnel who work in the laboratories is provided annually.

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

**Basic research activities involving viruses and bacteria revolve around pathogenesis studies and development of rapid diagnostic assays in support of the civilian biodefense program. The laboratory provides research and confirmatory diagnostic capability for the national biosurveillance program (antrax, tularemia, Q fever, botulism, leptospirosis, Lyme diseases, etc.).**

**The lab was accredited by national accreditation authority and received permission to work with biological agents such as *Bacillus anthracis*, *Clostridium botulinum* toxin, *Francisella tularensis*, *Brucella sp.*, *Salmonella sp.*, *Shigella sp.*, *Escherichia coli sp.*, *Vibrio cholerae*, etc.**

**In the scientific research theme: "Optimizing the epidemiological surveillance in some zoonoses (vector borne diseases and salmonella) with developing control measures" we provide evaluation of environmental factors which cause modification of vector area and identify the risk of their spreading. Part of the surveillance activities, we are establishing the vector's species diversity (mosquitoes, ticks), density, and the level of vectors contamination with agents of infectious diseases using microbiological methods and recommend measures for vector control in order to limit the spread of the diseases.**

Additional information can be found at:

<http://cnsr.md/>

**FORM A, part 2 (i)**  
**CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES**

National biological defence research and development programme declaration:

Is there a national programme to conduct biological defence research and development within the territory of the State Party, under its jurisdiction or control anywhere? Activities of such a programme would include prophylaxis, studies on pathogenicity and virulence, diagnostic techniques, aerobiology, detection, treatment, toxicology, physical protection, decontamination and other related research?

Yes

No

If the answer is yes, complete Form A, part 2 (ii) which will provide a description of the programme.



**Form A, Part 2(ii)**

**BWC - Confidence Building Measure**

**National biological defence research and development programme -  
Description**

**Republic of Moldova**

**13.07.2011**

### ***National biological defence research and development programme***

**Scientific research theme „Optimizing the epidemiological surveillance in some zoonoses (vector borne diseases and salmonella) with developing control measures”**

1. State the objectives and funding of the programme and summarize the principal research and development activities conducted in the programme. Areas to be addressed shall include: prophylaxis, studies on pathogenicity and virulence, diagnostic techniques, aerobiology, detection, treatment, toxinology, physical protection, decontamination, and other related research.

**The National Center for Public Health of the Ministry of Health is conducting research for the purpose of protecting the civilian population via rapid detection of existing or novel pathogens or other emerging threats. The lab activities focus on development and implementation of epidemiology and surveillance, prevention and control and improved diagnostics for diagnosis, detection and characterization. Enhanced and reliable detection is critical for identifying illnesses that may be related to bioterrorism or natural outbreaks of disease and improving the ability of the national laboratory to diagnose potential life-threatening conditions.**

**Improved diagnostic capacity also strengthens the Center’s ability to serve as subject matter experts for the deliberate use of these agents. As such, the Center provides Moldova with a critical means for preventing the spread of pathogens from a site of initial release during a bioterrorism event. Implementation of adequate control measures also will greatly reduce the risks that secondary human cases of disease which could arise from contact with infected animals or exposure to the bites of infectious vector arthropods.**

**According to the Law no.10/2009 on State oversight of public health, all public health emergencies have to be managed by the Public health system. These duties include prevention and management of public health emergency situations - including bioterrorism**

**<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=331169> .**

**In this process it is important to have inter-sectoral collaboration and whole-of-government commitment for prevention and response, that’s why coordination is provided by the National Extraordinary Commission of Public Health where the Central Public Authorities are among its members. The principles of work under which this Commission performs: all hazard approach, prevention and management of public health emergencies, assessing the level of preparedness, intra- and inter-sectoral coordination, early detection, risk assessment, risk communication, developing a national plan for responding to and management of public health emergencies.**

National Center of Public Health was designated as the National Focal Point for International Health Regulation (2005). Accordingly, its activities are focusing on the strengthening of disease surveillance and laboratory capacity to Detect, Notify, Assess, Alert and Control events representing a National/International Threat for the public health; strengthening the national capacity by setting up and training rapid response mobile teams

2. State the total funding for the program and its source.

**MoH budget.**

**Academy of Science of Moldova - for scientific research theme.**

3. Are aspects of the programme conducted under contract with industry, academic institutions, or in other non-defence facilities?

Yes

No

4. If yes, what proportion of the total funds for the programme is expended in these contracted or other facilities?

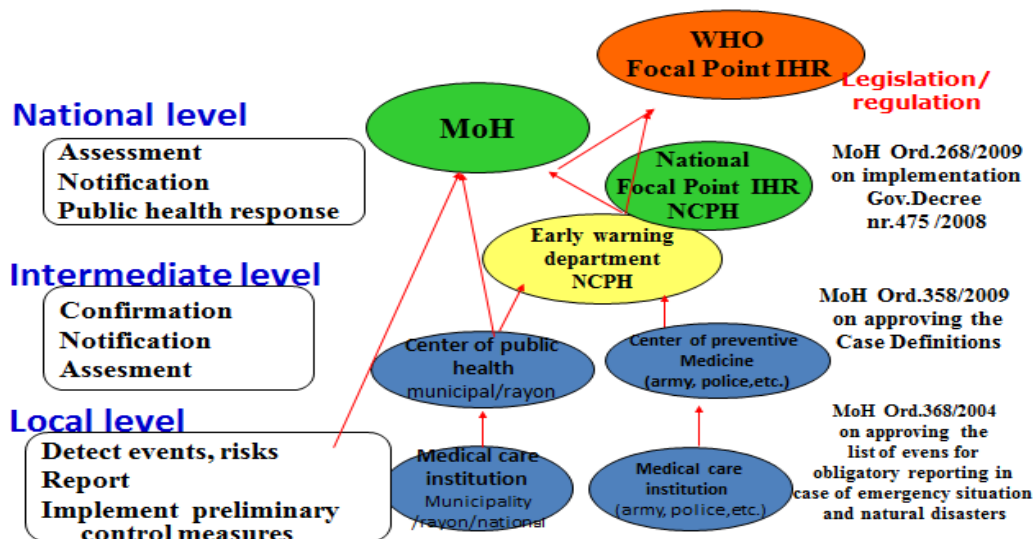
N/A

5. Summarize the objectives and research areas of the programme performed by contractors and in other facilities with the funds identified in paragraph 4.

N/A

6. Provide a diagram of the organizational structure of the programme and the reporting relationships (include individual facilities participating in this programme.)

**Surveillance system includes all levels of health systems according Annex 1 IHR(2005)**



7. Provide a declaration in accordance with Form A part 2 (iii) for each facility, both governmental and non-governmental, which has a substantial proportion of its resources devoted to the national biological defence research programme, within the territory of the reporting State, or under its jurisdiction or control anywhere.

See Form A Part 2(iii).

***National biological defence research and development programme***

Facilities

Complete a form for each facility declared in accordance with paragraph 7 in Form A, part 2 (ii).

In shared facilities, provide the following information for the biological defence research and development portion only.

1. What is the name of the facility?

**The National Center of Public Health of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Moldova**

2. Where is it located (provide both address and geographical location)?

**67 A Gh. Asachi str., Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, MD-2028.**

3. Floor area of laboratory areas by containment level.

BL2        210   (sqM)

BL3        210   (sqM)

Total laboratory floor area **420** (sqM)

4. The organizational structure of each facility.

Category	Question	Answer
(i)	Total Number of Personnel	10
(ii)	Division of Personnel:	
	Military	0
	Civilian	10
(iii)	Division of Personnel by Category:	
	Scientists	4
	Engineers	0
	Technicians	4
	Administrative/Support	2
(iv)	List the scientific disciplines represented in the scientific/engineering support staff.	Bacteriology Biology
(v)	Are contractor staff working in the facility? If so, provide an approximate number.	No
(vi)	What is (are) the source(s) of funding for the work conducted in the facility, including indication if activity is wholly or partly financed by the Ministry of Defence?	Ministry of Health <u>No</u> Ministry of Defense funding.
(vii)	What are the funding levels for the following programme areas:	
	Research	24.000 USA \$
	Development	N/A
	Testing and Evaluation	N/A
(viii)	Briefly describe the publication policy of the facility:	All researchers are encouraged to publish results in peer-reviewed open literature.

(ix)	<p>Provide a list of publicly-available papers and reports resulting from the work during the previous 12 months. (To include authors, titles, and full references.)</p> <p><b>The National Center for Public Health of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Moldova - Publications List:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Stela Gheorghita: The consideration of optimization of the Lyme borreliosis epidemiological surveillance, Thesis, 2007, Chisinau, 130p., <a href="http://www.cnaa.md/thesis/5996/">http://www.cnaa.md/thesis/5996/</a> ;</li> <li>2. Stela Gheorghita, Valeriu Chicu, Marina Fyodorova, et.al. Vector-borne diseases in the Republic of Moldova. Updates and perspectives. The Scientific International Conference Museum and Scientific Research, 16 – 18 September 2010, Craiova, Romania;</li> <li>3. Stela Gheorghita, Valeriu Chicu, Victoria Nisteanu et.al The role of micromammals in the maintenance of leptospirosis foci in the Republic of Moldova, Muzeul Olteniei Craiova. Oltenia. Studii si comunicari. Stiintele Naturii, Tom. XXV/2009 ISSN 1454-6914, p.291-296, <a href="http://olteniastudii.3x.ro/cont/25/Ec10-Gheorghita.pdf">http://olteniastudii.3x.ro/cont/25/Ec10-Gheorghita.pdf</a> ;</li> <li>4. Valeriu Chicu, Stela Gheorghita, Victoria Burlacu et.al. Tularemia - current features that ensure the persistence of foci in Moldova. Bulletin of the Academy of sciences o Moldova. Medical Sciences,2010, 5 (28), p.51-58.</li> </ol>
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5. Briefly describe the biological defence work carried out at the facility, including type(s) of microorganisms\* and/or toxins studied, as well as outdoor studies of biological aerosols.

**The National Center for Public Health of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Moldova is conducting research for the purpose of protecting the civilian population via rapid detection of existing or novel pathogens or other emerging threats.**

**The lab activities focus on development and implementation of epidemiology and surveillance, prevention and control and improved diagnostics for diagnosis, detection and characterization. Enhanced and reliable detection is critical for identifying illnesses that may be related to bioterrorism or natural outbreaks of disease and improving the ability of the national laboratory to diagnose potential life-threatening conditions.**

**There are no outdoor studies of biological aerosols undertaken in the Republic of Moldova.**

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\* Including viruses and prions.

**Form B**

**BWC - Confidence Building Measure**

**Exchange of Information on all Outbreaks of Infectious Diseases and Similar Occurrences Caused by Toxins**

**Republic of Moldova  
13.07.2011**

**Form B(i)**

**BWC - Confidence Building Measure  
Background Information on Outbreaks of Reportable Infectious Diseases**

**Republic of Moldova  
13.07.2011**



## Background Information on Outbreaks of Reportable Infectious Diseases

## Human Disease

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Acute encephalitis	0	0	0	0	0
Acute poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0
Anthrax	0	0	1	0	0
Botulism	7	18	13	4	21
Brucellosis	0	0	1	0	0
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0
Glanders	0	0	0	0	0
Dysentery	1154	838	414	307	164
Ornithosis	0	0	0	0	0
Food poisoning	0	0	0	0	0
Leptospirosis	0	13	17	6	13
Meningitis	47	51	33	39	47
Plaque	0	0	0	0	0
Q-fever	4	2	6	7	5
Shigellosis	1655	1216	744	592	511
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0
Tularemia	0	0	0	1	0
Typhus abdominalis	1	1	0	0	0
Typhus fever	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis	3623	3578	3399	3314	
Viral encephalitis	0	0	0	0	0
Viral hemorrhagic fever	0	0	0	0	0
Yellow fever	0	0	0	0	0
Viral hepatitis	771	575	379	250	215
<i>Hepatitis A</i>	355	198	101	29	16
<i>Hepatitis B</i>	269	238	168	124	95
<i>Hepatitis C</i>	111	101	89	71	80

### Animal Disease

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
African swine fever	0	0	0	0	0
Anthrax	2	5	2	1	1
Aujeszky 's disease	1	1	0	0	0
Brucellosis	0	0	0	0	0
Bacillus larvae	0	0	0	0	1
Bratsot	0	1	0	1	0
Coli-bacteriosis	6	4	5	60	45
Contagious Bovine Pleuro-pneumonia	0	0	0	0	0
Enzootic Bovine Leukosis	24	32	0	5	38
Epizootic Hemorrhagic Virus Disease	0	0	0	0	0
Epizootic Lymphangitis	0	0	0	0	0
Leptospirosis	0	1	0	0	0
Lumpy Skin Disease	0	0	0	0	0
Newcastle disease	0	0	0	0	0
Malignant Edema	0	1	0	0	0
Pasteurellosis	30	27	12	22	22
Rabies	49	68	45	59	140
Rubella	0	0	0	0	0
Rujetul	2	4	4	4	3
Rinitis atrofica	0	0	0	0	0
Salmonela typhi	6	2	3	43	29
Swine versicular disease	0	0	0	0	0
Teschen disease	0	0	0	0	0
Tularemia	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (Bovine TB)	1	0	0	0	0

**Form B(ii)**

**BWC - Confidence Building Measure  
Information on Outbreaks of Infectious Diseases and Similar Occurrences  
that Seem to Deviate from the Normal Pattern**

**Republic of Moldova  
13.07.2011**

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

- |    |                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | Time of cognizance of the outbreak              | 2010<br>World Health Organizations declared by on June 11, 2009 influenza pandemic alert phase, after announcement the Laboratory from National Center of Public Health identified first influenza H1N12009 case on 27.07.2009. First influenza case was identified in Chisinau, capital city at person who came from EU contries.<br>Continued circulation of new subtype of influenza virus2009 with other influenza strains during 2010-2011 flu season. |
| 2. | Location and approximate area affected          | Worldwide (over 200 countries and territories affected). First cases were identified in Chisinau and surrounding area.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 3. | Type of disease/intoxication                    | Respiratory illness                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 4. | Suspected source of disease/intoxication        | New subtype of influenza virus evolved after triple-reassortant of swine, human and avian influenza viruses.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 5. | Possible causative agent(s)                     | New subtype H1N1 influenza A virus                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 6. | Main characteristics of systems                 | Similar to seasonal influenza virus infection-primarily respiratory illness                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 7. | Detailed symptoms, when applicable              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|    | - respiratory                                   | - cough, runny nose, sore throat.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|    | - intestinal                                    | - diarrhea and vomiting                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|    | - other                                         | - fever, myalgias, artralgiias                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 8. | Deviation(s) from the normal pattern as regards |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|    | - type                                          | novel H1N1 virus                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|    | - development                                   | similar                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|    | - place of occurrence                           | similar                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|    | - time of occurrence                            | În 2009-2010, occurred during the influenza season. Increase nr. of influenza cases started on 46 week 2009, on week 51-53 were registered the highest nr.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

of cases. After first week 2010 the registered trend was decreasing. During the 2010-2011 season, the 2009 pandemic H1N1 virus is circulating in normal seasonal timeline range. Other circulated influenza viruses subtypes were: AH3N2 and B.

- symptoms	similar
- virulence pattern	similar
- drug resistance pattern	was not establish
- agent(s) difficult to diagnose	similar
- presence of unusual vectors	none-
- other -	
9. Approximate number of primary cases	Unknown
10. Approximate number of total cases	2010 – 14099 cases 2009 – 21184 cases
11. Number of deaths	2010 – 16 laboratory confirmed cases, 2009 – 27 laboratory confirmed cases
12. Development of the outbreak	Geographical spread of diseases from Europe (first case notified the travel in 3 European countries less than 7 days before the beginning of the disease).
13. Measures taken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strengthened surveillance system, developing and implementing electronic surveillance system for communicable diseases and public health events;</li> <li>- Implementation of appropriate infection control intervention strategies (such as surgical mask use and respirators, travel advisories, etc);</li> <li>- Standard of care for viral respiratory pathogens;</li> <li>- Antiviral distribution and use (primary health care and ambulances);</li> <li>- Rapid development and dissemination of 2009 H1N1-specific vaccine (coverage vaccine rate – 21% of general population);</li> <li>- Comprehensive risk communication and education for public, health professionals, businesses, and other groups.</li> </ul>

**Form B (ii)**

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

Time of cognizance of the outbreak		2010
Location and approximate area affected		Positive cases of rabies were recorded in most districts of Moldova. There were 112 positive cases of rabies in 28 districts <sup>4</sup> and 28 cases in the Transnistrian Region.
Type of disease/intoxication		Rabies
Suspected source of disease		Carnivores, especially the fox and dog.
Possible causative agent(s)		Virus family Rhabdoviridae.
Main characteristics of systems		It is a viral infectious disease, with fatal acute human common to all warm-blooded animals. It is a natural focal disease with sporadic occurrence, sometimes leucosis.
Detailed symptoms, when applicable -neurological/behavioral		It varies from one species to another and even from one individual to another. Of clinically distinguished: as furious and paralytic form: <i>Furious form:</i> restlessness, tearing around objects, imaginary objects is quickly, with a tendency to bite, the animal becomes aggressive towards other animals at first, then front and man. A symptom often encountered in dogs and foxes to say are dromomania (a bum). Then masseter muscle paralysis is expressed by, tongue, laryngeal. Paralysis spreads gradually dies after several hours of agony by asphyxia. <i>Paralytic form:</i> start with symptoms similar to those in the form of angry, but far removed without agitation or aggression. Paralytic disorders especially include masseter muscle. The mouth is ajar or wide open, leaving to drain a large amount of saliva without dividing itself into drops, tongue hanging from his mouth. The disease ends in paralysis.
Deviation(s) from the normal pattern as regards - type - development - place of occurrence  - time of occurrence		Sporadic  Prevalent cases of rabies recorded in districts Orhei - 13 cases Glodeni - 12 cases Rezina - 7 cases, Falesti, Singerei, Edinet - each 6 cases, Camenca - 12 cases Grigopol - 7 cases. Most cases of rabies were recorded in January (18 cases), March 19 (cases), May (15 cases), September (16 cases).
- symptoms - virulence pattern		Neurological.  Rabies virus strains are known with very high and extremely virulent pathogens produce disease after a short incubation period, clinical manifestations and evolution is fast and naturally attenuated strains causing illness after a prolonged incubation period, lasting development long and atypical symptoms.

<sup>4</sup> Orhei – 13 cases; Glodeni - 12 cases; Rezina – 7 cases; Fălești, Sîngerei, Edineț - 6 cases each; Calarasi, Nisporeni, Soroca, Ungheni – 5 cases each; Anenii Noi, Criuleni – 4 cases each; Florești, Hîncești, Taraclia – 3 cases each; Briceni, Cahul, Cantemir, Drochia, Strășeni, Șoldănești, Ștefan – Vodă, Telenești – 2 cases each; Cimișlia, Dondușeni, Rîșcani, Comrat – one case per district.

- drug resistance pattern - agent(s) difficult to diagnose		No therapeutic means. Diagnosis is made by reacting immunofluorescence.
Approximate number of primary cases		129
Approximate number of total cases		140
Number of deaths		140
Development of the outbreak		Disease transmitted through infected animals or in the incubation period. It is transmitted through the bite or scratched by animals or sick animals healthy people
Approximate number of primary cases		129
Approximate number of total cases		140
Number of deaths		140
Development of the outbreak		Disease transmitted through infected animals or in the incubation period. It is transmitted through the bite or scratched by animals or sick animals healthy people
Approximate number of primary cases		129
Approximate number of total cases		140
Number of deaths		140
Development of the outbreak		Disease transmitted through infected animals or in the incubation period. It is transmitted through the bite or scratched by animals or sick animals healthy people

**Form C**

**BWC - Confidence Building Measure  
Encouragement of Publication of Results and Promotion of Use of Knowledge**

**Republic of Moldova  
13.07.2011**



## FORM C

**Encouragement of publication of results of biological research directly related to the Convention, in scientific journals generally available to States parties, as well as promotion of use for permitted purposes of knowledge gained in this research.**

All researchers of the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, Academy of Science of Moldova are encouraged to publish results in peer-reviewed open literature.

**Form D**

**BWC - Confidence Building Measure  
Active Promotion of Contacts**

**Republic of Moldova  
13.07.2011**

**1. Planned international conferences, symposia, seminars, and other similar forums for exchange**

**1) Regional Workshop on National Implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention for States Parties of the Eastern Partnership Countries** was organized in period 22 – 24 June 2011, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova in a joint effort of the United Nation Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) with support from the European Union Joint Action on the BWC and the Government of the Republic of Moldova.

The objectives of the workshop were to:

- Bring together officials and experts from the region involved in the BWC implementation;
- Promote cooperation, coordination and synchronization of cross-sectoral prevention, preparedness, detection and response to outbreaks of infectious diseases, whether natural, accidental or deliberate in nature;
- Exchange of good practices in risk management between members of biological health, safety, science, defense, law enforcement, policy-makers to establish regional partnerships in order to boost disease surveillance and counter;
- Strengthening national capacities in accordance with the obligations arising from the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) and Security Council Resolution 1540 (UNSCR 1540) to deter, prevent, and respond to biological incidents or threats by exchanging experiences implementing BWC in the Eastern Partnership countries,
- Exchange information and establishing a regional network of cooperation.

The workshop attended by over 40 experts from Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine, Germany, Portugal, U.S. (United States Embassy in Chisinau, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Health and Human Services) and representatives of international organizations (European Union Delegation to Chisinau, the World Health Organization, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, UN Security Council Resolution 1540, Verification Research, Training and Information Centre, University of Bradford). Azerbaijani authorities refused to attend this event. From Republic of Moldova participated the experts of the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration (Permanent Mission of the Republic of Moldova in Geneva), Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Finance (Customs), Ministry of Internal Affairs (Emergency and Civil Protection Service), Ministry of Economy, Service for Security and Information, Border Guard Service.

The discussions also reflected the forthcoming Seventh Review Conference of the Convention.

<http://www.army.md/>

**2) The fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention)** took place in the Palace of the Republic in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, from 29 June 2011 to 1 July 2011, at the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Moldova.

The fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties provided a platform for Parties, Signatories, international organizations, civil society and other stakeholders, to discuss achievements and challenges in promoting environmental democracy. Participants addressed a wide range of topics, including access to justice, access to information and public participation in national decision-making as well as in international forums.

Marking a decade since the entry into force of the Convention, the Meeting of the Parties adopted a decision encouraging the accession by States outside the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) region, including a simplified procedure for doing so — thus encouraging the propagation of the important and unique protections offered by this international environmental rights treaty on a fully global scale.

The move is widely recognized as a timely one: in a message delivered to the session, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon noted that the Aarhus Convention “is more important than ever”. The “treaty’s powerful twin protections for the environment and human rights can help us respond to many challenges facing our world, from climate change and the loss of biodiversity to air and water pollution”.

**3) International Conference on Nanotechnologies and Biomedical Engineering with related German-Moldovan Workshop on Novel Nanomaterials for Electronic, Photonic and Biomedical Applications (ICNBME-2011)** -- Organized by the Academy of Sciences of Moldova, the State Medical and Pharmaceutical University "Nicolae Testemițanu" of the Republic of Moldova, the Technical University of Moldova, and the Moldavian Society of Biomedical Engineering; in cooperation with the Medical Imagistic Moldavian Association Society of Moldova of Medical Informatics; under the auspices of the German Embassy in Moldova; supported by the European Federation for Medical Informatics. The conference will take place in Chisinau, Moldova, on July 6-9, 2011.

<http://www.icnbme.sibm.md/>

#### **4) Moldova hosts NATO disaster response exercise from 27 August to 2 September 2011.**

CODRII 2011 is a consequence management field exercise organized by the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC) in cooperation with the Civil Protection and Emergency Situations Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova from 27 August to 2 September 2011. The Initial Planning Conference was held on 22-23 November 2010 in NATO Headquarters (Brussels) with participation of 26 nations. The Service of Civil Protection and Emergency Situations of Moldova is the leading organization; other national stakeholders are also involved: MIA, MoD, MFAEI, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Education, Border Service, Non-Government/International teams, Mass-media etc.

<http://www.nato.int/eadrcc/2011/08-CODRII-moldova/index.html>

## **2. Information regarding other opportunities**

**1) The Government of the Republic of Moldova is committed to international cooperation and collaboration on implementation of BWC and UNSCR 1540. In 2010,**

**the Government of Moldova hosted the Trilateral (US-Romania-Moldova) Civilian-Military Forum on Outbreak Response and Bioterrorism Investigation (ORBIT Forum) in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, October 19-21, 2010.**

The Trilateral (US-Romania-Moldova) Civilian-Military Forum on Outbreak Response and Bioterrorism Investigation (ORBIT Forum) was organized by the US Department of Health and Human Services (Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response) and the US Department of Defense (US European Command, Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center, Center for Disaster and Humanitarian Assistance Medicine, and the US Public Health Command – Europe). The ORBIT Forum included awareness training and a tabletop exercise designed to evaluate policies and plans for prevention, deterrence, and response to bioterrorism incidents borne out of the convergence of criminal and terrorist networks.

The ORBIT Forum was attended by about 100 participants from US, Romania, and Moldova including civilian and military public health personnel (laboratory and preventive medicine staff, epidemiologists, emergency response planners, administrators), law enforcement, intelligence, military, and affiliated professionals (other first responders, public communication officers, foreign affairs officers), and representatives of non-governmental organizations (VERTIC, Emergent BioSolutions Inc, Frontline Healthcare Workers Safety Foundation Ltd, State Medical and Pharmaceutical University “Nicolae Testemitanu”).

The goals of this event were to:

- i) promote interagency (in particular public health-law enforcement but also civilian-military) cooperation, coordination and synchronization for preparing, detecting, and responding to infectious disease outbreaks, whether natural, accidental, or deliberate in nature;
- ii) establish sustainable laboratory partnerships to enhance training and medical surveillance initiatives among the three countries; and
- iii) strengthen the core capacities required by the WHO International Health Regulations and existing national measures consistent with obligations under the Biological Weapons Convention and the UN Security Council Resolution 1540 to deter, prevent, and respond to biological incidents or threats.

Information about the workshop, lessons learned, and follow-up actions could be found at:

<http://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/international/Pages/orbitforum.aspx>

**2) NATO Advanced Study Institute- Technological Innovations in Detection and Sensing of Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear (CBRN) Threats and Ecological Terrorism Conference took place in Chisinau, Moldova, June 07-17, 2010.**

About 100 distinguished scientists of international prestige from NATO and EPAC countries (including Moldova, USA, Ukraine, Italy, UK, Israel, Turkey, Slovakia, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Romania, Latvia, Canada, UK, Uzbekistan, and France) took part in the 10-day program. Participants in the NATO ASI included physicists, biologists, chemists, materials scientists,

Ph.D. students, post-doctoral fellows, and engineers. The ASI participants simulated Biological threat remediation in a tabletop exercise.

Discussions at the ASI conference consisted of the following primary areas of focus:

1. CBRN Sensors/detectors

Nanostructured, nano-crystalline, and advanced materials

Chemical-Biological-Radiological Nuclear Detection by advanced materials

Nanophotonics: Fundamental aspects and applications

Nanomaterials in protective clothing and e-textile (system on fibers)

Functionalized nanostructured materials for chem.-biosensor applications

2. Advanced Sciences Convergence

Advanced Sciences - NBIC (Nano-Bio-Cogno-Info) convergence

Standards Development in Nanotechnologies

3. Ecological Terrorism Detection, remediation/mitigation

Nanomaterials in environmental contamination detection, monitoring, and remediation

Functionalized nanomaterials in medicine, biology, opto-electronics and sensing

Fate and transport of nanomaterials: Protection of Public/Worker/Military

<http://qol.asm.md/natoasi/>

<http://www.pims.org/news/2010/06/10/technological-innovations-in-detection-and-sensing-of-cbrn-threats-and-ecological-terrorism-conference>

**Form E**

**BWC - Confidence Building Measure  
Declaration of Legislation, Regulations, and other Measures**

**Republic of Moldova  
13.07.2011**

## Form 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 I	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
(b) Exports of micro-organisms <sup>5</sup> and toxins	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
(c) Imports of micro-organisms <sup>5</sup>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>

The principal legislative provisions for the purposes of implementing the Republic of Moldova's obligations under the Biological Weapons Convention are found in the Law on accession of the Republic of Moldova to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction, Criminal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure, Contravention Code, Customs Code, Law on Licensing Some Types of Activities, Law of the Republic of Moldova on export, re-export, import and transit control of strategic goods, Law on State regulation of External Trade, Law on the State Border of the Republic of Moldova, Law on Combating of Terrorism, Law on Prevention and Combating Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing, Law on Operative Investigation Measures, Law on the State Oversight of the Public Health, Parliamentary Decision on regulations on marketing of military equipment, Law on sanitary veterinary activity, Law concerning food, Law on sanitary-epidemiological insurance, Law on environmental protection, Law on ratification of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Law on biological safety, Law on atmosphere air protection, Law on civil protection, Government Decision on national network of laboratory supervision and control on contamination (pollution) of the environment with radioactive , poisonous, strongly toxin substances and biological agents, Government Decision on the National System of export, re-export, import and transit control of strategic goods, Government decision on Extraordinary

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<sup>5</sup> Micro-organisms pathogenic to man, animals and plants in accordance with the Convention.



National Commission for Public Health, Government Decision on approval of the rules on microbiological criteria's for food, Regulations concerning transportation of dangerous cargoes on the territory of the Republic of Moldova, etc.

**The Law No. 360-XV of 05 December 2004 on accession of the Republic of Moldova to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction** is into force for the Republic of Moldova from 28 January 2005, with following reservation: "Until the full re-establishment of the territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova, the provision of the Convention shall be applied only on the territory controlled effectively by the authorities of the Republic of Moldova".

**The Criminal Code (Law No. 985-XV of 18 April 2002)** criminalizes offences and penalties among others:

*Art.143.* "... (2) using a mass destruction arm forbidden by the international treaties to which the Republic of Moldova is a party ... shall be punished with jail sentence of between 16 and 25 years of detention to life";

*Art.136.* "Deliberate mass destruction of flora and fauna, intoxication of atmosphere or water resources.... Shall be punished with a jail sentence of between 12 and 20 years of detention to life"

*Art.151.* "Deliberate gross bodily harm to corporal integrity or health ... shall be punished with jail sentence of between 5 and 10 years".

*Articles 21, 27, 42, 63,73,74, 152, 215,216, 223, 224, 225, 226, 248, 278, 279,* also, criminalize offences and penalties in dependence of the crime or attempt, or some acts an accomplice to commit any of the prohibited activities. In the Criminal Code are reflected the jurisdiction over offences committed in the territory of the state or in any other place under its jurisdiction as recognized by international law (*art.11*) and legal co-operation and assistance with other law enforcement agencies in the event of an incident (*art.13, 533, 534, 541, 546*).

**The Code of Criminal Procedure (Law No. 122-XV of 14 March 2003)** regulates the measures enabling surveillance of individuals suspected of misusing strategic goods.

**The Customs Code (Law No. 1149-XIV of 20 July 2000)** regulates the Customs Supervision Department, customs and customs units activities as law enforcement agencies for import, export, transit of strategic goods, the measures to ensure chain of custody and proper collection and sampling techniques, etc. Also, criminalizes "the move of movement of strategic goods across the customs frontier without or concealed from customs control ... shall be qualified as smuggling and shall be punished in accordance with law" (*art.224*). In according with Government Decision No.1212 of 2010 is implemented the Strategy of Integrated Management at Points of Entry for Border Police & Customs Services for early notification of cases of disease and primary measures to limit spreading of diseases. Provisions of the International Health Regulations 2005 are applied in Points of entry and competent authorities ensure border control and surveillance in according with Government Decision No.475 of 26 March 2008. Regulation for transit of state border of goods under veterinary control and plant quarantine are specified by Government Decision No.1073 of 19 September 2008.

**The Law No. 451-XV of 30 July 2001 on Licensing Some Types of Activities** regulates the preventative measures for secure and physically protection of the dangerous

biological agents and toxins (obligations of the Licensing Chamber, authorization, notification of internal transfers, exceptions, revocations, etc.) and inspections measures.

**The Law No. 1163-XIV of 26 July 2000 on the control of export, re-export, import and transit of strategic goods provides** a national control regime that regulated the economical activity in the field of export, re-export, import and transit with strategic goods, throughout development and promulgation of the lists of biological agents (1C351), animal pathogens (1C352), genetic modified organism (1C353), plant pathogens (1C354) and dual-use biological equipment and related technology and software (ML7) in according with EU list; preventative measures to control transfers of strategic goods (authorization, export, import, transit, exemptions, re-export, legal co-operation and assistance with other law enforcement agencies in the event of an incident, protection of confident information, etc.). By Minister of Economy Order No.40 of 06 August 2002 was approved the models of documents for authorization of export/import of strategic goods.

**The Law No. 539-XV of 12 October 2001 on Combating of Terrorism, Law No. 633-XV of 15 November 2001 on Prevention and Combating Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing and Law No.45-XIII of 12 April 1994 on Operative Investigation Measures** reflect the legal co-operation and assistance with other law enforcement authorities in the country or with similar organizations of other states in the commitment or attempt of commitment of terrorist acts through prevention, detection, counteraction and investigations action, measures to combat money laundering and financing of terrorism, etc.

**The Law No 10-XVI of 03 February 2009 on the State Oversight of the Public Health** regulates the prevention of national and international spreading of infectious diseases and public health events, including restrictive measures (isolation and quarantine) in according with IHR (2005). Measures and actions for prevention and management public health emergence situation, including bioterrorism are stipulated, too. The National Extraordinary Commission of Public Health obligations are reflected by Governmental Decision No.820 of 2009. The new electronic reporting system for communicable diseases surveillance is implemented into Minister of health Decision No.477 of 2009 in according with International Health Regulation 2005. The biosafety measures in the laboratories are in accordance with National Guide of Biosafety in the Laboratories (Laboratory Biosafety Manual, WHO, 2004 and Directive 2000/54/EC), <http://cnspl.md/download/info1310369288ro.pdf> and into force since March, 2011.

**The Law No. 221-XVI of 19 October 2007 on sanitary veterinary activity, Law No 78-XV of 18 March 2004 regarding food, Government Decision No.221 of 16 March 2009 regarding approval of the rules on microbiological criteria's for food, Harmonization of the legislation to Regulation CE No.2073/2005 of 15 November 2005, No.1441/2007 of 5 December 2007 (Hazard Analysis & Critical Control Point)** establish the main sanitary-veterinary rules and requirements in the Republic of Moldova, the rights and obligations of the state, individuals and public bodies in production, processing, storage, transport and selling of live animals and animal products in order to ensure the animal health, to prevent the transmission of disease from animals to humans, ensure the safety of animal products intended for human consumption, sanitation and quality of animal feeds, testing and authorization of the veterinary medicinal products and the substances used in veterinary diagnostic, protection of the state territory against infectious diseases by the sanitary-veterinary activities.

**The Law No. 1515-XII of 16 June 1993 on environmental protection** represents the legal basis for developing drafts of special legal acts and instructions in special fields of environmental protection in order to protect the soil and subsoil, water and air against biological pollution, other actions that may damage the ecological balance; maintaining the biodiversity, integrity of natural systems, national historical and cultural values.

**The Law nr.1422-XIII from 17.12.1997 on atmospheric air protection** aims to preserve the purity and to improve the quality of atmospheric air-component of the environment, to prevent and decrease the harmful effect of biological factors and others on atmosphere, with poisonous consequences for the population and/or the environment. It regulates the activity of individuals and legal bodies, regardless the type of ownership and legal form of organization, where it directly or indirectly affect or may affect the quality of atmospheric air.

**The Law No.755-XV of 21 December 2001 on biological safety** regulates related activities for obtaining, testing, production, testing, use, marketing, and deliberate operations of import/export, involuntary transport across the border; storage, burial, annihilation of genetically modified organisms and/or products of such organisms, use of wastes result from usage of modern biotechnology techniques. The special regime of regulating, authorization and administration of these activities is intended to ensure their development in bio-safety conditions in which can be prevented, eliminated or reduced the risks of producing negative effects on human health, biological diversity, ecological balance and environmental quality arising from genetically modified organisms. The Republic of Moldova is party to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity, ratified by Law No. 1381-XV of 11 October 2002. The objective of this protocol is to contribute to ensuring an adequate level of protection for the safety of the transfer, handling and use of genetically modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking in consideration as well the risks for human health and focusing in particular on their boundary movement. By Government Decision No.197 of 25 February 2003 the Ministry of Environment is designated as the national authority responsible for liaison with the Secretariat of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

**The Law No. 271-XIII of 09 November 1994 on civil protection** reflected the measures and actions taken in peace or war time on the entire state, in order to protect the population, property in case of natural and environmental disasters, damages and catastrophes, epizootic diseases, and in case of use of modern means of annihilation.

**The Government Decision No. 961 of 21 August 2006 on national network of laboratory supervision and control on contamination (pollution) of the environment with radioactive, poisonous, strongly toxin substances and biological agents** stipulated that observation and control of prohibition of toxin substances and biological agents are performed by national network of laboratory supervision and control on contamination (pollution) of the environment (further-national network), based on centers of preventive medicine of the Ministry of Health, the Republican Center of Applied Pedology, the Republican Center of Veterinary Diagnostic, specialized veterinary and agrochemistry laboratories, dedicated centers and laboratories of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, the State Hydrometeorology Service and the State ecological Inspectorate of Ecology and Natural Resources, the radiometric-chemical laboratory of the Civil Protection and Emergency Situations Service of the Ministry of

Internal Affairs, the National Standardization and Metrology Service, and the laboratories of the Agroindustrial Agency „Moldova-Vin”.

**The Government Decision No. 45 of 24 January 1994** approved and implemented the Regulations on transportation of dangerous cargoes on the territory of the Republic of Moldova and liquidation of consequences of any accidents, as well as the List of dangerous cargoes, by which transportation of dangerous cargoes is prohibited on the territory of the Republic of Moldova (covers all types of transportation) without special permission of the Government of the Republic of Moldova:

Name of dangerous cargoes, their classification	Danger degree
<b>BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) SIUBSTANCES</b>	
Culture of microorganisms – pathogens agent of infectious diseases, very dangerous for humans and animals: Cholera, plague, brucellosis, anthrax, Q fever, ganders, rabies, hemorrhagic fever virus, botulism, ...	7

The National Guidance on Regulations for Transport of Infectious Substances in accordance with WHO/HSE/EPR/2008.10 „Guidance on regulations for the Transport of Infectious Substances 2009– 2010” entered into force for the Republic of Moldova on March 2011, [wwwhttp://cnspl.md/download/info1310369463ro.pdf](http://cnspl.md/download/info1310369463ro.pdf).

The Republic of Moldova intends to enact new legislation or to amend the existing legislative provisions if it is necessary to deal with developments in this area after finalization of the legislative survey which is currently ongoing.

**Form F**

**BWC - Confidence Building Measure**

**Declaration of Past Activities in Offensive and/or Defensive Biological  
Research and Development Programmes**

**Republic of Moldova  
13.07.2011**

**Declaration of Past Activities in Offensive and/or Defensive Biological Research and Development Programmes**

**1. Date of entry into force of the Convention for the State party.**

28 January 2005

**2. Past offensive biological research and development programmes:**

Not applicable /Nothing new to declare

**Form G**

**BWC - Confidence Building Measure**

**Declaration of Vaccine Production Facilities**

**Republic of Moldova**  
**13.07.2011**

# Form G

## Declaration of vaccine production facilities

Nothing to declare.

**Currently there are no human vaccines manufactured and licensed in the Republic of Moldova.**

Prepared by National Point of Contact of the Republic of Moldova:

LTC

Mariana Grama

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