
Geneva, 20 November-8 December 2006

Item 10 of the provisional agenda

**Review of the operation of the Convention
as provided for in its article XII**

CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES

**Submitted by Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica,
Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay**

1. Confidence-building measures are necessary for better and more effective implementation of the provisions of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (the Biological Weapons Convention).
2. Confidence-building measures prevent and reduce areas of ambiguity through greater transparency, and can be useful in carrying out a structured analysis of a compliance regime.
3. In order to achieve the desired improvement of such measures, States parties are invited to consider the following recommendations within the framework of their annual meetings, assisted by the Support Unit:
 - (i) Provision of assistance and cooperation to States parties, when requested, in devising, presenting and implementing confidence-building measures;
 - (ii) Review of existing measures and their format;
 - (iii) Development of guidelines for enhancement of their implementation;
 - (iv) Examination of the desirability of creating new forms with a more readable format, independently of the language in which the forms are presented, and of making them available in electronic format;
 - (v) Devising of new measures, where necessary;
 - (vi) Study of the possibility of establishing a panel of governmental experts to assist in the duties mentioned above, among other tasks.
