
Meeting 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

9 December 2013

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2013 Meeting

Geneva, 9–13 December 2013

Item 7 of the provisional agenda

Standing agenda item: cooperation and assistance, with a particular focus on strengthening cooperation and assistance under Article X

Report on Germany's Implementation of Article X

Submitted by Germany

I. General remarks

1. Germany is fully committed to the implementation of the BWC in all its aspects, including Article X. The 7th Review Conference encouraged States Parties “to provide at least biannually appropriate information” on their implementation of Article X. In response to this, Germany provides the following information about governmental activities related to Article X issues. This report covers, *inter alia*, the Article X-relevant German ODA activities of 2010 and 2011, as these are the most recent years for which trusted statistical data is available. Information on Germany's activities regarding the implementation of Article X, covering the period of 2005-2009, is contained in the background information document on “Implementation of Article X of the Convention” compiled by the ISU for the 7th Review Conference in 2011 (BWC/CONF.VII/INF.8).

2. Germany is also engaged in Article X-relevant activities of the European Union. The European Union provided a summary of these activities at the 2012 Meeting of Experts (BWC/MSP/2012/MX/INF.7). This EU document also contains information on EU Members', including Germany's, individual projects. An updated report has been submitted by the EU to the 2013 Meeting of States Parties.

3. Article X of the BTWC requires States Parties to facilitate the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for the use of bacteriological (biological) agents and toxins for peaceful purposes, as well as to cooperate in contributing ... to the further development and application of scientific discoveries in the field of bacteriology (biology) for the prevention of disease or for other peaceful purposes.

4. Germany does not understand the requirements set out in Article X in a narrow sense, but sees cooperation and assistance under the wider perspective of Official Development Assistance (ODA) as defined by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation

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and Development (OECD). Germany shares the view of the OECD that assistance and cooperation does not only include activities financed abroad but also activities that are provided domestically for education and advanced training of foreign students.

5. This Report deliberately concentrates on government funded cooperation and assistance activities. The German government has no influence on private equity activities in the field of life sciences abroad by industry or other non-governmental stakeholders as well as on grants provided by non-governmental organizations from their own financial resources.

II. In detail

1. Education

6. Academic education provides the basis for future scientific and technological information and material exchange. Without a broad basis of well-educated personnel sustainable development in the fields of life sciences will not be possible. German universities, which are operated by the constituent federal states on tuition-free basis, provide open access for undergraduate and post-graduate students from all countries. That means that more than 11 percent of all students at German universities are coming from abroad. Currently, in the fields of health sciences more than 14,000 and in bio-sciences about 6,700 foreigners study at German universities. The provision of study places for foreign students at German universities is financed by Federal States Governments. Since 2007, partnerships between German universities and clinics and medical schools and clinics in developing countries have been supported as part of Germany's development cooperation policy. For illustration only, some numbers of students coming from developing countries in 2012/2013 are given here: China (27,364), Morocco (5,169), Cameroon (6,016), India (7,532), Iran (6,117), Vietnam (5,155), Tunisia (2,576), Indonesia (3,046), Brazil (3,310), and Pakistan (2,523).

2. Bilateral ODA 2010-2011

7. Data on German Official Development Assistance (ODA) grants and loans are collated together with respective data from other OECD Member States on the website of the OECD. The data are broken down into various categories of assistance and cooperation.

8. The following reflects information on the category General Health.

9. *General Health* covers sub-categories like health policy and administrative management, medical education/training, medical research, and medical services. As well as *Basic Health* which includes, inter alia, basic health care, basic health infrastructure, health education, infectious disease control, malaria control, tuberculosis control, and health personnel development.

10. In 2010 and 2011, Germany provided 411.8 Mio EUR of ODA health grants and loans to developing countries.

11. Donors are German Federal Ministries, predominantly the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) and German Federal States.

12. On the recipient side the public sector and non-governmental organizations of more than 75 states are involved.

13. Germany would like to note its approx. 7.8 percent financing of the WHO budget which sums up to 74,479,680 million USD for the period 2012 to 2013. In addition, voluntary contributions for special projects were provided to WHO; the figures for these special projects are included under bilateral ODA above.

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
General Health	€156,3m	€189,1m	€166,2m	€239,7m	€172,1m

3. Specific endeavours relevant to Article X

German Partnership Program for Excellence in Biological and Health Security

14. In 2013, under the aegis of the Federal Foreign Office, Germany started its Partnership Program for Excellence in Health Security. The program is Germany's contribution to the G8 Global Partnership Program against WMD Proliferation and is funded by the Federal Foreign Office. The German institutions involved in this partnership program are German International Co-Operation (GIZ), the Robert Koch-Institute (RKI), the Bernhard-Nocht-Institute for Tropical Medicine (BNI-TM), the Friedrich-Loeffler-Institute for animal health (FLI) and the Institute for Microbiology of the German Armed Forces (InstMikroBW). The program supports strengthening national capacities to prevent misuse of biological materials and knowledge for weapons purposes and aims to the improvement of detection, diagnosis, epidemiology, treatment, decontamination and bio-preparedness. In combination with biosafety and biosecurity training the program reaches out far beyond usual ODA (Official Development Activities) projects and is aimed inter alia at capacity-building specifically in the biological field. The projects kicked off in 2013 cover more than 14 states in the North African, the Atlantic Facade, Western Africa and Sub-Saharan region, in Central Asia, Europe and Latin America and are intended to be implemented for a period of three years.

Medical Biodefence Conference 2013

15. In October the Medical Biodefence Conference 2013 organized by the German Armed Forces Institute of Microbiology took place. The conference takes place every second year in Munich and is regularly announced in the German CBM declarations. The Biodefence Conference is open for participation by scientific and operational stakeholders from all over the world. It presents new development in science and technology in detection, diagnosis, treatment, decontamination regarding human and animal pathogens and toxins relevant for misuse as BW. In 2013 around 500 civil and military scientists and other stakeholders from 35 countries participated in the conference which is one of the world-leading meetings for biodefence activities.

EU Joint Action Quality Assurance Exercises and Networking on the Detection of Highly Infectious Pathogens (QUANDHIP)

16. Since 2011, the German Robert Koch-Institute has coordinated the European Joint Action QUANDHIP - Quality Assurance Exercises and Networking on the Detection of Highly Infectious Pathogens. Information on this project was provided to the 2013 Meeting of Experts and is available from the QUANDHIP website (<http://www.quandhip.info>). The project is linking 37 highly specialised laboratories from 22 European countries, but is not only limited to Europe. The aim of QUANDHIP is to establish a universal exchange of best diagnostic strategies able to support a common response strategy to outbreaks and intentional release of highly pathogenic infectious agents. This initiative has already

contributed to an improvement of the diagnostic quality of highly pathogenic bacteria and viruses and to setting up an operational network of laboratories able to respond in cross border biological events. To make the results of the work applicable and profitable at the international level, best practices and lessons learned will be published and also made accessible on the QUANDHIP Website.
