

To all States Parties of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC):

*Canada, the United States of America, and the United Kingdom
cordially invite you to a Side Event on*

Combating the Global Biological Threat: International Cooperation under the Global Partnership

WEDNESDAY, 9 December 2009

09.00 – 10.00

Room XXIII, Palais des Nations

Coffee and croissants will be served outside the room from 08.50

Many States Parties provide capacity-building assistance to other States Parties in the fields of disease surveillance, detection, diagnosis and containment of infectious disease, as well as bio risk management. Such assistance contributes to the fulfilment of national obligations under Article X, and is highly relevant to this year's intersessional work programme. Assistance takes many forms and is provided by Government and non-Government agencies, under a variety of funding mechanisms. One important mechanism for such assistance is the Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction, launched at the G8 summit in Kananaskis in 2002, of which more than 20 BTWC States Parties are members.

Three members of the Global Partnership will make short presentations on their programmes and their relevance to this year's topics, and will invite views on possible future assistance.

Programme

Welcome and Introduction by Ambassador Marius Grinius, 2009 BTWC Chairman

Followed by presentations by:

- John Griffin, Global Partnership Program, Canada
- Stephen Lynagh, Global Partnership Program Officer, US
- Jo Adamson, Deputy Permanent Representative, UK Disarmament Mission, Geneva

Question & Answers