

AD HOC GROUP 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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DRAFT PROCEDURAL REPORT OF THE AD HOC GROUP 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

1. The Ad Hoc Group of States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction held its sixth session at the Palais des Nations, Geneva from 3 - 21 March 1997, in accordance with the decision taken at its fifth session. The Group held 30 meetings during that period under the chairmanship of Ambassador Tibor Tóth of Hungary. Ambassador John Campbell of Australia and Ambassador Jorge Berguño of Chile continued to serve as Vice-Chairmen of the Group. Mr. Ogunsola Ogunbanwo, the Senior Coordinator of the Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Programme, Centre for Disarmament Affairs, Department of Political Affairs, served as Secretary of the Group.

2. At the sixth session of the Ad Hoc Group, the following States Parties to the Convention participated in the work of the Group: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece,

Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. The following signatory States to the Convention also participated in the work of the Group: Egypt and Morocco.

3. At the 1st meeting, the Ad Hoc Group decided to continue its consideration of Agenda Item 9 entitled "Strengthening of the Convention in Accordance with the Mandate as it is contained in the Final Report of the Special Conference of the States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention".

4. As in the previous session, the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Group was assisted by Friends of the Chair in his consultations and negotiations on particular issues as follows:

Definitions of Terms and Objective Criteria

- Dr. Ali A. Mohammadi (Islamic Republic of Iran)

Measures to Promote Compliance

- Sir Michael Weston (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

Measures Related to Article X

- Ambassador Jorge Berguño (Chile).

5. Out of the 30 meetings the Ad Hoc Group held in accordance with the programme of work, eight meetings were devoted to issues related to "Measures to Promote Compliance", five meetings were devoted to "Measures Related to Article X", six meetings were devoted to "Definitions of Terms and Objective Criteria", four joint meetings were devoted to "Measures to Promote Compliance" and "Definitions of Terms and Objective Criteria", six meetings (and a number of informal consultations) were devoted to "Technical Issues". The Friends of the Chair were assisted by Mr. Vladimir Bogomolov of the Centre for Disarmament Affairs and Ms. Anne-Eve Adam, Professional Assistant.

6. The results of discussions and the exchange of views on those issues were reflected by Friends of the Chair in papers which are annexed to the present report (Annex I).

7. The Ad Hoc Group addressed, in the course of Chairman's consultations and informal meetings, the issue of the intensification of the work of the Ad Hoc Group. The Ad Hoc Group discussed its method of work and had exchanges of views on how to move to a negotiating format in order to fulfil its mandate. The Ad Hoc Group in its informal consultations considered as well the possible structural elements of a legally binding instrument to the Biological Weapons Convention. The outcome of the discussion on that issue is reflected in a paper annexed to the present report (Annex II). The issue needs further discussion.

8. In addition to the documents presented at its previous sessions, the Ad Hoc Group had before it working papers covering all elements of the mandate under discussion and which are listed in Annex IV.

9. At its 28th meeting, on 20 March 1997, the Ad Hoc Group adopted the estimated costs of the sixth, seventh and eighth sessions of the Group as contained in document BWC/AD HOC GROUP/...

10. The Ad Hoc Group considered and adopted the Programme of Work for the seventh session to be held from 14 July - 1 August 1997 (Annex III).

11. At its 30th meeting of the session on 21 March, the Ad Hoc Group considered and adopted its procedural report.

ANNEX I

FRIENDS OF THE CHAIR

These papers are without prejudice to the positions of delegations on the issues under consideration in the Ad Hoc Group and do not imply agreement on the scope or content of the papers.

FRIEND OF THE CHAIR ON COMPLIANCE MEASURES

Text contained in:

BWC/AD HOC GROUP/WP.139/Rev.1

I. Declarations

BWC/AD HOC GROUP/WP.136/Rev.1

II. Investigations

BWC/AD HOC GROUP/WP.138/Rev.1

III. Other Visits and Procedures

BWC/AD HOC GROUP/WP.147

IV. Measures to Strengthen

the Implementation of Article III

**FRIEND OF THE CHAIR ON DEFINITIONS OF TERMS
AND OBJECTIVE CRITERIA**

Text contained in:

BWC/AD HOC GROUP/WP.141/Rev.2

Definitions

BWC/AD HOC GROUP/WP.143/Rev.1

Human Pathogens

BWC/AD HOC GROUP/WP.144/Rev.1

List of Equipment

BWC/AD HOC GROUP/WP.145

Threshold Quantities

FRIEND OF THE CHAIR ON ARTICLE X

Text contained in:

BWC/AD HOC GROUP/WP.150

Article X

ANNEX II

POSSIBLE STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS OF A LEGALLY BINDING INSTRUMENT
TO THE BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

ANNEX III

INDICATIVE PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE SEVENTH SESSION

(14 July - 1 August 1997)

First Week: 14-18 July 1997

	14 JULY	15 JULY	16 JULY	17 JULY	18 JULY
AM	AHG	AHG	CM	DEF	CM
PM	AHG	AHG/ ART.X	CM	DEF	CM/ ART.X *

Second Week: 21-25 July 1997

	21 JULY	22 JULY	23 JULY	24 JULY	25 JULY
AM	CM	DEF/CM	CM	ART.X	CM
PM	CM/DEF	DEF	CM	ART.X	LEGAL

Third Week: 28 July-1 August 1997

	28 JULY	29 JULY	30 JULY	31 JULY	1 AUGUST
AM	AHG	ART.X	INF CONS	INF CONS	AHG
PM	AHG/ ART.X	ART.X	LEGAL	AHG	AHG

- CM - Measures to Promote Compliance (FOC format)
 DEF - Definitions of Terms and Objective Criteria (FOC format)
 LEG - Legal Issues (Chairman's consultations)
 ART.X - Measures related to Article X (FOC format)
 AHG - Ad Hoc Group Meetings

INF CONS - Informal Consultations

- * Article X will be discussed instead of CM at this time if it has not already been discussed on 15 July.

ANNEX IV

LIST OF DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED AT THE SIXTH SESSION