Eighth 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

26 August 2016

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Preparatory Committee
Geneva, 26-27 April and 8-12 August 2016
Item 10 of the agenda
Report of the Preparatory Committee to the Review Conference

Final report of the Preparatory Committee

I. Terms of reference and organization

A. Introduction

1. The Final Report of the 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 (BWC/CONF.VII/7), in paragraph 66 of Part II of the Final Declaration, contained the following decision:

"The Conference decides that the Eighth Review Conference shall be held in Geneva not later than 2016 and should review the operation of the Convention, taking into account, inter alia:

(a) new scientific and technological developments relevant to the Convention, taking into account the relevant decision of this Conference regarding the review of developments in the field of science and technology related to the Convention;

(b) the progress made by States Parties on the implementation of the Convention;

(c) progress of the implementation of decisions and recommendations agreed upon at the Seventh Review Conference, taking into account, as appropriate, decisions and recommendations reached at previous review conferences."

2. By resolution 70/74, adopted without a vote on 7 December 2015, the General Assembly, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services as may be required for the Eighth Review Conference and the preparations for it.

3. The Report of the 2015 Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention (BWC/MSP/2015/6), in paragraph 56 agreed that the Eighth Review Conference would take place from 7 to 25 November 2016, and that its Preparatory Committee would meet for up to two days on 26 and 27 April 2016 and would resume its work from 8 to 12 August

2016. The Meeting of the States Parties also agreed that the Preparatory Committee meeting in April would consider the agenda items on general exchange of views and the organizational aspects of the Review Conference. It was further agreed that the meeting in August would provide an opportunity for States Parties to consider comprehensively all provisions of the Convention.

B. Organization of the Preparatory Committee

4. In accordance with these decisions, the Preparatory Committee convened and held three meetings in Geneva on 26 and 27 April 2016. It then resumed its work from 8 to 12 August 2016 during which time it held nine meetings. On behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ms. Mary Soliman, Acting Director of the Geneva Branch, Office for Disarmament Affairs, opened the Preparatory Committee on 26 April 2016.

5. At its first meeting, the Preparatory Committee elected by acclamation Mr. György Molnár, Ambassador of Hungary as Chairman of the Preparatory Committee.

6. The Preparatory Committee also unanimously elected Mr. Michael Biontino, Ambassador of Germany and Mr. Boudjemâa Delmi, Ambassador of Algeria, as Vice-Chairs of the Preparatory Committee. The Preparatory Committee authorized the Bureau to handle technical and other matters in the period before the Review Conference was convened.

7. The Preparatory Committee decided to take its decisions by consensus.

8. The Preparatory Committee decided to use Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish as official languages.

9. Mr. Daniel Feakes, Chief of the Implementation Support Unit, served as Secretary of the Preparatory Committee. Mr. Hermann Lampalzer, Political Affairs Officer, Implementation Support Unit, served as Deputy Secretary. Ms. Norma Alicia Roulin-Hernandez and Ms. Nadiya Dzyubynska, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, Geneva Branch, and Ms. Alexandra Poulios and Ms. Camilla Tett, Implementation Support Unit interns, served in the Secretariat.

C. Participation in the Preparatory Committee

10. 114 States Parties to the Convention participated in the Preparatory Committee as follows: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Islamic Republic of Iran, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

11. The Preparatory Committee, taking note of their written notifications and in accordance with draft rule 44, paragraph 1, noted the participation of representatives of two States that had signed the Convention but had not yet ratified it, Haiti and Somalia, without the right to take part in the adoption of decisions.

12. The Preparatory Committee, taking note of written applications and in accordance with draft rule 44, paragraph 2, decided to invite the representatives of three States neither party nor signatory to the Convention, Djibouti, Guinea and Israel, to participate as observers.

13. The United Nations, including the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, attended the Preparatory Committee in accordance with draft rule 44, paragraph 3.

14. The Preparatory Committee, taking note of written requests and in accordance with draft rule 44, paragraph 4, decided to invite the European Union and the International Committee of the Red Cross to participate as observer agencies and to submit their views in writing.

15. In accordance with draft rule 44, paragraph 5, 22 non-governmental organizations and research institutes attended public meetings of the Preparatory Committee.

16. A list of all participants in the Preparatory Committee from 26 to 27 April 2016 is contained in document BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/INF.1 and a list of all participants in the Preparatory Committee from 8 to 12 August 2016 is contained in document BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/INF.2.

II. General exchange of views

17. At its meetings in April and August 2016, the Preparatory Committee held a general exchange of views in which the following States Parties participated: Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Australia, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of) on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and Others Group, Islamic Republic of Iran, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands on behalf of Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America. Two observer agencies, the European Union and the International Committee of the Red Cross, also made statements during the general exchange of views.

III. Organization of the Review Conference

18. The Preparatory Committee agreed to recommend to the Eighth Review Conference that Mr. György Molnár, Ambassador of Hungary, preside over the Conference. The Preparatory Committee also agreed to recommend to the Eighth Review Conference the following distribution of posts of Vice-presidents of the Conference, and Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the subsidiary bodies, among the various regional groups:

Vice-presidents:

- Ten from the Group of the Non-Aligned Movement and Other States
- Six from the Western Group

- Four from the Group of Eastern European States

Committee of the Whole:

- Chairman: Western Group
- Vice-Chairman: Group of Eastern European States
- Vice-Chairman: Group of the Non-Aligned Movement and Other States

Drafting Committee:

- Chairman: Group of the Non-Aligned Movement and Other States
- Vice-Chairman: Western Group
- Vice-Chairman: Group of Eastern European States

Credentials Committee:

- Chairman: Group of Eastern European States
- Vice-Chairman: Western Group

19. The Preparatory Committee considered the following questions relating to the organization of the Review Conference:

Date and duration

20. The Preparatory Committee endorsed the decision of the 2015 Meeting of the States Parties that the Eighth Review Conference should take place in Geneva from 7 to 25 November 2016.

Provisional agenda

21. The Preparatory Committee agreed to recommend to the Eighth Review Conference the draft provisional agenda as contained in document BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/L.1.

Draft Rules of Procedure

22. The Preparatory Committee agreed to recommend as the Draft Rules of Procedure of the Eighth Review Conference the Rules of Procedure of the Seventh Review Conference, as contained in document BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/L.2.

23. The Preparatory Committee agreed to recommend that, with respect to Rule 5, the Review Conference should elect a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen of the Drafting Committee.

24. The Preparatory Committee further agreed to recommend that the General Committee referred to in Rule 8 should be composed of the President of the Review Conference, the 20 Vice-Presidents, the Chairman and the two Vice-Chairmen of the Committee of the Whole, the Chairman and the two Vice-Chairmen of the Drafting Committee, the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Credentials Committee, to be elected in accordance with Rule 5, the three Regional Group Coordinators, and the Depositories.

25. The Preparatory Committee also agreed to recommend that with respect to meetings referred to in Rule 43 (2), the Committees may decide to hold certain meetings in public.

Background documentation

26. The Preparatory Committee decided to request the Implementation Support Unit to prepare eight background information documents as follows:

(a) A background information document on the history and operation of the confidence-building measures agreed at the Second Review Conference and revised at the Third and Seventh Review Conferences. The document should include data in summary tabular form on the participation of States Parties in the measures since the last Review Conference;

(b) A background information document on the financial implications of proposals for follow-on action after the Eighth Review Conference;

(c) A background information document showing the additional understandings and agreements reached by previous Review Conferences relating to each article of the Convention, extracted from the respective Final Declarations of these conferences;

(d) A background information document showing the common understandings reached by the Meetings of States Parties during the intersessional programme held from 2012 to 2015;

(e) A background information document on the status of universalization of the Convention;

(f) A background information document on compliance by States Parties with all their obligations under the Convention, to be compiled from information submitted by States Parties;

(g) A background information document on the implementation of Article VII, to be compiled from information submitted by States Parties; and

(h) A background information document on the implementation of Article X, to be compiled from information submitted by States Parties, including information submitted pursuant to paragraph 61 of the Final Declaration of the Seventh Review Conference.

27. The Preparatory Committee decided that the background documentation listed in sub-paragraphs 26 (a) to 26 (e) should be circulated not later than four weeks before the opening of its resumed session in August. The background documentation listed in sub-paragraphs 26 (f) to 26 (h) should be circulated not later than four weeks before the opening of the Eighth Review Conference.

Publicity

28. The Preparatory Committee decided to request the Secretariat to issue press releases for the meetings of the Review Conference.

Final document(s)

29. With respect to the question of final document(s) of the Review Conference, the Preparatory Committee decided to include an appropriate item in the provisional agenda of the Conference.

Appointment of a provisional Secretary-General

30. In accordance with draft Rule 10 providing for a Secretary-General of the Review Conference, the Preparatory Committee decided to invite the Secretary-General of the United Nations to nominate an official to act on behalf of the Preparatory Committee as provisional Secretary-General of the Review Conference, the nominee to be confirmed by the Review Conference in accordance with the rules of procedure.

Financial arrangements for the Preparatory Committee and the Review Conference

31. The Preparatory Committee noted that the estimated costs for the Preparatory Committee and the Eighth Review Conference, as contained in BWC/MSP/2015/5*, had been approved by the Meeting of the States Parties on 14 December 2015 (see BWC/MSP/2015/6, paragraph 57). The Preparatory Committee encouraged States Parties to pay their assessed contributions without delay.

IV. Comprehensive consideration of all provisions of the Convention

32. During its meeting from 8 to 12 August 2016, the Preparatory Committee considered comprehensively all provisions of the Convention. Under this agenda item, the following States Parties took the floor: Algeria, Armenia, Australia, Bahrain, Canada, China, Colombia, Cuba, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Japan, Malaysia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

V. Documentation

33. All documents of the Preparatory Committee are available on the BWC website at http://www.unog.ch/bwc and through the United Nations Official Document System (ODS), at http://documents.un.org.

VI. Adoption of the Report

34. At its meeting on 27 April 2016, the Preparatory Committee adopted its interim report by consensus, as contained in document BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/CRP.1, as orally amended, which was issued as document BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/2.

35. At its meeting on 12 August 2016, the Preparatory Committee adopted its final report by consensus, as contained in document BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/CRP.2, to be issued as document BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/9. The 2015 Meeting of the States Parties had decided that at the conclusion of the Preparatory Committee, the Chairman "would present under his own responsibility, for consideration of delegations ahead of the Review Conference, a summary report without prejudice to perspectives, recommendations, conclusions and proposals presented by delegations or that prejudges the final outcome of the Review Conference." This summary report is annexed to this report. Views were expressed on the summary report.

Annex I

Summary report

Submitted by the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee under his responsibility

1. In accordance with the mandate given by the Meeting of States Parties in December 2015 and without prejudice to the final outcome of the Review Conference, this summary report is intended to be a concise and factual record of the proceedings of the Preparatory Committee with a view to facilitating preparations for the Eighth Review Conference to be held in November 2016.

2. The Chairman would like to express his gratitude to delegations for their active participation in the Preparatory Committee, particularly for the large number of working papers that were submitted and which together with oral statements have served as the basis for this summary report. It was clear from the discussions that there are some areas which have seen a large number of proposals indicating a considerable interest to make progress. At the same time, some States Parties emphasized the need to review the Convention in its entirety with a view to a comprehensive and balanced process and outcome.

3. The following sections summarize and synthesize substantive discussions under agenda items 5 and 7 thematically as many issues cut across different Articles of the Convention and some States Parties frequently highlighted the linkages between Articles.

Science and technology

4. It was noted that science and technology is relevant to most Articles of the Convention and that the Review Conference was specifically mandated by Article XII to "take into account any new scientific and technological developments". In this regard, it was recognized that developments since the Seventh Review Conference have brought both potential risks and benefits to the Convention. Some States Parties highlighted that common understandings on this subject already exist. As regards the process of reviewing science and technology within the framework of the Convention, some States Parties expressed satisfaction with the existing mechanism which is based upon a standing agenda item considered at the annual meetings of experts and States Parties. Others underlined that the present review process is not effective enough to keep pace with relevant developments and to be responsive to the needs of States Parties. A variety of proposals were made to improve the review mechanism by more frequent, systematic and structured assessment of relevant science and technology developments. To this end, the establishment of a new subsidiary review body to support the work of a future intersessional programme, such as a Scientific Advisory Committee, Group of Governmental Experts or working groups, was suggested. These proposals offered various options on *inter alia* the composition, scope, costs, guidance and coordination, input and reporting in relation to this new body and provided a basis for further consideration to enable appropriate actions at the Review Conference.

Cooperation and assistance

5. The importance of strengthening international cooperation and assistance under Article X and further elaborating existing common understandings, building upon various decisions of the Seventh Review Conference, through concrete measures to be adopted at the Eighth Review Conference, was highlighted. Some States Parties proposed to develop a mechanism for the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of Article X and

emphasized that international cooperation and assistance for purposes consistent with the Convention should not be hindered. In this regard, a Standing Committee to follow-up and review the effective and full implementation of the transfer-related issues was proposed. It was highlighted that a range of activities are already conducted within the framework of Article X. Some States Parties noted the role of Article X in strengthening international and national capacities for tackling outbreaks of infectious diseases. The cross-cutting nature of cooperation and assistance was noted, as were the linkages between this Article and others in the Convention, in particular Article VII. Creation of an institutional mechanism for the practical implementation of Articles VI, VII and X was proposed, including the establishment of mobile biomedical units, to enhance the operational capacity of the Convention to investigate alleged use of biological weapons and to assist in the mitigation of epidemics. Further discussions on various aspects could build common ground for strengthening implementation of Article X.

National implementation

6. States Parties noted the value of elaborating further the existing common understandings related to national implementation. Proposals were made for the Eighth Review Conference to take further steps to promote and strengthen the implementation of Articles III and IV of the Convention. With regard to Article III, proposals were advanced on national legislation, national export controls, cooperative activities and on the establishment of a non-proliferation export control and international cooperation regime under the framework of the Convention. Some proposals involved new voluntary initiatives such as peer review mechanisms, voluntary visits and exchanges of information, and voluntary exercises to build confidence and transparency. Some initiatives were related to several provisions of the Convention pertaining to national implementation, international assistance and cooperation, confidence-building and capacity development. It was noted that comprehensive plans at the national level can aid implementation, as well as the identification of requirements for assistance. Proposals also addressed mechanisms for the oversight of scientific research, education about dual-use risks, and by the development of a template for a code of conduct for life scientists.

CBMs, consultation and cooperation

7. It was noted that in the absence of verification it is important to build confidence in compliance and enhance information sharing between States Parties. To this end, proposals were made to enhance the consultation process under Article V of the Convention by further elaborating possible ways to develop bilateral and multilateral consultation mechanisms in order to provide a framework to address implementation challenges that may affect States Parties. Further proposals were made to enhance the utility and use of CBMs by States Parties, as well as to increase participation through a step-by-step approach, while some States Parties noted that CBMs are neither declarations nor a substitute for verification of compliance with the Convention. Proposals related to CBMs included a CBM assistance network, operationalizing the electronic platform and technical refinements to the type and range of information requested in CBM forms.

Investigating alleged use

8. It was noted that in investigating a disease outbreak, taking into account the particular circumstances, the measures taken may differ on the technical and organisational levels depending on whether the outbreak was deliberate or natural. Some States Parties proposed that the operational capabilities of the United Nations Secretary-General’s mechanism to investigate the alleged use of chemical, biological and toxin weapons should be enhanced. The importance of commitments in advance to cooperate with an investigation was also highlighted. Other States Parties underlined the necessity of

clarifying some definitions and the scope of Article VI, along with clarification of the relationship between the Convention and the Secretary-General's Mechanism. Some views were expressed on establishing a verification/investigation mechanism within the Convention.

Provision of assistance

9. It was noted that while providing or supporting assistance to any State Party exposed to danger as a result of violation of the Convention is a key obligation under Article VII, there is a lack of detailed procedures and mechanisms for its implementation. The creation of a database open to all States Parties was proposed for matching specific offers and requests for assistance, while noting that the implementation of other Articles was also relevant in this context. Guidelines were also suggested to aid a State Party when submitting a request for assistance under Article VII to the United Nations Security Council. The establishment of a working group on cooperation and assistance was also proposed, as was cooperation with other relevant international organizations.

Geneva Protocol and universalization

10. The Preparatory Committee also discussed the relationship between the Convention and the 1925 Geneva Protocol. Some States Parties noted the disparity in membership between the two instruments. Proposals were submitted for action at the Eighth Review Conference to promote the universalization of the Protocol and to encourage States with reservations to the Protocol to withdraw them as soon as possible.

11. Adopting an Action Plan for the universalization of the Convention was also proposed. Its implementation should be regularly reviewed at dedicated sessions or working group meetings.

Follow-on action after the Review Conference

12. The Preparatory Committee also considered possible follow-on action after the Eighth Review Conference. These proposals addressed the future programme of work and the Implementation Support Unit.

(a) It was noted that the intersessional programme had been useful in discussing and promoting common understandings on those issues identified for inclusion by the Seventh Review Conference. Some States Parties showed satisfaction with the present arrangements consisting of Review Conferences, Meetings of States Parties and Meetings of Experts. Others expressed the view that the previous intersessional programme had not been as effective as had been hoped with regard to promoting "effective action". Emphasizing first and foremost the importance of finding common ground on substance, various options for a future intersessional programme were discussed. It was underlined that any such future programme would have to allow for balanced consideration of issues relating to all provisions of the Convention. Some States Parties suggested to set up working groups or groups of governmental experts to address specific issues as needed, as well as a steering committee to manage the process. While some States Parties emphasized the supremacy of the Review Conferences, others proposed to give the annual meetings of States Parties of a future intersessional programme carefully delegated decision-making authority. Any such changes could be formalized by the Eighth Review Conference in relation to Article XII of the Convention. Alternatively, some States Parties proposed to establish an open-ended working group to negotiate a legally-binding instrument strengthening the Convention, while others called for concluding an appropriate multilateral verification agreement. Several proposals involved more meetings per year than had been the case since 2011, and it was noted that this would have consequent financial implications.

(b) Some States Parties proposed a modest reinforcement of the Implementation Support Unit commensurate to any possible expanded mandate to be agreed by the Eighth Review Conference. Suggested additional tasks included, *inter alia*, science and technology, cooperation and assistance, universalization, capacity-building or the CBM system. It was noted that any such expansion would need to be properly discussed and planned. The issue of selection criteria for staff members of the ISU was also discussed. It was also noted that any expansion would have consequent financial implications for all States Parties which would need to be properly considered.

Annex II

List of documents

Symbol	*Title*
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/1	Provisional agenda of the Preparatory Committee. Submitted by the Chairman-designate
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/2	Interim report of the Preparatory Committee (26-27 April 2016)
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/3	History and operation of the confidence-building measures. Submitted by the Implementation Support Unit
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/4 and Corr.1	Additional understandings and agreements reached by previous Review Conferences relating to each article of the Convention. Submitted by the Implementation Support Unit
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/5	Common understandings reached by the Meetings of States Parties during the intersessional programme held from 2012 to 2015. Submitted by the Implementation Support Unit
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/6	Financial implications of proposals for follow-on action after the Eighth Review Conference. Submitted by the Implementation Support Unit
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/7	Report of the Implementation Support Unit on its activities to implement its mandate, 2012-2016. Submitted by the Implementation Support Unit
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/8	Status of universalization of the Convention. Submitted by the Implementation Support Unit
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/9	Final report of the Preparatory Committee
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/CRP.1 [English only]	Draft interim report of the Preparatory Committee
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/CRP.2 [English only]	Draft final report of the Preparatory Committee
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/INF.1 [English, French, Spanish only]	List of participants
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/INF.2 [English, French, Spanish only]	List of participants
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/L.1	Draft provisional agenda for the Eighth Review Conference. Submitted by the Chairman-designate
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/L.2	Draft rules of procedure of the Eighth Review Conference. Submitted by the Chairman-designate
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.1 [English only]	Operationalising mobile biomedical units to deliver protection against biological weapons, investigate their alleged use, and to suppress epidemics of various etiology. Submitted by the Russian

Symbol	*Title*
	Federation
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.1/Rev.1 [English only]	Strengthening the Biological Weapons Convention: Operationalising mobile biomedical units to deliver protection against biological weapons, investigate their alleged use, and to suppress epidemics of various etiology. Submitted by the Russian Federation
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.1/Rev.2 and Add.1 [English only]	Strengthening the Biological Weapons Convention: Operationalising mobile biomedical units to deliver protection against biological weapons, investigate their alleged use, and to suppress epidemics of various etiology. Submitted by the Russian Federation
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.2 [English only]	Proposal for the establishment of a Scientific Advisory Committee. Submitted by the Russian Federation
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.2/Rev.1 [English only]	Strengthening the Biological Weapons Convention: Proposal for the establishment of a Scientific Advisory Committee. Submitted by the Russian Federation
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.2/Rev.2 [English only]	Strengthening the Biological Weapons Convention: Proposal for the establishment of a Scientific Advisory Committee. Submitted by the Russian Federation
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.3 [English only]	Science and technology review for the BWC: Features of an effective process. Submitted by the United States of America
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.4 [English only]	A future science and technology review process. Submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.5 [English only]	Position of the European Union relating to the Eighth Review Conference of the BWC. Submitted by the European Union
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.6 [English only]	Strengthening confidence building and consultative mechanisms under the Biological Weapons Convention. Submitted by the United States of America
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.6/Rev.1 [English only]	Strengthening confidence building and consultative mechanisms under the Biological Weapons Convention. Submitted by the United States of America
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.7 [English only]	Elements on science and technology for the 2016 Review Conference: The importance of an active review process. Submitted by Finland, Norway and Sweden
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.8 [English only]	Strengthening the BWC science and technology review process. Submitted by Switzerland

Symbol	*Title*
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.9 [English only]	Strengthening the ability to take action: An essential agenda for the Eighth Review Conference. Submitted by the United States of America
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.10 [English only]	Possibilities for strengthening the international community's ability to investigate alleged use. Submitted by the United States of America
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.11 [French only]	90th anniversary of the signature of the Protocol prohibiting the use in war of asphyxiating, poisonous or other gases and of bacteriological methods of warfare. Submitted by France
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.12 [English only]	Specificities of the response to natural and intentional disease outbreaks. Submitted by France
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.13 [English only]	Peer review: An innovative way to strengthen the BWC. Submitted by Belgium, France, Luxemburg and Netherlands
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.14 [English only]	Articles VII and X: The importance of synergy. Submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.15 [English only]	Eighth BWC Review Conference: New intersessional work programme. Submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.16 [English only]	Strengthening the BWC science and technology review process: Considerations regarding the composition of an S&T review body. Submitted by Switzerland
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.17 [English only]	"Investigation" under the framework of BWC. Submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.18 [English only]	New scientific and technological developments relevant to the Convention: Some examples. Submitted by the United States of America
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.19 [Russian only]	The Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and the Geneva Protocol of 1925. Submitted by the Russian Federation
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.20 [English only]	Implementation of Article X of the BTWC by the European Union Institutions and the European Union Member States. Submitted by the European Union
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.21 [English only]	Functional structures of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention. Submitted by South Africa
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.22 [English only]	Implementation of Article VII. Submitted by South Africa
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.23 [English only]	Future planning for the Implementation Support Unit. Submitted by South Africa
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.24	The 2017-2020 intersessional process. Submitted by

Symbol	*Title*
[English only]	Canada
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.25 [English only]	Frameworks for effective oversight of scientific research facilities and awareness of dual-use risks. Submitted by Canada
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.26 [English only]	Strengthening the BTWC: Reflecting on the peer review concept. Submitted by Belgium, Luxembourg and Netherlands
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.27 [Spanish only]	Reviewing science and technology within the BWC: Elements for a politically independent process. Submitted by Spain
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.28 [Spanish only]	Voluntary visits for the BWC: A concept paper. Submitted by Chile and Spain
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.29 [English only]	Strengthening cooperation with international organisations. Submitted by Japan
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.30 [English only]	Implementation of national CBRN action plans: Facilitating cooperation to strengthen capacities against bio-risks. Submitted by Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Kenya, Montenegro, Philippines and Uganda
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.31 [English only]	Proposal for the development of the template of biological scientist code of conduct under the framework of Biological Weapons Convention. Submitted by China and Pakistan
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.32 [English only]	Establishing a non-proliferation export control and international cooperation regime under the framework of the Biological Weapons Convention. Submitted by China and Pakistan
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.33 [English only]	"Transfers" under the Framework of BTWC: Challenges and opportunities. Submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.34 [English only]	Providing reassurance on Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) implementation. Submitted by Australia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Ghana, Japan, Malaysia, Norway, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Switzerland and Thailand
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.35 [English only]	Strengthening confidence-building measures in regard to dual use materials. Submitted by Germany
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.36 [English only].	Step-by-step approach in CBM participation (2016). Submitted by Australia, Canada, Japan, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, and Switzerland
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.37 [English only]	New ideas for the intersessional programme. Submitted by Australia and Japan
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.38 [English only]	Proposal for establishment of a database for assistance in the framework of Article VII of the Biological Weapons Convention. Submitted by

Symbol	*Title*
	France and India
BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/WP.39 [English only]	Humanitarian response to the use of biological weapons: Lessons from the naturally occurring Ebola outbreak of 2014-2016 Submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)