

**SIXTH REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE STATES
PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE
PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT,
PRODUCTION AND STOCKPILING OF
BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) AND TOXIN
WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

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Item 10 of the provisional agenda

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

**ACTIONS, MEASURES OR OTHER STEPS THAT JAPAN HAS TAKEN
ON THE BASIS OF THE DISCUSSIONS AT THE MEETINGS OF
EXPERTS AND OF THE OUTCOME OF THE MEETINGS OF
STATES PARTIES TO THE BWC IN 2003, 2004 AND 2005**

Submitted by Japan

**The adoption of necessary national measures to implement the prohibitions set forth in the
Convention, including the enactment of penal legislation**

1. The revision of the Law on Implementing the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction and the Other Conventions (BWC Implementing Law) is under deliberation in the Diet, in order to extend the punishment for production, retention, transfer or acquisition of biological or toxin weapons (Article X of the Law) to nationals abroad.

**National mechanisms to establish and maintain the security and oversight of pathogenic
microorganisms and toxins**

2. The revision of the Infectious Disease Control Law is now under deliberation in the Diet, with a view to assuring proper management of pathogens to prevent outbreaks or epidemics caused by bioterrorism and accidents; to reviewing the classification of infectious diseases; and to reviewing the legal framework of measures against tuberculosis. This revision includes: (i) compliance with facilities, standards, and standards for use, stock, transfer and sterilization in accordance with pathogens; (ii) guidance for handling and transferring pathogens; (iii) report collection, inspection, and improvement as ordered by the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare.

3. An inquiry into the possession of biological agents and toxins is conducted every January by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, in order to ensure use of such agents for peaceful purposes and to provide guidance on their security control. This inquiry targets about 600 domestic companies, focusing on the possession of 83 types of biological agents and toxins potentially usable for bio-terrorism, such as Anthrax and Botulinum toxins.

Enhancing international capabilities for responding to, investigating and mitigating the effects of cases of alleged uses of biological or toxin weapons or suspicious outbreaks of disease

4. Seminars on responses to biological weapons have been held continuously by the Japan Defense Agency on various issues related to biological weapons, such as surveillance of infectious diseases (July 11), and the revision of the Infectious Disease Control Law and Avian flu (March 30) in 2005.

5. Export control training was organized on 22 October 2004 at the Tokyo Port, as part of efforts for the non-proliferation of the related materials of weapons of mass destruction (WMD). During this training, national export authorities carried out detection and security measures against suspicious cargos from containers.
