



CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF
THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND
STOCKPILING OF BACTERIOLOGICAL
(BIOLOGICAL) AND TOXIN WEAPONS
AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

BWC
IMPLEMENTATION
SUPPORT UNIT

UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE FOR DISARMAMENT AFFAIRS



ONLINE TOOLS FOR THE BWC: ISU RESOURCES

Implementation Support Unit
Biological Weapons Convention




4 Key Online resources

- Website of BWC ISU
- Documents Archive
- National Implementation Database
- CBM Information



OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE BWC ISU



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Anti-Personnel Landmines Convention

Biological Weapons Convention

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The Biological Weapons Convention

The Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction, commonly known as the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) or Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC), opened for signature in 1972 and entered into force in 1975. It was the first multilateral disarmament treaty banning an entire category of weapons. It effectively prohibits the development, production, acquisition, transfer, retention, stockpiling and use of biological and toxin weapons and is a key element in the international community's efforts to address the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Text of the Biological Weapons Convention

[بالعربية](#) | [中文](#) | [English](#) | [Français](#) | [Русский](#) | [Español](#)

States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention undertake "never in any circumstances to develop, produce, stockpile or otherwise acquire or retain:

1. microbial or other biological agents, or toxins whatever their origin or method of production, of types and in quantities that have no justification for prophylactic, protective or other peaceful purposes;
2. weapons, equipment or means of delivery designed to use such agents or toxins for hostile purposes or in armed conflict."

Related Information

DOCUMENTATION

- [BWC Background Information](#)
- [Text of the BWC and Additional Understandings](#)
- [BWC Sixth Review Conference Backgrounder](#)

The Calendar

November 2007

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

[Other UN entities meetings](#)

www.unog.ch/bwc



BWC ISU WEBSITE HAS INFORMATION:

- On membership of BWC;
- About meetings (Official documents, presentations and statements, press releases etc.);
- For States Parties (including CBMs, National Implementation, mandated activities, etc.);
- For NGOs (including how to contribute);
- For the media (to help coverage);
- Activities in other international instruments, organisations, initiatives and fora;
- Background information on biological weapons, ISU, BWC, etc.



BWC ISU WEBSITE: USEFUL SHORTCUTS

Next / Most Recent Meeting of BWC

www.unog.ch/bwc/meeting

Registration Forms

www.unog.ch/bwc/register

Restricted Access Area

www.unog.ch/bwc/restricted/

National Implementation Information

www.unog.ch/bwc/NID

Confidence Building Measures

www.unog.ch/bwc/cbms



BWC ISU WEBSITE: RESTRICTED ACCESS AREA

- National Contact Point details
- 2007 CBM returns
- Progress towards universality

Disarmament

Restricted Area for States Parties

This part of the UNOG BWC website is reserved for the use of official representatives of BWC States Parties only. A username and password are required to log in.

Usernames and passwords were issued to all States Parties by letter on 27 June 2007. If you have not received this letter, or if you have lost your password, please [contact us](#). Please note that all requests for access will have to be authenticated by a permanent mission to the United Nations in Geneva or New York.

If you have already registered, please log in:

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BWC ISU DOCUMENT ARCHIVE

- Many resources online:
 - Official documents of all meetings since 2003
 - Official Statements
 - Presentations since 6RC
 - Statements by NGOs
 - Press releases
 - Details of side events
 - Advance copies of documents
- Additional resources available by contacting us



Meeting of Experts (20-24 August 2007)

The 2007 Meeting of Experts was held in the Palais des Nations from 20 to 24 August 2007. The meeting was open to all States Parties and signatories to the Biological Weapons Convention. States not party to the BWC and intergovernmental organizations participated in the meeting as observers. Non-governmental organizations attended public sessions of the meeting.

The Meeting of Experts was chaired by Ambassador Masood Khan of Pakistan. In accordance with the decision of the Sixth Review Conference, the Meeting of Experts discussed, and promoted common understanding and effective action on:

1. Ways and means to enhance national implementation, including enforcement of national legislation, strengthening of national institutions and coordination among national law enforcement institutions.
2. Regional and sub-regional cooperation on implementation of the Convention.

Launch of the Implementation Support Unit: The ISU was officially launched at a reception on the first day of the meeting, at 17:30 on Monday 20 August in the Escargot Bar in the Palais des Nations. For more information see the page on the [Launch of the ISU](#).

Outcome of the Meeting of Experts: The meeting concluded on 24 August by adopting its report by consensus (see BWC/MSP/2007/MX/3 in the Official Documents section below). During the same session, the Chairman made [Closing Remarks](#) and presented an [Interim Universalization Report](#).

The work of the Meeting of Experts on these topics will in turn be considered by the Meeting of States Parties, to be held in Geneva from 10 to 14 December 2007.

- ▶ [Official Documents for the Meeting of Experts](#)
- ▶ [Statements to the Meeting of Experts](#)
- ▶ [Presentations to the Meeting of Experts](#)
- ▶ [Statements by Non-Governmental Organizations](#)
- ▶ [Press Releases for the Meeting of Experts](#)
- ▶ [Side Events at the Meeting of Experts](#)



NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION DATABASE (NID)

NID currently includes 2022 measures from:

- 130 states and one regional organisation;
- 119 States Parties (76% of membership)
- 5 Signatory States
- 6 states not Party
- 100% of Eastern Group States
- 78% of Western Group States
- 68% of Non-Aligned States





CBM INFORMATION

- All CBM returns to date distributed to States Parties on CD in November 2007
- 2007 returns (56 out of 60) available in restricted access area of BWC ISU website
- Limited 2006 & 2007 returns available on public section of BWC ISU website
- Master copy held by BWC ISU
- Contact BWC ISU for additional information



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BWC Implementation Support Unit

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