

**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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ESTABLISHMENT OF A COOPERATION COMMITTEE

The Conference of States Parties shall establish at its first session a Cooperation Committee (hereinafter referred to as a Committee) to coordinate and promote effective and full implementation of Article X of the Convention and Article VII of the protocol, as its subsidiary organ, in accordance with Article IX, para.24 (j) of the protocol. The members of the Committee shall be elected for a term of two years. The Committee shall have the following powers and functions:

1. To review the functioning of the voluntary fund¹;
2. To promote cooperation among States Parties in the exchange of biological agents and toxins, equipment, materials and technology for peaceful purposes;
3. To promote exchange and dissemination of information among States Parties concerning current research programs in bioscience and biotechnology, conferences, research centres, and other scientific and technological developments for peaceful purposes;
4. To promote the distribution of information on collaborative research and development projects for peaceful purposes among States Parties.
5. The adoption of specific measures to promote international exchange in the field of biotechnology for peaceful purposes.
6. The Committee shall submit an annual report on its activities, containing its proposals and recommendations on the further strengthening of the implementation of Article X of the Convention to the Conference of States Parties.

¹ A voluntary fund would be established so as to finance the activities aimed at promotion of cooperation among States Parties