

This case study uses "collateral analysis" to identify from the public literature the types of biological research that have been conducted in Iran and published. This can accomplish the following:

- identify specific areas of published research activity;
- identify institutions and scientists associated with such published research activity;
- identify the absence of published research activity in specific areas of endeavour.

Such collateral analysis can give indications of a country's technological base. It bears repeating that this report does not suggest that the work of the institutes and authors cited is in any way associated with biological warfare programs. This paper simply collates publicly-available documentation as published by the institutes and authors concerned, and it draws no conclusions on the basis of that information.

Clearly, collateral analysis cannot be expected to reveal activities that anyone might choose deliberately to conceal, nor is that the subject of this study. It can, however, assist in the formulation of questions about the capabilities and activities of various facilities, in conjunction with other sources of information, with a view to enhancing transparency and confidence.

Such is the purpose of this document: to promote discussion with regard to transparency, confidence-building measures and the utility of collateral analysis. One also wonders whether this and other case studies like it might be useful in the context of the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts examining potential verification measures in relation to the BTWC.

This is a report of a research project. The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the Canadian Government.