

**BWC MEETING OF STATES PARTIES  
10–14 December 2012**

**Monday 10 December, Afternoon session**

**Transcription**

**CHILE**

I congratulate you on the way in which you are conducting our meeting and I would also like to thank you for the quality of the summary of the Meeting of Experts. I would also like to say thank you for the work which is done by the Implementation Support Unit. I was able to see directly how efficient they are when they do their work.

The dual use of scientific knowledge is without a doubt a challenge that we must all face and for us to be able to do this we have to strengthen our update, ethical and professional standards of biological sciences as well as the mechanisms of control and early warning.

We are very grateful for the working document presented by Canada on this topic. This document submitted gives us a lot of information about the importance of education and ethics in the development of professionals in the field of biological sciences. We should take note of the recommendations contained in it and, wherever possible, to include in the centres of study and curricula, that they should adapt to these new challenges.

The very rapid pace of progress and science and the challenge which we have to face in our work requires a comprehensive, multidimensional and interconnected approach. This means we have to move towards universalization.

We require operational, functional and complementary approaches to challenges in the area of public health and security. Responses must be coordinated within States but also with the global and regional health bodies, academia and civil society in a way that contributes to operational global regimes.

Confidence is crucial in this instrument. However, as the Convention has not equipped itself with an effective verification regime, the confidence-building measures will continue to carry out a key role in favour of transparency.

It is extremely important, therefore, to continue our efforts in favour of perfecting it. We acknowledge the numerous initiatives aimed at strengthening the confidence-building measures and we are very interested in the French initiative on this topic. The peer review system is a multilateral practice which has been shown to be efficient and transparent. We must – and this is our understanding – analyse this proposal in greater detail.

Cooperation continues to be a central axis of this Convention. The processes of cooperation have been improved reaching understanding in the area of what the objectives for security and development of the Convention are, and the need to have them mutually reinforce one another. A balance between Articles X and VII must be maintained.

It is incumbent on us to find innovative forms to implement Article X of the Convention and ensure that we:

- strengthen the national capacity for vigilance, prevention and response in any utilization of this type of weapon in accordance with Article VII;
- facilitate the broadest possible exchange of equipment, material and scientific and technological information for peaceful purposes in accordance with Article X; and
- strengthen national capacity in the areas of education and awareness-raising.

We are very happy that a platform for assistance has been set up as was agreed at the Seventh Review Conference.

We are aware that there are differences in approach in terms of the scope of cooperation and what the prospects are. However, we note that progress has been made in the exchange of knowledge, in scientific areas and assistance for fostering national capacity, mainly in the Meetings of Experts. We think that this is positive and we believe that it should be further strengthened. This is the appropriate path, because strengthening efficiency in this instrument, and effectiveness, is essential to contribute to its universalization.

Cooperation, without a doubt, should not only be moving in one direction. We believe in south-south cooperation and triangular cooperation. On this score, Chile has some experience of national implementation and developing an authority which implements this Convention: this is experience which we could share.

National implementation is fundamentally important to strengthen the regime of this Convention.

Chile has a body which is responsible for the implementation of this instrument and this body has specialized expert staff interacting with the scientific world and we have achieved a structuring of the standing network between national bodies with competence in the biological area and the area of prevention, control implementation of norms and so on. My delegation is made up of experts in the areas of defence and health which shows that the complementarity of these two areas is key to structuring the Convention at national level.

We will be making a presentation on this implementation this week as to how we have been implementing the Convention at the national level and how we have developed a plan for dealing with potential emergencies in public health, from which follows the plan to face potential emergencies in public health caused by an intentional use of biological material.

During the last Meeting of Experts we looked at the need for closer cooperation between the WHO and the International Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the UN, FAO and OPCW. We believe that it is necessary to have mechanisms to get all the synergy out of these bodies which have similar mandates and this would benefit all States and be of direct benefit to the security of personnel at the global level.

Finally I would like to share with you that Chile is preparing a seminar at the regional level during 2013 on the challenges of the implementation of the Convention at the regional level. We should express our thanks to the Implementation Support Unit. We have been supported at every single stage of this by the ISU so that this national initiative – and we have seen this once again at the beginning – that we see very devoted work and professional efficiency on the part of the ISU.