
BACKGROUND DOCUMENT ON COMPLIANCE BY STATES PARTIES WITH ALL THEIR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND STOCKPILING OF BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) AND TOXIN WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

Addendum

AUSTRIA

Austria considers herself as being in compliance with her obligations under the 1972 BWC.

Austria signed the BWC already in 1972. Its ratification was submitted in 1973.

Austria does not possess any Biological Weapons; she is also a Party to the Geneva Protocol of 1925.

Austria already renounced all weapons of mass destruction in the State Treaty of 1955 (Art. 13).

Austria has actively participated in both Review Conferences of the BWC.

At present Austria's national legislation stipulates that explicit authorization is required for any export, import or transit of war material. Respective criminal law provisions designed to prevent actions by nationals that constitute possible breaches of the BWC will enter into force in the near future. As regards Art. IV of the BWC the Austrian Government is undertaking efforts to implement even more stringent legislative measures recognizing the importance of this article.

The Austrian Government is finalizing legislation aimed at controlling exports of sensitive technologies and materials relating to the BWC.

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