Background information document on the implementation of Finland of Article VII

A. General Remarks

Finland has not been requested to provide assistance under Article VII, nor has it invoked Article VII to receive assistance. Finland is prepared to comply with Article VII should it be invoked.

B. In Detail

Effective national network of cooperation and infrastructure


The Centre for Bio Threat Preparedness started operations in Helsinki in May 2005. The Centre combines Finnish scientific and laboratory know-how on biological defense, as well as on bio threat assessment and preparedness. The Centre has actively sought domestic and international collaboration, especially in the field of rapid detection and identification methodologies of selected biological agents. The Centre is composed of three units: the Biological defense Sector of the Finnish defense Forces, the Department of Infectious Diseases at the Finnish Institute of Health and Welfare (THL), and the Finnish Food Authority. Scientific work is carried out at biological safety laboratories with level up to BSL 3. In addition, the Centre functions within the Biomedicum Helsinki Institute, where work is carried out at the Research and Development Department of the Centre for Military Medicine (SOTLK).

The Deployable CBRN laboratory of the Finnish Defense Forces, is equipped with a deployable, diagnostic biological and chemical laboratory. The development of the laboratory was led by Army Staff in cooperation with the Defense Forces Technical Research Centre (now The Finnish Defence Research Agency) and the Centre for Bio Threat Preparedness, together with the Centre for Military Medicine. The Centre for Bio Threat Preparedness has established the biosafety, biosecurity and microbial identification requirements for the laboratory. Deployable CBRN laboratory was in the NRF Response Forces Pool (RFP) in 2012 and in the NRF Follow On Forces Group (FFG) in 2017. Parts of the Deployable Laboratory were deployed in the Mission to Remove Syrian Chemical weapons in 2013 – 2014.