

7. Non-Governmental Involvement

The official 'List of Participant' documents for meetings that have been conducted during this second intersessional process (2007-2010) include under the heading 'non governmental organizations', learned scientific bodies, think-tanks, academics and other researchers. Also included under this heading are representatives from industry and biosafety organizations.

Historically, BW issues have not attracted civil society involvement on a scale comparable to their involvement in nuclear disarmament but those that are active form a highly specialised, albeit small, part of global civil society. Industry involvement has also been sporadic. However, the varied roles that can be played by civil society and industry in strengthening the regime against biological weapons and the norm embodied within the BWC is being increasingly recognised by States Parties. For example, the final document at the 2008 Meeting of States Parties records that States Parties saw the value of:

Building networks between scientific communities and academic institutions and increasing interaction with professional associations and working groups at the national regional and international level, including through dedicated workshops, seminars, meetings and other events, as well as using modern information technologies and appropriate risk communication strategies and tools...

And they:

...welcomed the important contributions made to their work by the scientific community and academia, including national and international academies of science and professional associations, as well as industry-led initiatives to address recent developments in science and technology, and encouraged greater cooperation between scientific bodies in various States Parties.¹

Comments about the roles that can be played by civil society and industry were also made in the final documents of the 2009 Meeting of States Parties when enhancing international cooperation, assistance and exchange in biological sciences and technology for peaceful purposes, and capacity building in the fields of disease surveillance, detection, diagnosis, and containment of infectious diseases was discussed and in the final document for the 2010 Meeting of States Parties where provision and assistance in the case of alleged use was discussed. In 2009 it was noted that "States Parties should according to their individual circumstances and requirements...work with the private sector, academia and non-governmental experts, including through the use of public-private partnerships, direct investment and incentive mechanisms."² In 2010, states parties recognised

...the importance of effective coordination of a response, and of fostering mutual respect and understanding, States Parties should promote regular communication between, and joint exercises involving, all relevant stakeholders at local, national, regional and international levels, including:

- (a) government agencies;
- (b) international organizations;
- (c) academic institutions;
- (d) all operators handling high-risk materials and working in high-risk facilities;

¹ *Report of the Meeting of States Parties*, 12 December 2008, BWC/MSP/2008/5.

² *Report of the Meeting of States Parties*, 16 December 2009, BWC/MSP/2009/5 p13

- (e) security personnel, such as the police, defence forces, fire department, and coast guard;
- (f) the private sector, including the pharmaceutical, food, and transportation industries.³

Continuing precedents set in the last intersessional process, NGOs were able to address States Parties at each of the Meetings of Experts and the Meetings of States Parties during an informal session, and during the 2008 Meeting of Experts thirteen scientific, professional, academic and industry bodies participated in informal exchanges in the open sessions as Guests of the Meeting of Experts. These were the American Biological Safety Association, the Asia-Pacific Biosafety Association, AstraZeneca Plc, the European Biosafety Association, GlaxoSmithKline, the InterAcademy Panel on International Issues, the International Biosafety Working Group, the International Network of Engineers and Scientists for Global Responsibility, the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, the J. Craig Venter Institute, the National Academy of Sciences (United States), and the International Council for the Life Sciences.

A number of innovative methodologies that promoted engagement between States Parties and non governmental experts were introduced during this second intersessional period including: a 'discussion panel', first introduced at the 2007 Meeting of Experts, whereby both government and non governmental experts present on a particular sub-topic; a poster session open to all attendees first introduced at the Meeting of Experts in 2008; and speed networking introduced at the 2009 Meeting of Experts, again open to all attendees of the conference.

Nearly all of the contributions made by civil society and industry to strengthening the regime and the norm embodied within the BWC occur outside of BWC-related meetings. Some contributions are recorded through publications and websites, others are quietly performed but such is the depth and variety of this work that any listing of projects and project material would not reflect the nature of the contributions that are made by these organisations.

To illustrate the variety of expertise the table below lists the 48 'non governmental organizations' that have been recorded, in official meeting documents, as registering for at least one of the meetings during this intersessional process (2007-2010). They are organized alphabetically and where possible pertinent web addresses have been provided.

NGOs listed in official BWC meeting documents, 2007-2010	
Acronym Institute for Disarmament Diplomacy	http://www.acronym.org.uk/
Al-Hakim Foundation	http://www.alhakimfd.org/
American Association for the Advancement of Science	http://www.aaas.org/
Asia Pacific Centre for Military Law	http://www.apcml.org/
Bavarian Nordic	http://www.bavarian-nordic.com/
Biological Weapons Convention Verification Inspection Partnerships	
BioWeapons Prevention Project	http://www.bwpp.org/

³ Report of the Meeting of States Parties, 17th December 2010, BWC/MSP/2010/6 pp10-11

Center for Biosecurity University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC)	http://www.upmc-biosecurity.org/
Center of Halabja against the Anfalization and Genocide of the Kurds (Chak)	http://www.chak.info/
Dycor Technologies, Canada*	http://www.dycor.com/
Emergent BioSolutions*	http://www.emergentbiosolutions.com/
Ganymed Pharmaceuticals Ag*	http://www.ganymed-pharmaceuticals.de/
Geneva Forum	http://www.genevaforum.ch/
Glaxosmithkline Pharmaceuticals*	http://www.gsk.com/
Global Green USA	http://www.globalgreen.org/
Institute for National Security Studies (INSS)	http://www.inss.org.il/
International Council for the Life Sciences	http://www.icscharter.org/
International Network of Engineers and Scientists for Global Responsibility (INES)	http://www.inesglobal.com/
International Peace Bureau (Italia)	http://ipb.org/i/
International Security & Biopolicy Institute (ISBI)	http://www.biopolicy.org/
International Weapons Control Center at De Paul University	http://www.law.depaul.edu/centers_institutes/iwcc/
James Martin Center for Non-Proliferation Studies	http://cns.miis.edu/
Landau Network-Centro Volta (LNCV)	http://www.centrovolta.it/landau/
London School of Economics and Political Science	http://www2.lse.ac.uk/ http://www2.lse.ac.uk/BIOS/research/biosecurity/biosecurity.aspx
Morocco Biosafety Association	http://www.mobsa.org/
National Biosafety Association of Brazil	http://www.anbio.org.br/
Newcastle University	http://www.ncl.ac.uk/gps/staff/profile/michael.barr
Nuclear Threat Initiative	http://www.nti.org/
Partnership for Global Security	http://www.partnershipforglobalsecurity.org
Pax Christi International	http://www.paxchristi.net/international/
Pax Christi International (Ireland)	http://paxchristi.ie/
Pole Bernheim Paix & Citoyenneté + Gipri	http://www.iee-ulb.eu/sitepages/view/51?lang=eng http://www.gipri.ch/
Research Group for Biological Arms Control, University of Hamburg	http://www.biological-arms-control.org/

Science Alliance	http://www.science-alliance.nl/
Scientists Working Group on Biological and Chemical Weapons	http://armscontrolcenter.org/policy/biochem/scientists_working_group/
Sloning Biotechnology GmbH*	http://www.sloning.de/
Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)	http://www.sipri.org/
Swiss Federal Office of Public Health (SFOPH)	http://www.bag.admin.ch/
Texas Tech University School of Law	http://www.law.ttu.edu/
The Canadian Institute of Strategic Studies	http://www.ciss.ca/
The European Biosafety Association (EBSA)	http://www.ebsaweb.eu/
The Norman Paterson School of International Affairs	http://www1.carleton.ca/npsia/
The Sunshine Project	http://www.sunshine-project.org/ ⁴
Tri-Valley Cares	http://www.trivalleycares.org/
U.S. National Academy of Sciences	http://sites.nationalacademies.org/International/international_052378
University Of Bath	http://www.bath.ac.uk/polis/staff/alexander-kelle/
University Of Bradford	http://www.brad.ac.uk/acad/bdrc/ http://www.brad.ac.uk/bioethics/
University Of California at Berkeley	http://berkeley.edu/
University Of Exeter	http://people.exeter.ac.uk/br201/Research/Bioweapons/index.htm
University Of Sussex	http://hsp.sussex.ac.uk
University Of Virginia	
Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC)	http://www.vertic.org/
Wilton Park	http://www.wiltonpark.org.uk/
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom	http://www.wilpfinternational.org/
World Federation of United Nations Associations	http://www.wfuna.org/

⁴ The Sunshine Project suspended operations on 1 February 2008. Its website acts as an archive of activities and publications from 2000-2008