

(1)to continue, in consultation with relevant intergovernmental agencies and other international organizations, to strengthen global surveillance of infectious diseases, water quality, and food safety, and related activities such as revision of the International Health Regulations and development of WHO's food safety strategy, by coordinating information gathering on potential health risks and disease outbreaks, data verification, analysis and dissemination, by providing support to laboratory networks, and by making a strong contribution to any international humanitarian response, as required;

(2)to provide tools and support for Member States, particularly developing countries, in strengthening their national health systems, notably with regard to emergency preparedness and response plans, including disease surveillance and toxicology, risk communication, and psychosocial consequences of emergencies;

(3)to continue to issue international guidance and technical information on recommended public health measures to deal with the deliberate use of biological and chemical agents to cause harm, and to make this information available on WHO's web site;

(4)to examine the possible development of new tools, within the mandate of WHO, including modelling of possible scenarios of natural occurrence, accidental release or deliberate use of biological, chemical agents and radio-nuclear material that affect health, and collective mechanisms concerning the global public health response to contain or mitigate the effects of natural occurrence, accidental release or deliberate use of biological, chemical agents and radio-nuclear material that affect health.

Ninth plenary meeting, 18 May 2002

A55/VR/9

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APPENDIX-D

AFFILIATION OF W.H.O. MEMBER STATES TO THE INTERNATIONAL

TREATIES ON BIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL WEAPONS

BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION of UNODA

Key Provisions of the Biological Weapons Convention, 1972

Article

Provision

Article I

Never under any circumstances to acquire or retain biological weapons.

Article II

To destroy or divert to peaceful purposes biological weapons and associated resources prior to joining.

Article III

Not to transfer, or in any way assist, encourage or induce anyone else to acquire or retain biological weapons.

Article IV

To take any national measures necessary to implement the provisions of the BWC domestically.

Article V