

2. Biological Weapons

Convention with the strict adherence of all States Parties to its purposes and provisions. It is, I believe, an achievable goal.²

Canada was active in all spheres of the review conference and in particular Canada sought to work towards strengthening confidence-building measures and developing verification measures. Canada, together with Finland successfully advocated the addition of a confidence-building measure which requires states to make annual declarations of vaccine-producing facilities. This represents the first time the Convention's regime has involved the pharmaceutical industry. Canada was also a strong advocate of a move toward verification measures and proposed that states begin work on an illustrative list of verification measures. It accepted the compromise of the Ad Hoc group established to examine the feasibility of verification measures and will be a member of the group.

In preparation for the review conference, Canada issued two papers on biological weapons which it distributed to delegates of the conference. The Department of National Defence issued a paper entitled *Transparency Mechanisms for the Canadian Chemical and Biological Defence Program*,³ outlining the civilian review procedures established by Canada. The Department of External Affairs published *Novel Toxins and Bioregulators*,⁴ a paper examining the issues relating to verification of the Convention. In addition, the Department of External Affairs produced a leaflet entitled *Biological and Toxin Weapons: Be Vigilant*, designed to warn scientists, industrialists and tradespersons about the risks of diversion of sensitive cultures and instruments.

In discussing the review conference at a meeting of the United Nations First Committee, Ambassador Mason expressed Canada's satisfaction with the progress made at the conference. Responding to the difficulties for some states with the costs to be incurred in order to implement the Convention, Ambassador Mason expressed Canada's hope that deliberations in the First Committee could work to resolve the issue.⁵

² "Canada Calls for BTWC Compliance Regime," *Disarmament Bulletin*, No. 17, Fall 1991: 20-21.

³ Department of National Defence. *Transparency Mechanisms for the Canadian Chemical and Biological Defence Program*. Ottawa, 1991.

⁴ Department of External Affairs. *Novel Toxins and Bioregulators: The Emerging Scientific and Technological Issues Relating to Verification and the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention*. Ottawa, 1991.

⁵ "Canadian Statement to First Committee," *Disarmament Bulletin*, No. 18, Winter 1991/92: 9-10.