

**THE EIGHTH REVIEW CONFERENCE FOR THE  
CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE  
DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND STOCKPILING OF  
BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) AND TOXIN  
WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

Geneva, 7-25 November 2016

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**Update on preparations for the Eighth BWC Review Conference  
Number 6**

**Liberia and Nepal ratify the BWC** - The United States of America has informed the ISU that both Liberia and Nepal deposited their instruments of ratification to the BWC in Washington, DC on 4 November 2016. As of this date, Liberia and Nepal are therefore the 176<sup>th</sup> and 177<sup>th</sup> State Party to the Convention.

**Documents recently issued**

- Official Documents:
  - [BWC/CONF.VIII/1/Add.1](#) - Annotated Provisional Agenda of the Eighth Review Conference
  - [BWC/CONF.VIII/WP.16](#) - "Enhancing the Effectiveness of the Consultative Provisions of Article V of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention" - Submitted by the European Union
  - [BWC/CONF.VIII/WP.17](#) - "Review of Developments in Science and Technology: Key Points from the 2012-2015 BTWC Intersessional Programme". Submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
  - [BWC/CONF.VIII/PC/7/Amend.1](#) - 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/Amend.1](#) - Status of Universalization of the Convention - Background information document submitted by the Implementation Support Unit
  - [BWC/CONF.VIII/INF.3/Add.1](#) - Implementation of Article VII of the Convention Addendum - Background Information by the Implementation Support Unit
  - [BWC/CONF.VIII/INF.4/Add.2](#) - Implementation of Article X of the Convention Addendum - Background Information by the Implementation Support Unit
- Advance versions of documents:
  - "[BWC Implementation Review Initiative: Report by the United States of America on the visit to Washington, DC](#)", Submitted by The United States of America
  - "[Technological Developments for the Decoding on New, Old and Ancient Infectious Disease Outbreaks and Incidents - Lessons for the BTWC](#)", Submitted by Sweden
  - "[International Activities of Global Partnership Member Countries related to Article X of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention](#)", Submitted by Canada, Denmark, European Union, Finland, Germany, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and the United States of America
  - "[BWC Implementation Review Initiative](#)", Submitted by Canada, Chile, Ghana, Mexico, and the United States of America

- ["BTWC Article X Compliance Mechanism for the 8th Review Conference"](#)  
Submitted by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on behalf of the Group of the Non-Aligned Movement and Other States
- ["Proposals for the Final Document of the Eighth Review Conference of the Biological and Toxin Weapon Convention \(BTWC\): Article by Article"](#)  
Submitted by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on behalf of the Group of the Non-Aligned Movement and Other States
- ["Proposals for the Final Document of the Eighth Review Conference of the Biological and Toxin Weapon Convention \(BTWC\): Intersessional Programme, Implementation Support Unit and Science and Technology"](#) Submitted by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on behalf of the Group of the Non-Aligned Movement and Other States
- ["Proposals for the Final Document of the Eighth Review Conference of the Biological and Toxin Weapon Convention \(BTWC\): Final Declaration"](#) Submitted by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on behalf of the Group of the Non-Aligned Movement and Other States
- ["BWC Implementation Review Initiative – Canada's report of the visit to Ottawa"](#)  
Submitted by Canada

### **Other Information**

- A poster session will be held on Thursday 10 November at 18:00. Participants interested in displaying a poster should contact the BWC ISU
- Provisional [Summary Sheet](#) of Sides Events during the Eighth Review Conference (last updated 04/11/2016)
- Articles and reports of relevance to the Review Conference are available in the "[Think Zone](#)"
- Regional groups are reminded of the need to nominate individuals to the various office-holder posts of the Review Conference
- The first week of the Review Conference is also International Week of Science and Peace, and Thursday 10 November is [World Science Day for Peace and Development](#).
- On Thursday 10 November in the framework of ["Futur en tous genres"](#) ("Future for all genders"), UN staff members and diplomats permanently accredited to UNOG can bring their children to the Palais des Nations. Children over 12 require a badge, younger children simply need to be notified to Security.
- For users of social media, information will be posted to the BWC pages on Facebook and Twitter, and you are encouraged to use #1972BWC and #BWCRC8.

### **Important Dates and Deadlines**

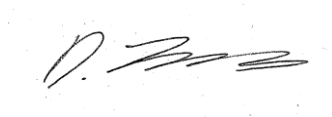
- 28 October: deadline for submission of Notes Verbale and formal Credentials for the Review Conference;

### **General debate**

- The speakers' list for the Review Conference is open, so please contact the ISU if you would like to inscribe your Delegation in the list, please also provide the name and title of the person to deliver the statement;

- For those readers who may be preparing their national statements for the general debate, please bear in mind that the President-Designate has requested that national statements be kept to a limited duration, ideally five minutes, and not exceeding a maximum of seven minutes and that group statements be limited to ten/fifteen minutes;
- In order to ensure optimum interpretation, speakers are requested to speak at a reasonable pace. Further guidance is provided on the UNOG [website](#).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Feakes', is positioned above the typed name.

Daniel Feakes  
Chief, BWC Implementation Support Unit  
United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (Geneva Branch)