Science, Technology and the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention

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S&T REVIEWS: IMPORTANCE?

- Essential
- Important
- Somewhat Important
- Not Important
S&T REVIEWS: OTHER ISSUES

Purpose & topics
Participants & composition
Funding & resources
### S&T Reviews: Limited-Participation

**Expertise**
- 25 experts nominated by SPs serving two three-year terms. Two Meetings on of five days, a second of three days.

**Support**
- Additional Full-Time ISU position.

**Leadership:**
- Chair and two vice chairs.

**Topics**
- Review Conference determines key topics with additional topics considered by an intermediary body.

**Outputs**
- Technical report and where appropriate, recommendations.

**Meeting:**
- Biannually in Geneva (or once a year with virtual interaction).
## S&T REVIEWS: OPEN-ENDED PARTICIPATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expertise</td>
<td>State Party send one or two experts that join or leave depending on issue. Meetings of five days, with subsequent virtual meetings.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Additional Full-Time ISU position.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td>Chair and two vice chairs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topics</td>
<td>Review Conference provides an overarching mandate with States Parties could submit specific topics for consideration by the MSP chair.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outputs</td>
<td>Technical report and where appropriate, recommendations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting</td>
<td>Once a year in Geneva with additional virtual interaction.</td>
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S&T REVIEWS: HYBRID MODEL?

Expertise:
- Open-ended meeting for all nominated, qualified experts (5 days) and closed meeting of 20 qualified experts nominated by States Parties (3 days)

Support:
- Additional Full-Time ISU position.

Leadership:
- Chair and two vice chairs.

Topics:
- Review Conference provides an overarching mandate with States Parties could submit specific topics for consideration.

Outputs:
- Factual meeting summary and followed by a summary, implications and, where appropriate, recommendations.

Meeting:
- Twice a year (at least once in Geneva).
S&T REVIEWS: REFLECTIONS

- Advances in S&T present risk and opportunities for several articles of the BWC.
- A more systematic review of science and technology can help mitigate risks and maximize opportunities.
- However, not all states necessarily support a more systematic review of S&T.
- Discussion on an S&T review mechanism cannot be detached from the wider politics of the BWC.
- Underlines the importance of advanced preparation for the Ninth Review Conference.
THANKS

• The report on Exploring S&T Review Mechanisms under the BWC and other BWC reports are available on the UNIDIR website.
• Happy to discuss any or all points further including in bilateral discussions.
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