Implementation of Article VII of the Convention

Republic of Serbia

In order to respond to the obligation under Article VII, the Republic of Serbia is advancing its national preparedness to contribute to regional, as well as to the international response capacities.

The Centre for Nuclear-Biological-Chemical Defence (hereinafter the CBRN Centre) in Krusevac, in accordance with its purpose and mission, implements training tasks and courses in the field of CBRN, including the field of biological weapons and toxicology. Since its formation in 2007, the CBRN Centre has performed training and courses for the needs of the Ministry of Defence and Serbian Armed Forces, civilian institutions from the Republic of Serbia, foreign countries’ armed forces and organizations from abroad. The CBRN Centre has a toxicology ward, biological weapons department and toxicology department for the realization of theoretical classes for course participants, devices and kits for biological disinfection and decontamination of people and means, but is not in possession of devices for biological detection and identification.

The Republic of Serbia promoted the CBRN Centre as a national capacity that can be made available for regional and wider international needs. On this basis, three directions of further development of the Centre have been defined: national needs, needs of the countries of the region through the South East Europe Clearinghouse and as a Partnership Training and Education Center – PTEC.

Since 2016, the CBRN Centre has been carrying out the international course "Biological Weapons and Toxicology - Basic Course", which is designed as a course to which guest lecturers from the country and abroad are invited. The aim of the course is for participants to acquire basic knowledge of biological weapons and toxicology and to practice the use of means and military equipment for the protection against biological weapons, for biological decontamination and to get acquainted with techniques and methods for biological detection and identification. The course was successfully completed by 113 participants from 18 countries, as follows:

- In 2016, in the period from 24 to 28 October 2016: 21 participants from 9 countries (Kingdom of Spain - 2, Arab Republic of Egypt - 2, Republic of Macedonia - 4, Montenegro - 2, United States of America - 2, Republic of Belarus - 1, Kingdom of Norway - 2, United Arab Emirates - 4 and Italian Republic - 2). Instructors from Montenegro and the Republic of Macedonia were course participants and guest lecturers on the course.
- In 2017, in the period from 16 to 20 October 2017: 22 participants from 10 countries (Kingdom of Spain - 5, Hellenic Republic - 1, Hungary - 2, Italian Republic - 2, Republic of Cyprus - 2, Montenegro - 2, Czech Republic - 2, Arab Republic of Egypt - 2, People's Republic of China - 2 and United Arab Emirates - 2). Instructors from Montenegro were course participants and guest lecturers on the course.
- In 2018, in the period from 19 to 20 March 2018: 21 participants from 12 countries (Kingdom of Spain - 1, People's Democratic Republic of Algeria - 2, Hungary - 2, United States of America - 2, Republic of Cyprus - 2, Bosnia and Herzegovina - 1, Montenegro - 2, Czech Republic - 2, Arab Republic of Egypt - 2, People's Republic of China - 3, United Arab Emirates - 1 and Vinca Institute of Nuclear Sciences - 1) Instructors from Montenegro, the People's Liberation Army of China and the Vinca
In Institute of Nuclear Sciences were course participants and guest lecturers on the course.

- In 2019, in the period from 18 to 22 March 2019: six participants from five countries (Kingdom of Spain - 1, Hellenic Republic - 1, Russian Federation - 1, People's Republic of China - 2 and United Arab Emirates - 1). Instructors from the People's Liberation Army of China were course participants and guest lecturers on the course.

- In 2020, in the period from 9 to 13 March 2020: 16 participants from eight countries (Kingdom of Spain - 2, Hellenic Republic - 2, Italian Republic - 2, Republic of Cyprus - 2, Bosnia and Herzegovina - 2, United States of America - 4, Republic of Belarus - 1 and Republic of North Macedonia - 1). Persons from the Military Medical Academy, the Vinca Institute of Nuclear Sciences and one person from Bosnia and Herzegovina (also a course participant) were guest lecturers on the course.

- In 2021, in the period from 15 to 19 November 2021: ten participants from five countries (Italian Republic - 2, Republic of Cyprus - 1, Bosnia and Herzegovina - 2, Hungary - 3, Republic of Serbia - 2). Persons from the Military Medical Academy (2 lecturers), the Vinca Institute of Nuclear Sciences (1 lecturer), as well as one person from the COVID Hospital in Krusevac were guest lecturers on the course.

- In 2022, in the period from 14 March to 18 March 2022: 17 participants from 9 countries (Italian Republic - 2, People's Democratic Republic of Algeria - 2, United States of America - 2, Arab Republic of Egypt - 2, Republic of Slovenia - 1, Bosnia and Herzegovina - 2, Montenegro - 2, Republic of North Macedonia - 2, Republic of Serbia – 2). Persons from the Military Medical Academy (2 lecturers), the Vinca Institute of Nuclear Sciences (1 lecturer), as well as one person from the COVID Hospital in Krusevac were guest lecturers on the course.