

**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 Islamic Republic of Iran**

**ENTRY INTO FORCE**

The issue of capabilities in the field of biology and biotechnology had been addressed during the VEREX and Ad Hoc Group negotiations. Much of the Ad Hoc Group's negotiations have been focused on the safeguards to verify compliance of those capable with obligations arising from the Protocol. In other words, it would be meaningless to have a verification mechanism to verify the compliance of those who are not even capable of non-compliance while capable states are still out of the whole system.

The efficient implementation of the future Protocol shall only be achieved if States, enjoying an advanced capability in the field of biology and biotechnology, ratify it and become full members of future organization.

The realization of the universality of the Convention and the Protocol depends on duly addressing the national and regional security concerns of all States and taking measures and devising mechanisms to encourage and make those, who have opted to remain out of the Convention and have no participation in the course of negotiations, to adhere to these international legally binding instruments.

The adherence of all active and capable states in the field of biotechnology to the BWC and its Protocol, will both relieve security concerns of mostly developing countries and address concerns of developed countries on the issue of commercial proprietary information (CPI).

Definition of scientific and technical criteria, based on valid internationally reported and published data, to enlist such capable states is crucial to formulating the entry into force of the Protocol.

Fortunately the information included in the CBMs, handed in by States Parties to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and those indicated in the International List of Availability of Vaccines, published by the WHO, provide detailed and reliable sources on the capabilities of all States and the extract of them has been reflected in the attached table.

Concerns have been expressed on the negative effects such formulation might have on speedy entry into force of the Protocol. It is worth to remind once again that having a universal, efficient and effective Protocol is much more important than leaving the possibility for potential proliferators to opt out and will better fulfil the aspirations of all those who seek

a safer world through international cooperation and interdependence. On the other hand to avoid such unnecessary prolongation, we can also go along with a list containing around 50 most advanced and capable States.

No need to add that the notion of the special role and responsibility of "States Parties with the most significant national biotechnological industry and relevant pharmaceutical industry sectors" has already been taken into account in paragraph 23 of Article 16 of the Composite Text and the proposal put forward fully goes along with it.

Based on these facts, the Islamic Republic of Iran wishes to once again demand that the Article on "Entry into Force" be redrafted as was reflected in paragraph 1 of Article XX of the Rolling Text, that is:

*"1. This Protocol shall enter into force 180 days after the deposit of instruments of ratification by 50 States having advanced biological capabilities and technologies listed in Annex ... but not earlier than two years after its opening for signature."*

**Biological Capabilities  
based on WHO, CBMs, OECD documents,  
Membership to the BWC, CWC,  
and proposed list for future membership of BTWC Protocol**

		WHO <sup>1</sup>	CBMs <sup>2</sup>	OECD <sup>3</sup>	BWC <sup>4</sup>	CWC <sup>5</sup>
1	Afghanistan				Y	
2	Algeria	3				Y
3	Argentina	4	Y		Y	Y
4	Australia	17	Y	Y	Y	Y
5	Austria	3	Y	Y	Y	Y
6	Bangladesh				Y	Y
7	Belarus		Y		Y	Y
8	Belgium	11	Y	Y	Y	Y
9	Brazil	11	Y		Y	Y
10	Bulgaria	12	Y		Y	Y
11	Bhutan				Y	
12	Canada	10	Y	Y	Y	Y
13	Chile	7	Y		Y	Y
14	China		Y		Y	Y
15	Colombia				Y	Y
16	Costa Rica	1			Y	Y
17	Croatia	16	Y		Y	Y
18	Cote d'Ivoire					Y
19	Cuba	11	Y		Y	Y
20	Czech Republic		Y	Y	Y	Y
21	DPR Korea				Y	
22	Denmark	5	Y	Y	Y	Y
23	Dominica	1			Y	
24	Ecuador				Y	Y
25	Egypt	12				
26	Estonia		Y		Y	Y
27	Finland	3	Y	Y	Y	Y
28	France	25	Y	Y	Y	Y
29	Germany	17	Y	Y	Y	Y
30	Greece	5		Y	Y	Y
31	Hungary	8	Y	Y	Y	Y
32	Iceland	Na		Y	Y	Y
33	India	17			Y	Y
34	Indonesia	14			Y	Y
35	Iran (I.R.)	5	Y		Y	Y
36	Iraq	Na			Y	
37	Ireland	Na	Y	Y	Y	Y

		WHO	CBMs	OECD	BWC	CWC
38	Israel	4		Y		
39	Italy	15	Y	Y	Y	Y
40	Japan	18	Y	Y	Y	Y
41	Jordan	6			Y	
42	Kazakhstan	1				Y
43	K. Saudi Arabia					
44	Kuwait				Y	Y
45	Libya				Y	
46	Mauritius				Y	Y
47	Mexico	10		Y	Y	Y
48	Morocco					Y
49	Myanmar	6				
50	Netherlands	6	Y	Y	Y	Y
51	New Zealand	Na	Y	Y	Y	Y
52	Nigeria				Y	Y
53	Norway	Na	Y	Y	Y	Y
54	Pakistan	10			Y	Y
55	Panama				Y	Y
56	Peru				Y	Y
57	Poland	9	Y	Y	Y	Y
58	Portugal	Na		Y	Y	Y
59	Qatar					
60	Rep. of Korea	14	Y	Y	Y	Y
61	Romania	10	Y		Y	Y
62	Russia	Na			Y	Y
63	Senegal	2			Y	Y
64	Slovakia	1	Y	Y	Y	Y
65	Slovenia	1	Y		Y	Y
66	South Africa	10	Y	Y	Y	Y
67	Spain	Na	Y	Y	Y	Y
68	Sri Lanka				Y	Y
69	Sudan	Na				Y
70	Sweden	6		Y	Y	Y
71	Switzerland	16	Y	Y	Y	Y
72	Syria	Na				
73	Thailand	7			Y	
74	Tunisia	6			Y	Y
75	Turkey	9	Y		Y	Y
76	Ukraine	Na	Y		Y	Y
77	United Kingdom	12	Y	Y	Y	Y
78	United States	18	Y	Y	Y	Y
79	Uruguay	4			Y	Y
80	Uzbekistan	1	Y		Y	Y
81	Venezuela	3			Y	Y
82	Vietnam				Y	Y
83	Yugoslavia	12			Y	

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**NOTES**

1. *World Health Organization - List of Availability of Vaccines 1995.* The numerical sign indicates the number of different vaccines produced in each country.
  2. *Confidence Building Measures;* The list of countries reported in the annual information exchange of States Parties on confidence-building measures at least once during 1997 - 1999.
  3. *Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development;* Information gathered by the secretariat of OECD regarding accurate assessment of the current state of biotechnology statistics in Member and Observer countries (June 2000).
  4. *Biological Weapons Convention -* The States Parties which have ratified as of November 2000.
  5. *Chemical Weapons Convention -* The States Parties which have ratified as of November 2000.
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