

Working paper submitted by Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica,
Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay

(unofficial translation)

Confidence Building Measures

Confidence building measures (CBMs) are necessary for better and more effective implementation of the provisions of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (BWC).

The CBMs prevent and reduce shadows of ambiguity through greater transparency and can be instrumental for putting into practice the prescribed scrutiny of a compliance regime.

In order to achieve the desired improvement of CBMs, State Parties are invited to carefully examine the following recommendations within the framework of the BWC annual meetings, assisted by the support unit:

- To provide assistance and cooperation to State Parties, when requested, in elaborating, presenting and implementing CBMs;
- To review the current CBMs and their format;
- To develop guidelines for the enhancement of the implementation of CBMs;
- To assess the possibility of creating new forms designed to facilitate reading, regardless of the language in which the forms are presented, as well as making them available in electronic format;
- If necessary, to design new CBMs; and
- To explore the possibility of establishing a panel of governmental experts to assist, *inter alia*, in the duties mentioned above.