

**Fourth Meeting
Geneva, 10-14 December 2007**

**Meeting of Experts
Geneva, 20-24 August 2007**
Items 6 of the provisional agenda
**Consideration of regional and
sub-regional cooperation on
implementation of the Convention**

**REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL COOPERATION
ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION**

Submitted by Japan

Regional seminars in Asia: Seminars on counter-CBRN terrorism

1. Since 2003, Japan has held a series of regional seminars on counter-CBRN terrorism with a view to contributing to the improvement of Asian countries' capacities to combat terrorism. Due to cross-bordering nature of bio-terrorism, it is critical to ensure effectively prohibition and prevention against biological weapons among neighbouring countries. In light of such background, participants reaffirmed the importance of promoting universality and enhancing national implementation of the BWC.

2. Previous seminars are as follows:

- (i) "Seminar on consequence and crisis management of chemical and biological terrorism for countries in Asia Pacific Region." (September 2003) - The seminar was held in Tokyo. There were 25 participants from Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam, Singapore, China and Papua New Guinea. Japan introduced its counter-terrorism measures (including visits to related sites), focusing on biological and chemical incidents. International cooperation in counter-biological and chemical terrorism was also discussed.
- (ii) "Seminar on prevention and crisis management of chemical terrorism" (July 2004) - This seminar was jointly organized with the government of Malaysia (the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism: SEARCCCT) in Kuala Lumpur. This seminar had 51 participants working in the area of counter-chemical terrorism and the control of chemical agents, from Brunei, Cambodia,

Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam, Singapore, China and South Korea, as well as experts from Japan, the USA, Canada, the OPCW and the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research of Singapore's Institute of Defense and Strategic Studies. The participants discussed international cooperation in counter-chemical terrorism.

- (iii) "Seminar on prevention and crisis management of biological terrorism" (July 2005) - This seminar was jointly organized with the government of Malaysia (SEARCCT) in Kuala Lumpur. This seminar had 53 participants working in the area of counter-biological terrorism from ASEAN countries, China and South Korea. Experts from Japan, the USA, Canada, France and WHO lectured on the threat assessment of biological terrorism, safe control of biological agents, the surveillance and appropriate measures after outbreaks of bioterrorism and the participants discussed international cooperation for counter-biological terrorism.
 - (iv) "Seminar on prevention and crisis management of biological terrorism" (July 2006) - This seminar was held in Tokyo, with participants from ASEAN countries, China and South Korea who work counter-biological terrorism. Experts from Japan, Australia, Canada, South Korea and WHO lectured on the threat assessment of biological terrorism, safe control of biological agents and the establishment of the mechanism among the relevant institutions to ensure appropriate response after outbreaks of biological terrorism. A tabletop exercise on the case of suspicious biological terrorism was also conducted.
 - (v) "Seminar on prevention and crisis management of chemical and biological terrorism" (July 2007) This seminar was held in Kuala Lumpur under the auspices of the Governments of Japan and Malaysia aimed at ASEAN countries, China and South Korea. This seminar had 50 participants, including resource persons from Japan, the USA, Australia and WHO. The participants, in relation to counter-biological and chemical terrorism measures, shared the recognition of assessment of the terrorist threat and the experiences and expertise of each country. A tabletop exercise on the case of suspicious biological terrorism was also conducted.
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