



## **BTWC Meeting of States Parties 2015**

*Side event on:*

### ***Steps Toward Effective Biological Security Education***

**Chair: Ambassador Matthew Rowland (UK)**

#### **Key Messages**

##### **Simon Whitby, *Preventing Biological Threats: What You Can Do***

- (1) Open-source training material, which is available in different languages, helps to promote engagement among those in the life sciences with issues of biological security.
- (2) A flexible combination of scientist-led “bottom-up” and government-supported initiatives, according to individual States Parties’ circumstances, can significantly contribute to advancing biological security education.
- (3) Fostering a culture of biological security and responsibility in the life sciences is essential for strengthening the BTWC and ensuring its in-depth implementation.

##### **Tatyana Novossiolova, *Biological Security Education Handbook: The Power of Team-Based Learning***

- (1) Attention needs to be given both to the content of training materials and the strategies used to deliver those in different educational contexts.
- (2) The Team-Based Learning format is an efficient and effective strategy for raising awareness of biological security risks and issues among those in the life sciences.
- (3) The Team Based Learning is an easy-to-replicate train-the-trainer strategy, which can be used in different educational contexts, for different purposes, and with different audiences to foster educational networks and achieve sustainability.

##### **Maureen Ellis, *International Federation of Biosafety Associations Certification Programme***

- (1) Having internationally certified professionals in biosafety, biosecurity, and biorisk management is essential to strengthening safe and secure practice in the life sciences.
- (2) The existence of internationally recognised competency standards in biosecurity can serve as an important incentive for furthering biosecurity skills and capacity among those in the life sciences.
- (3) Promoting professional certification internationally contributes to fostering a culture of biological security and responsibility in the life sciences and, thus to strengthening the BTWC.