



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

EXECUTIVE BOARD
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Global health security - epidemic alert and response

Report by the Secretariat

CORRIGENDUM

Page 4, paragraph 17, should read as follows:

17. In addition, other partnerships are being explored within the framework of the global outbreak alert and response network established in April 2000. A project is being formulated by a consortium of intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations, in order to bring together WHO and other technical partners with complementary capabilities, in an open-ended group, so that epidemiology and laboratory structures in developing countries can be strengthened. A possible mechanism to support such an initiative is provided by Article VII of the draft Protocol of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention. This draft legally-binding Protocol, which is expected to be completed in 2001, is being negotiated by an Ad Hoc Group (established in 1994) of the States Parties to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention of 1972. Article VII (Scientific and Technological Exchange for Peaceful Purposes and Technical Cooperation) of the draft Protocol aims to enhance international cooperation for the peaceful use of biological materials, equipment, information and technology (e.g. biotechnology). Among the measures envisaged, assistance would be given to States Parties in improving their national capabilities for the surveillance of and response to infectious diseases, including related research and development.

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