

Taking biological security education forward and building up an international biological security education network

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Abstract

The recent 9th Review Conference in 2022 concluded that a radical change in how science and technology is dealt with under the Convention must be a major issue for decision during the current intersessional period up to the 10th Review Conference.

As part of this rethink much more attention will be paid to the implementation of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention, and as part of that process there will be a focus on correcting the present less known of most life scientists (and life science-associated scientists) of the dangers of biological security in general and of dual use in particular.

The Tianjin Guidelines for National and Institutional Codes of Conduct under the Convention and the World Health Organisation's new Global Guidance Framework for the Responsible Use of the Life Sciences make it plain that a major effort designed to educate life scientists about biological security will be needed in coming years.

In this presentation, we would like to talk about our initiative of setting up an international biological security education network (IBSEN). We will start with our recent survey on globe biological security education projects in the last two decade, then our ongoing biological security education book, and move on to our new project of setting up an international biological security education network, which is in parallel to the International Nuclear Security Education Network (INSEN) run in conjunction with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). We hope to work in conjunction with colleagues around the world and State Parties to the BTWC and to lay the basis for the network eventually to be run from the BTWC itself.

Key words:

BTWC, Biological Security Education, IBSEN, IAEA, Code of Conduct,