

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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Working paper submitted by the
United States of America

PREAMBLE

The States Parties to this Protocol:

Being Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, which was opened for signature on 10 April 1972, and entered into force on 26 March 1975, hereinafter referred to as the Biological Weapons Convention,

Determined, for the sake of all mankind, to exclude completely the possibility of bacteriological (biological) agents and toxins being used as weapons,

Desiring to contribute to the realization and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing the important significance of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925, the Biological Weapons Convention, and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, which was opened for signature on 13 January 1993, and entered into force on 29 April 1997,

Mindful of their obligations under the Biological Weapons Convention, and desiring to further the objectives of the Biological Weapons Convention,

Recognizing the significant advances in the field of

biotechnology since the entry into force of the Biological Weapons Convention and that achievement in this field should be used exclusively for the benefit of mankind, and conscious of the apprehensions arising from relevant scientific and

technological developments as expressed by States Parties at the Review Conferences held in 1986, 1991 and 1996 of their use for purposes inconsistent with the objectives and the provisions of the Convention,

Determined to strengthen the effectiveness and improve the implementation of the Convention,

Reaffirming the commitment made by each State Party to the Biological Weapons Convention at the Third Review Conference to implement, on the basis of mutual cooperation, the Confidence Building Measures set forth in the Final Declaration of that Conference, including its annex, irrespective of whether it becomes a party to this Protocol,

Desiring to promote international cooperation and exchange of scientific and technical information in the field of biotechnology for purposes not prohibited under the Biological Weapons Convention to enhance the economic and technological development of all States Parties,

Convinced that the adoption of additional measures to provide increased transparency with respect to potential biological weapons related activities and facilities will enhance compliance with and help deter violations of the Biological Weapons Convention,

Have agreed as follows:
