

---

# Working Group on the Strengthening of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

1 December 2023

English only

---

## Third Session

Geneva, 4-8 December 2023

Agenda item 6

**Identifying, examining and developing specific and effective measures, including possible legally-binding measures, and making recommendations to strengthen and institutionalize the Convention in all its aspects within the mandate of the Working Group**

## **Enhancing the Confidence-Building Measures (CBMs) Regime through the Integration of Global Health Security Metrics**

**Submitted by Uganda**

### **I. Introduction**

1. The Republic of Uganda, in its commitment to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), acknowledges the vital role of Confidence-Building Measures (CBMs) in promoting transparency, building trust, and ensuring compliance among states parties. Recognizing the challenges faced in the current CBM regime, particularly issues of non-reporting and incomplete data, Uganda proposes an enhanced approach integrating global health security metrics into the BWC's CBMs.

### **II. Proposal for Integration of Health Security Metrics**

#### **A. Enhanced Integration with Global Health Security Metrics**

- **Data Sharing:** States parties are encouraged to incorporate findings from assessments like the GHS Index, IHR JEE, and SPAR in their CBM submissions;
- **Alignment of Reporting:** Harmonize CBM reporting with the cycles and formats of global health security assessments to ease the reporting burden.

#### **B. Establishment of a BWC Health Security Dashboard**

- Develop a centralized platform displaying integrated data from health security assessments and CBM submissions, providing a comprehensive view of global biosecurity status.



**C. Regular Review and Update of CBMs**

- Periodically revise CBM forms and processes, integrating modern insights from AI, biosecurity, and public health.

**D. Incentivizing Reporting and Compliance**

- Implement a recognition program for consistent CBM reporting, linking it with international support in health security.

**E. Technical Assistance and Capacity Building**

- Provide resources and training to assist states in participating in global health security metrics assessments and fulfilling CBM obligations.

**F. Enhanced Verification through Collaboration**

- Collaborate with WHO and other organizations for cross-verification of CBM submissions with global health security data.

**G. Strengthening Transparency and Peer Review**

- Introduce a voluntary peer-review mechanism for constructive analysis and sharing of best practices in CBM submissions.

**H. Regular Reporting and Accountability**

- Require states parties to regularly report on their integration of these metrics into national health security and BWC activities.

**III. Conclusion**

2. The integration of global health security metrics into the BWC's CBMs offers an innovative approach to addressing current challenges in the regime. This proposal aims to enhance transparency, improve compliance, and strengthen global biosecurity preparedness. Uganda is committed to this initiative and looks forward to collaborating with other states parties and international organizations in this endeavor.

---