

**SEVENTH REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE STATES  
PARTIES TO 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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To the Permanent Representatives of the States Parties  
and Signatories to the Convention on the Prohibition  
of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological  
(Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction

26 August 2011

**BRIEFING ON THE BWC IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT UNIT, 7 SEPTEMBER**

Excellency,

I am writing once more in my capacity as President-designate of the Seventh Review Conference of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), to invite you and your colleagues to attend an informal briefing on the BWC Implementation Support Unit (ISU) from **11:30 to 13:00 on Wednesday 7 September 2011, in Room XII** of the Palais des Nations.

The ISU was established by the Sixth Review Conference in 2006, in response to a perceived need for an institutional presence for the BWC and for more structured administrative support for the various meetings and activities commissioned by the Review Conference. The ISU was established and funded for the period 2007-2011, with the Seventh Review Conference to evaluate the performance of the Unit and review its mandate.

Many States Parties have worked closely with the ISU over the past five years, and the ISU has published a report each year detailing its activities. Nevertheless, I thought it would be helpful to States Parties in their preparations for evaluating and reviewing the ISU at the Review Conference to arrange a briefing at which the origins, mandate, structure, financing and operations of the Unit could be explained in detail. The briefing will also provide an opportunity for States Parties to ask questions and seek clarifications on various aspects which may be relevant in deciding the future of the Unit.

I do hope you will be able to join us, and I look forward to seeing you at the briefing.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Paul van den IJssel  
Ambassador of the Netherlands to the  
Conference on Disarmament  
President-designate of the Seventh Review  
Conference