

Article X: Assistance and Protection against Chemical Weapons

1. For the purposes of this Article, protection against chemical weapons, which contributes to the undiminished security of States Parties, covers inter alia, the following areas: detection equipment and alarm systems, protective equipment, decontamination equipment and decontaminants, medical antidotes and treatments and advice on any of these protective measures. [Assistance means the co-ordination and delivery of such protection to States Parties.]

2. Nothing in this Convention shall be interpreted as impeding the right of any State Party to the Convention to conduct research into, develop, produce, acquire, transfer or use means of protection against chemical weapons, for purposes not prohibited by the Convention.

3. [All States Parties to the Convention undertake to facilitate, and shall have the right to participate in, the fullest possible] [Nothing in this Convention shall be interpreted as impeding the right of States Parties to] exchange [of] equipment, material and scientific and technological information concerning means of protection against chemical weapons.

4. The Technical Secretariat shall establish and maintain, for the use of any requesting State Party, a data bank containing freely available information concerning various means of protection against chemical weapons as well as such information as may be provided by States Parties.

The Technical Secretariat shall also, within the resources available to it, and at the request of a State Party, provide experts for advice and assist it in identifying how its programmes for the development and improvement of a protective capacity against chemical weapons could be implemented.

5. [Each State Party has the right to request and shall receive assistance and protection against use or threat of use of chemical weapons, (hereinafter referred to as "assistance") from the Organization and States Parties] [Each State Party has the right to request from other States Parties protection against chemical weapons, and from the Organization, assistance in this regard] if it considers that

(i) chemical weapons have been used against it;

(ii) it faces actions or activities by any State which are prohibited for States Parties to this Convention. 1/

1/ It is understood that if a State Party considers that it faces actions or activities by another State Party which might be otherwise incompatible with the purposes and objectives of the Convention, it has the right to request clarification in accordance with paragraphs 3-7 of Article IX.