



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

**MISSION PERMANENTE DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE MAURICE AUPRES DES NATIONS UNIES
ET DES AUTRES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES**

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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Implementation Support Unit of the Biological Weapons Convention and with reference to the latter's Note dated 15 January 2016 pertaining to the decision of the Sixth Review Conference of the Biological Weapons Convention, has the honour to submit the duly filled-in annual Confidence-building Measures from the Government of the Republic of Mauritius.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Implementation Support Unit of the Biological Weapons Convention the assurances of its highest consideration.



Geneva 18 April 2016

**Office for Disarmament Affairs
The Biological Weapons Convention
Implementation Support Unit
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10**

Revised forms for the submission of the Confidence-Building Measures

At the Third Review Conference it was agreed that all States Parties present the following declaration, later amended by the Seventh Review Conference:

Declaration form on Nothing to Declare or Nothing New to Declare for use in the information exchange

Measure	Nothing to declare	Nothing new to declare	Year of last declaration if nothing new to declare
A, part 1	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A, part 2 (i)	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A, part 2 (ii)	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A, part 2 (iii)	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(Please mark the appropriate box(es) for each measure with a tick, and fill in the year of last declaration in the last column where applicable.)

Date: _____

State Party to the Convention: _____

Date of ratification/accession to the Convention: _____

Part 2 Exchange of information on national biological defence research and development programmes

At the Third Review Conference it was agreed that States Parties are to implement the following:

In the interest of increasing the transparency of national research and development programmes on biological defence, the States Parties will declare whether or not they conduct such programmes. States Parties agreed to provide, annually, detailed information on their biological defence research and development programmes including summaries of the objectives and costs of effort performed by contractors and in other facilities. If no biological defence research and development programme is being conducted, a null report will be provided.

States Parties will make declarations in accordance with the attached forms, which require the following information:

- (1) The objective and summary of the research and development activities under way indicating whether work is conducted in the following areas: prophylaxis, studies on pathogenicity and virulence, diagnostic techniques, aerobiology, detection, treatment, toxicology, physical protection, decontamination and other related research;
- (2) Whether contractor or other non-defence facilities are utilized and the total funding provided to that portion of the programme;
- (3) The organizational structure of the programme and its reporting relationships; and
- (4) The following information concerning the defence and other governmental facilities in which the biological defence research and development programme is concentrated:
 - (a) location;
 - (b) the floor areas (sqM) of the facilities including that dedicated to each of BL2, BL3 and BL4 level laboratories;
 - (c) the total number of staff employed, including those contracted full time for more than six months;
 - (d) numbers of staff reported in (c) by the following categories: civilian, military, scientists, technicians, engineers, support and administrative staff;
 - (e) a list of the scientific disciplines of the scientific/engineering staff;
 - (f) the source and funding levels in the following three areas: research, development, and test and evaluation; and
 - (g) the policy regarding publication and a list of publicly-available papers and reports.

Form A, part 2 (i)

National biological defence research and development programmes Declaration

Are there any national programmes to conduct biological defence research and development within the territory of the State Party, under its jurisdiction or control anywhere? Activities of such programmes would include prophylaxis, studies on

Confidence-Building Measure "B"

Exchange of information on outbreaks of infectious diseases and similar occurrences caused by toxins ¹⁰

At the Third Review Conference it was agreed that States Parties continue to implement the following:

Exchange of information on outbreaks of infectious diseases and similar occurrences caused by toxins, and on all such events that seem to deviate from the normal pattern as regards type, development, place, or time of occurrence. The information provided on events that deviate from the norm will include, as soon as it is available, data on the type of disease, approximate area affected, and number of cases.

The Seventh Review Conference agreed the following:

No universal standards exist for what might constitute a deviation from the normal pattern.

Modalities

The Third Review Conference agreed on the following, later amended by the Seventh Review Conference:

1. Exchange of data on outbreaks that seem to deviate from the normal pattern is considered particularly important in the following cases:

- When the cause of the outbreak cannot be readily determined or the causative agent¹⁰ is difficult to diagnose,
- When the disease may be caused by organisms which meet the criteria for risk groups III or IV, according to the classification in the latest edition of the WHO Laboratory Biosafety Manual,
- When the causative agent is exotic to a given geographical region,
- When the disease follows an unusual pattern of development,
- When the disease occurs in the vicinity of research centres and laboratories subject to exchange of data under item A,
- When suspicions arise of the possible occurrence of a new disease.

2. In order to enhance confidence, an initial report of an outbreak of an infectious disease or a similar occurrence that seems to deviate from the normal pattern should be given promptly after cognizance of the outbreak and should be followed up by annual reports. To enable States Parties to follow a standardized procedure, the Conference has agreed that Form B should be used, to the extent information is known and/or applicable, for the exchange of annual information.

3. The declaration of electronic links to national websites or to websites of international, regional or other organizations which provide information on disease outbreaks (notably outbreaks of infectious diseases and similar occurrences caused by

¹⁰ It is understood that this may include organisms made pathogenic by molecular biology techniques, such as genetic engineering.

(b) In relation to the export or import of micro-organisms pathogenic to man, animals and plants or of toxins in accordance with the Convention;

(c) In relation to biosafety and biosecurity.

States parties shall complete the attached form (Form E) and shall be prepared to submit copies of the legislation or regulations, or written details of other measures on request to the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) within the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs or to an individual State party. On an annual basis States parties shall indicate, also on the attached form, whether or not there has been any amendment to their legislation, regulations or other measures.

Form E Nil

Declaration of legislation, regulations and other measures

Relating to	Legislation	Regulations	Other measures ¹²	Amended since last year
(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	No	No	No	No
(b) Exports of micro-organisms ¹³ and toxins	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
(c) Imports of micro-organisms ¹⁴ and toxins	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
(d) Biosafety ¹⁵ and biosecurity ¹⁵	No	No	No	No

¹² Including guidelines.

¹³ Micro-organisms pathogenic to man, animals and plants in accordance with the Convention.

¹⁴ In accordance with the latest version of the WHO Laboratory Biosafety Manual or equivalent national or international guidance.

¹⁵ In accordance with the latest version of the WHO Laboratory Biosecurity Guidance or equivalent national or international guidance.