

# 1. The Treaties



# 1. The Treaties

The existing BW governance regime is made up of many elements but two multilateral treaties – the 1925 Geneva Protocol and the 1972 Biological Weapons Convention – stand apart from the rest, acting as the bedrock and the normative heart around which all other elements are built. This section includes the text of both treaties and lists the States Parties, Signatory States and non-Signatory States to both instruments.

## *The 1925 Geneva Protocol*

**Full name:** Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare

**Date of adoption:** 17 June 1925

**Date of entry into force:** 8 February 1928

**Depositary:** Government of France

**States Parties:** 133 (as at 18 October 2006)

**Signatory States:** 1 (as at 18 October 2006)

The 1925 Geneva Protocol prohibits “the use in war of asphyxiating, poisonous, or other gases and of all analogous liquids, materials or devices”, and it also bans “bacteriological methods of warfare.” It was adopted by the Conference for the Supervision of the International Trade in Arms and Ammunition and in Implements of War convened in Geneva by the League of Nations and builds on earlier international agreements on the laws of war, such as those from the 1899 and 1907 peace conferences in The Hague. The Geneva Protocol prohibitions are now widely considered to have entered customary international law, making them binding on all states, whether or not they have formally joined the treaty.

On joining the Geneva Protocol, over 40 states entered reservations. These reservations upheld the right of the reserving states to use the prohibited weapons against non-parties or in response to the use of these weapons by a violating party, or against the allies of the violating party even if they themselves have not committed a violation. These reservations, which were not strictly necessary as the Protocol was expressly drafted as a contract between its parties, reinforced the fact that the Protocol was essentially a no-first-use agreement. As a result of diplomatic pressure and the entry into force of the treaties banning production and possession of these weapons (the 1972 Biological Weapons Convention and the 1993 Chemical Weapons Convention), at least 17 states withdrew their reservations to the Protocol. However, according to a non-paper distributed by France during the 2006 session of the UN General Assembly’s First Committee, around 22 states parties retain reservations that are “often incompatible with the commitments made within the framework of the BTWC and CWC.” Further details on reservations and their withdrawal are provided in the list of states in this section of the Briefing Book.

Since the 1980s, resolutions have been passed by both the United Nations Security Council and General Assembly encouraging the UN Secretary-General to investigate reports of possible violations of the Geneva Protocol. A total of 12 investigations have subsequently been carried out by the Secretary-General, some under the authority of these resolutions. During the Iran-Iraq war of the 1980s UN investigators confirmed the use of chemical weapons by Iraq. In January 1989 States Parties to the Geneva Protocol and other interested states met in Paris to respond to the confirmed use of chemical weapons in the Iran-Iraq war

and to support the negotiation of a chemical weapons convention. In the Final Declaration of the conference, they also reaffirmed their “full support for the Secretary-General in carrying out his responsibilities for investigations in the event of alleged violations of the Geneva Protocol.” More detail of the Secretary-General’s investigatory mechanism, and some of the relevant documents, is provided in section 3 of the Briefing Book.

The Geneva Protocol currently has 133 States Parties and one Signatory State. States wishing to ratify or accede to the Geneva Protocol should deposit their instrument of ratification/ accession with the French Government, which is the Depositary of the Protocol. Instruments of ratification or accession should be sent to:

Frédéric Jung  
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères  
Sous-Direction du Désarmement chimique, biologique et de la maîtrise des armements classiques  
37 Quai d’Orsay  
75 700 Paris 07 SP  
France  
E-mail: [frederic.jung@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:frederic.jung@diplomatie.gouv.fr)  
Phone: ++ 33 1 43 17 43 06  
Fax : ++ 33 1 43 17 49 52

### ***The 1972 Biological Weapons Convention***

**Full name:** Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction  
**Date of adoption:** 16 December 1971 (UN General Assembly)  
**Date of opening for signature:** 10 April 1972 (London, Moscow, Washington)  
**Date of entry into force:** 26 March 1975  
**Depositaries:** Governments of Russia, United Kingdom and United States  
**States Parties:** 155 (as at 18 October 2006)  
**Signatory States:** 16 (as at 18 October 2006)

The 1972 Biological Weapons Convention prohibits the development, production, stockpiling or other acquisition or retention, or transfer of biological and toxin weapons (which are defined in Article I using a general purpose criterion) and requires the destruction of existing weapons. BWC states parties have additionally agreed that BW use is effectively covered by the treaty’s prohibitions. The states parties have therefore renounced germ weapons in order to “exclude completely” the possibility of such weapons being used against humans, animals or plants. States that have signed but not ratified the BWC are nonetheless obliged to refrain from acts which would defeat the object and purpose of the treaty, such as developing or using biological weapons.

The BWC was negotiated by the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (a precursor of today’s Conference on Disarmament) at a time of heightened international concern about chemical and biological weapons in the late 1960s and was the first occasion when the two categories of weaponry prohibited together in the Geneva Protocol were separated. The justification for separate treatment of the two categories of weapon was the perception that, unlike a comprehensive prohibition of chemical weapons, a ban on biological weapons did not require intrusive verification and that it could therefore be concluded quickly.

The Convention reflects the post-Second World War renunciation of biological weapons by the defeated Axis powers, as found in the 1954 Revised Brussels Treaty, as well as the subsequent unilateral renunciations by other states, particularly by the US in 1969. The BWC extends the existing regime prohibiting the use of chemical or biological weapons (CBW) (elaborated in the 1925 Geneva Protocol), by explicitly banning the development, production, stockpiling and transfer of biological and toxin weapons. However, the BWC essentially makes no provision for any particular procedures or forms of international cooperation or organization to implement its rules, to verify compliance with its obligations (aside from the consultation and cooperation procedure in Article V and the complaint procedure involving the UN Security Council in Article VI) or to enforce its norm of non-possession. The Convention has been strengthened at its periodic Review Conferences (in 1980, 1986, 1991, and 1996 and 2001/02) and an attempt was made during the 1990s to negotiate a protocol to strengthen the BWC, although this ultimately failed in 2001. Section 2 provides more detail and documentation on the Review Conferences and efforts to strengthen the BWC.

According to a list provided at the 2005 Meeting of States Parties, the BWC now has 155 States Parties and 16 Signatory States, while 24 States have neither signed nor ratified the BWC. The depositaries of the BWC are the governments of Russia, the UK and the USA. States wishing to ratify (Signatory States) or accede (non-Signatory States) to the treaty should send their instrument of ratification/accession to one or more of these three countries. The addresses to which instruments of ratification/accession should be sent are on the following page:

### BWC Depository Contact Details

<b>Russia</b>	<p>Legal Department Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia 32/34 Smolenskaya-Sennaya Square Moscow 121 200 Russian Federation Phone: ++ 7 495 241 77 18 Fax: ++ 7 495 241 11 66 E-mail: <a href="mailto:dp@mid.ru">dp@mid.ru</a> [NB The instruments of ratification or accession are deposited in Moscow upon their transmittal through the established diplomatic channels]</p>
<b>UK</b>	<p>Treaty Section (Legal Advisers) Room G62 Old Admiralty Building Foreign and Commonwealth Office London SW1A 2PA United Kingdom Telephone: ++ 44 207 008 1109 Fax: ++ 44 207 008 1115 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:treaty.fco@gtnet.gov.uk">treaty.fco@gtnet.gov.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.fco.gov.uk/treaty">www.fco.gov.uk/treaty</a> [NB Envelopes should be marked "For the attention of the Depository"]</p>
<b>USA</b>	<p>Office of the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs United States Department of State, Suite 5420 2201 C Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20520 United States of America Phone: ++ 1 202 647 1345 E-mail: <a href="mailto:treatyoffice@state.gov">treatyoffice@state.gov</a> Website: <a href="http://www.state.gov/s/l/treaty/">www.state.gov/s/l/treaty/</a> [NB states wishing to deposit in Washington are advised to forward their instruments of ratification/accession to the Treaty Office through their embassies in Washington. Embassy staff should then call the Depository Officer at the Treaty Office on the phone number above to schedule an appointment for hand-delivery of the instrument.]</p>

**Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare. Signed at Geneva, June 17, 1925.**

*French and English official texts communicated by the President of the Council, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the French Republic. The registration of this Protocol took place September 7, 1929.*

THE UNDERSIGNED PLENIPOTENTIARIES, in the name of their respective Governments :

Whereas the use in war of asphyxiating, poisonous or other gases, and of all analogous liquids, materials or devices, has been justly condemned by the general opinion of the civilised world; and

Whereas the prohibition of such use has been declared in Treaties to which the majority of Powers of the world are Parties; and

To the end that this prohibition shall be universally accepted as a part of International Law, binding alike the conscience and the practice of nations;

DECLARE:

That the High Contracting Parties, so far as they are not already Parties to Treaties prohibiting such use, accept this prohibition, agree to extend this prohibition to the use of bacteriological methods of warfare and agree to be bound as between themselves according to the terms of this declaration.

The High Contracting Parties will exert every effort to induce other States to accede to the present Protocol. Such accession will be notified to the Government of the French Republic, and by the latter to all signatory and acceding Powers, and will take effect on the date of the notification by the Government of the French Republic.

The present Protocol, of which the French and English texts are both authentic, shall be ratified as soon as possible. It shall bear today's date.

The ratification of the present Protocol shall be addressed to the Government of the French Republic, which will at once notify the deposit of such ratification to each of the signatory and acceding Powers.

The instruments of ratification of and accession to the present Protocol will remain deposited in the archives of the Government of the French Republic.

The present Protocol will come into force for each signatory Power as from the date of deposit of its ratification, and, from that moment, each Power will be bound as regards other Powers which have already deposited their ratifications.





# **Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction**

*Signed at London, Moscow and Washington on 10 April 1972.*

*Entered into force on 26 March 1975.*

*Depositaries: UK, US and Soviet governments.*

The States Parties to this Convention,

Determined to act with a view to achieving effective progress towards general and complete disarmament, including the prohibition and elimination of all types of weapons of mass destruction, and convinced that the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons and their elimination, through effective measures, will facilitate the achievement of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Recognizing the important significance of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on June 17, 1925, and conscious also of the contribution which the said Protocol has already made, and continues to make, to mitigating the horrors of war,

Reaffirming their adherence to the principles and objectives of that Protocol and calling upon all States to comply strictly with them,

Recalling that the General Assembly of the United Nations has repeatedly condemned all actions contrary to the principles and objectives of the Geneva Protocol of June 17, 1925,

Desiring to contribute to the strengthening of confidence between peoples and the general improvement of the international atmosphere,

Desiring also to contribute to the realization of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Convinced of the importance and urgency of eliminating from the arsenals of States, through effective measures, such dangerous weapons of mass destruction as those using chemical or bacteriological (biological) agents,

Recognizing that an agreement on the prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons represents a first possible step towards the achievement of agreement on effective measures also for the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons, and determined to continue negotiations to that end,

Determined for the sake of all mankind, to exclude completely the possibility of bacteriological (biological) agents and toxins being used as weapons,

Convinced that such use would be repugnant to the conscience of mankind and that no effort should be spared to minimize this risk,

Have agreed as follows:

### **Article I**

Each State Party to this Convention undertakes never in any circumstances to develop, produce, stockpile or otherwise acquire or retain:

- (1) Microbial or other biological agents, or toxins whatever their origin or method of production, of types and in quantities that have no justification for prophylactic, protective or other peaceful purposes;
- (2) Weapons, equipment or means of delivery designed to use such agents or toxins for hostile purposes or in armed conflict.

### **Article II**

Each State Party to this Convention undertakes to destroy, or to divert to peaceful purposes, as soon as possible but not later than nine months after entry into force of the Convention, all agents, toxins, weapons, equipment and means of delivery specified in article I of the Convention, which are in its possession or under its jurisdiction or control. In implementing the provisions of this article all necessary safety precautions shall be observed to protect populations and the environment.

### **Article III**

Each State Party to this Convention undertakes not to transfer to any recipient whatsoever, directly or indirectly, and not in any way to assist, encourage, or induce any State, group of States or international organizations to manufacture or otherwise acquire any of the agents, toxins, weapons, equipment or means of delivery specified in article I of this Convention.

### **Article IV**

Each State Party to this Convention shall, in accordance with its constitutional processes, take any necessary measures to prohibit and prevent the development, production, stockpiling, acquisition, or retention of the agents, toxins, weapons, equipment and means of delivery specified in article I of the Convention, within the territory of such State, under its jurisdiction or under its control anywhere.

### **Article V**

The States Parties to this Convention undertake to consult one another and to cooperate in solving any problems which may arise in relation to the objective of, or in the application of the provisions of, the Convention. Consultation and Cooperation pursuant to this article may also be undertaken through appropriate international procedures within the framework of the United Nations and in accordance with its Charter.

## **Article VI**

- (1) Any State Party to this convention which finds that any other State Party is acting in breach of obligations deriving from the provisions of the Convention may lodge a complaint with the Security Council of the United Nations. Such a complaint should include all possible evidence confirming its validity, as well as a request for its consideration by the Security Council.
- (2) Each State Party to this Convention undertakes to cooperate in carrying out any investigation which the Security Council may initiate, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, on the basis of the complaint received by the Council. The Security Council shall inform the States Parties to the Convention of the results of the investigation.

## **Article VII**

Each State Party to this Convention undertakes to provide or support assistance, in accordance with the United Nations Charter, to any Party to the Convention which so requests, if the Security Council decides that such Party has been exposed to danger as a result of violation of the Convention.

## **Article VIII**

Nothing in this Convention shall be interpreted as in any way limiting or detracting from the obligations assumed by any State under the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on June 17, 1925.

## **Article IX**

Each State Party to this Convention affirms the recognized objective of effective prohibition of chemical weapons and, to this end, undertakes to continue negotiations in good faith with a view to reaching early agreement on effective measures for the prohibition of their development, production and stockpiling and for their destruction, and on appropriate measures concerning equipment and means of delivery specifically designed for the production or use of chemical agents for weapons purposes.

## **Article X**

- (1) The States Parties to this Convention undertake to facilitate, and have the right to participate in, the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for the use of bacteriological (biological) agents and toxins for peaceful purposes. Parties to the Convention in a position to do so shall also cooperate in contributing individually or together with other States or international organizations to the further development and application of scientific discoveries in the field of bacteriology (biology) for prevention of disease, or for other peaceful purposes.
- (2) This Convention shall be implemented in a manner designed to avoid hampering the economic or technological development of States Parties to the Convention or international cooperation in the field of peaceful bacteriological (biological) activities, including the international exchange of bacteriological (biological) and toxins and equipment for the

processing, use or production of bacteriological (biological) agents and toxins for peaceful purposes in accordance with the provisions of the Convention.

#### **Article XI**

Any State Party may propose amendments to this Convention. Amendments shall enter into force for each State Party accepting the amendments upon their acceptance by a majority of the States Parties to the Convention and thereafter for each remaining State Party on the date of acceptance by it.

#### **Article XII**

Five years after the entry into force of this Convention, or earlier if it is requested by a majority of Parties to the Convention by submitting a proposal to this effect to the Depositary Governments, a conference of States Parties to the Convention shall be held at Geneva, Switzerland, to review the operation of the Convention, with a view to assuring that the purposes of the preamble and the provisions of the Convention, including the provisions concerning negotiations on chemical weapons, are being realized. Such review shall take into account any new scientific and technological developments relevant to the Convention.

#### **Article XIII**

- (1) This Convention shall be of unlimited duration.
- (2) Each State Party to this Convention shall in exercising its national sovereignty have the right to withdraw from the Convention if it decides that extraordinary events, related to the subject matter of the Convention, have jeopardized the supreme interests of its country. It shall give notice of such withdrawal to all other States Parties to the Convention and to the United Nations Security Council three months in advance. Such notice shall include a statement of the extraordinary events it regards as having jeopardized its supreme interests.

#### **Article XIV**

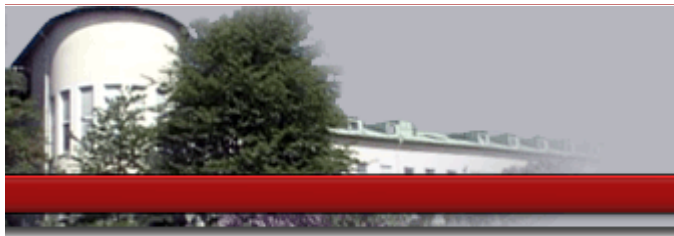
- (1) This Convention shall be open to all States for signature. Any State which does not sign the Convention before its entry into force in accordance with paragraph (3) of this Article may accede to it at any time.
- (2) This Convention shall be subject to ratification by signatory States. Instruments of ratification and instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Governments of the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, which are hereby designated the Depositary Governments.
- (3) This Convention shall enter into force after the deposit of instruments of ratification by twenty-two Governments, including the Governments designated as Depositaries of the Convention.
- (4) For States whose instruments of ratification or accession are deposited subsequent to the entry into force of this Convention, it shall enter into force on the date of the deposit of their instruments of ratification or accession.

- (5) The Depositary Governments shall promptly inform all signatory and acceding States of the date of each signature, the date of deposit or each instrument of ratification or of accession and the date of entry into force of this Convention, and of the receipt of other notices.
- (6) This Convention shall be registered by the Depositary Governments pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

**Article XV**

This Convention, the English, Russian, French, Spanish and Chinese texts of which are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the Depositary Governments. Duly certified copies of the Convention shall be transmitted by the Depositary Governments to the Governments of the signatory and acceding states.





Stockholm International Peace Research Institute

## High Contracting Parties to the Geneva Protocol

The protocol was signed in Geneva on 17 June 1925 and entered into force on 8 February 1928. France is the depositary power for the protocol.

**133** states have ratified, acceded to, or declared succession to the Geneva Protocol

Most recent accession: **Ukraine** 7 August 2003

**El Salvador** has signed (17 June 1925) but not ratified the Geneva Protocol.

Explanatory notes regarding membership and reservations appear at the end of this document.

[A](#) | [B](#) | [C](#) | [D](#) | [E](#) | [F](#) | [G](#) | [H](#) | [I](#) | [J](#) | [K](#) | [L](#) | [M](#) | [N](#) | [P](#) | [Q](#) | [R](#) | [S](#) | [T](#) | [U](#) | [V](#) | [Y](#) | [Notes](#)

### A [\[top\]](#)

- **Afghanistan**, acceded 9 December 1986
- **Albania**, acceded 20 December 1989
- **Algeria**, acceded 27 January 1992

Algeria entered the following reservation on accession -- "The Algerian Government will be bound by the Protocol only with regard to States which have ratified or have adhered to it and will cease to be bound by the said Protocol with regard to any State whose armed forces or whose allies' armed forces do not respect the provisions of the Protocol."

- **Angola**, acceded 8 November 1990

Angola entered the following reservation on accession -- "In acceding to the Protocol of 17 June 1925, the People's Republic of Angola declares that the latter is binding only on those States which have signed and ratified or which have definitively acceded to the Protocol. In acceding to the Protocol of 17 June 1925, the People's Republic of Angola declares that the latter would cease to be binding on all enemy States whose armed forces or whose allies, *de jure* or *de facto* do not respect the prohibitions which are the object of the said Protocol."

- **Antigua and Barbuda**, acceded 27 April 1988
- **Argentina**, acceded 12 May 1969
- **Australia**, acceded 24 May 1930

Australia had entered the following reservation on accession which was withdrawn in 1986 -- "Subject to the reservations that His Majesty is bound by the said Protocol only towards those Powers and States which have both signed and ratified the Protocol or have acceded thereto, and that His Majesty shall cease to be bound by the Protocol towards any Power at enmity with Him whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose allies, do not respect the Protocol."

- **Austria**, signed 17 June 1925, ratified 9 May 1928

### B [\[top\]](#)

- **Bahrain**, acceded 9 December 1988

Bahrain entered the following reservation on accession -- "The said Protocol is only binding on

the Government of the State of Bahrain as regards those States which have signed and ratified the Protocol or have acceded thereto; The said Protocol shall cease to be binding on the Government of the State of Bahrain in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose Allies, fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol; The accession of the State of Bahrain to the said Protocol, signed on June 17, 1925, shall in no way constitute recognition of Israel or be a cause for the establishment of any relations of any kind therewith."

- **Bangladesh**, acceded 20 May 1989

Bangladesh entered the following reservation on accession -- "The said Protocol is only binding on the Government of Bangladesh as regards those States which have signed and ratified the Protocol or have acceded thereto;

The said Protocol shall cease to be binding on the Government of Bangladesh in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose Allies, fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol."

- **Barbados**, acceded 16 July 1976

- **Belgium**, signed 17 June 1925, ratified 4 December 1928

Belgium had entered the following reservation which was withdrawn in 1997 -- "(1) The said Protocol is only binding on the Belgian government as regards States which have signed or ratified it or which may accede to it. (2) The said Protocol shall *ipso facto* cease to be binding on the Belgian government in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces or whose allies fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol."

- **Benin**, acceded 9 December 1986

- **Bhutan**, acceded 19 February 1979

- **Bolivia**, acceded 13 August 1985

- **Brazil**, signed 17 June 1925, ratified 28 August 1970

- **Bulgaria**, signed 17 June 1925, ratified 7 March 1934

Bulgaria had entered the following reservation on ratification which was withdrawn in 1991 -- "The said Protocol is only binding on the Bulgarian government as regards States which have signed or ratified it or which may accede to it. The said Protocol shall *ipso facto* cease to be binding on the Bulgarian government in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces or whose allies fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol."

- **Burkina Faso**, acceded 3 March 1971

## C [\[top\]](#)

- **Cambodia**

In a note verbale of 30 September 1993, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia declared that the Royal Government of Cambodia considered itself bound by the Protocol of 17 June 1925, to which the coalition Government of Democratic Cambodia had acceded on 15 March 1983. This accession had been considered invalid by France (the depositary power) as well as by Australia, Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Hungary, Mauritius, Mongolia, Poland, the Soviet Union and Viet Nam. The 15 March 1983 instrument contained the following reservation: "The Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK) reserves the right not to be bound by the aforesaid Protocol as regards any enemy whose armed forces or allies no longer respect the prohibitions contained in this Protocol."

- **Cameroon**, acceded 20 July 1989

- **Canada**, signed 17 June 1925, ratified 6 May 1930

Canada had entered the following reservation on ratification which was withdrawn in relation to biological weapons in 1991 and in relation to chemical weapons in 1999 -- "(1) The said Protocol is only binding on His Britannic Majesty as regards those States which have both signed and ratified it, or have finally acceded thereto. (2) The said Protocol shall cease to be binding on His Britannic Majesty towards any State at enmity with Him whose armed forces, or whose allies *de jure* or in fact fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol."

- **Cape Verde**, acceded 15 October 1991

- **Central African Republic**, acceded 31 July 1970

- **Chile**, acceded 2 July 1935

Chile had entered the following reservation on ratification which was withdrawn in 1991 -- "(1)



The said Protocol is only binding on the Chilean government as regards States which have signed and ratified it or which may definitely accede to it. (2) The said Protocol shall *ipso facto* cease to be binding on the Chilean government in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces, or whose allies, fail to respect the prohibitions which are the object of this Protocol."

- **China**, signed 17 June 1925, ratified 24 August 1929

On 13 July 1952, the People's Republic of China issued a statement recognizing as binding upon it the accession to the Protocol in the name of China. The People's Republic of China considers itself bound by the Protocol on condition of reciprocity on the part of all the other contracting and acceding powers.

- **Côte d'Ivoire**, acceded 27 July 1970
- **Cuba**, acceded 24 June 1966
- **Cyprus**, succeeded 12 December 1966

Cyprus may be regarded as maintaining an implicit reservation on declaring succession from the United Kingdom which had a reservation in force at the time (see explanatory note at end of page).

- **Czech Republic**, succeeded 1 January 1993 (declaration 17 September 1993)

Czechoslovakia (signed 17 June 1925, ratified 18 August 1938) had entered the following reservation which was withdrawn in 1990 -- "The Czechoslovak Republic shall *ipso facto* cease to be bound by this Protocol towards any State whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose allies, fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol." Czechoslovakia was formally dissolved on 31 December 1992.

#### D [\[top\]](#)

- **Denmark**, signed 17 June 1925, ratified 5 May 1930
- **Dominican Republic**, acceded 8 December 1970

#### E [\[top\]](#)

- **Ecuador**, acceded 16 September 1970
- **Egypt**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 6 December 1928
- **Equatorial Guinea**, acceded 20 May 1989
- **Estonia**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 28 August 1931

Estonia had entered the following reservation which was withdrawn in 1991 -- "(1) The said Protocol is only binding on the Estonian Government as regards States which have signed and ratified it or which may accede to it. (2) The said Protocol shall *ipso facto* cease to be binding on the Estonian Government in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces or whose allies fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol."

- **Ethiopia**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 7 October 1935

#### F [\[top\]](#)

- **Fiji**, succeeded 21 March 1973

Fiji entered the following reservation on succession -- "The Protocol is only binding on Fiji as regards States which have both signed and ratified it and which will have finally acceded thereto. The Protocol shall cease to be binding on Fiji in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces or the armed forces of whose allies fail to respect the prohibitions which are the object of the Protocol."

- **Finland**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 26 June 1929
- **France**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 10 May 1926

France had entered the following reservation which was withdrawn in 1996 -- "(1) The said Protocol is only binding on the government of the French Republic as regards States which have signed or ratified it or which may accede to it. (2) The said Protocol shall *ipso facto* cease to be binding on the government of the French Republic in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces or whose allies fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol."

G [\[top\]](#)

- **Gambia**, succeeded 5 November 1966

Gambia may be regarded as maintaining an implicit reservation on declaring succession from the United Kingdom which had a reservation in force at the time (see explanatory note at end of page).

- **Germany**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 25 April 1929
- **Ghana**, acceded 3 May 1967
- **Greece**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 30 May 1931
- **Grenada**, succeeded, 3 January 1989

Grenada may be regarded as maintaining an implicit reservation on declaring succession from the United Kingdom which had a reservation in force at the time (see explanatory note at end of page).

- **Guatemala**, acceded 3 May 1983
- **Guinea-Bissau**, acceded 20 May 1989

H [\[top\]](#)

- **Holy See**, acceded 18 October 1966
- **Hungary**, acceded 11 October 1952

I [\[top\]](#)

- **Iceland**, acceded 2 November 1967
- **India**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 9 April 1930

India entered the following reservation -- "(1) The said Protocol is only binding on His Britannic Majesty as regards those States which have both signed and ratified it, or have finally acceded thereto. (2) The said Protocol shall cease to be binding on His Britannic Majesty towards any Power at enmity with Him whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose allies, fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol."

- **Indonesia**, succeeded 21 January 1971

Indonesia may be regarded as maintaining an implicit reservation on declaring succession from the Netherlands which had a reservation in force at the time (see explanatory note at end of page).

- **Iran**, acceded 5 November 1929
- **Iraq**, acceded 8 September 1931

Iraq entered the following reservation -- "On condition that the Iraq government shall be bound by the provisions of the Protocol only towards those States which have both signed and ratified it or have acceded thereto, and that it shall not be bound by the Protocol towards any State at enmity with Iraq whose armed forces, or the forces of whose allies, do not respect the provisions of the Protocol."

- **Ireland**, acceded 29 August 1930

Ireland had entered the following reservation on ratification which was withdrawn in 1972 -- "The government of the Irish Free State does not intend to assume, by this accession, any obligation except towards the States having signed and ratified this Protocol or which shall have finally acceded thereto, and should the armed forces or the allies of an enemy State fail to respect the said Protocol, the government of the Irish Free State would cease to be bound by the said Protocol in regard to such State."

- **Israel**, acceded 20 February 1969

Israel entered the following reservation on accession -- "The said Protocol is only binding on the State of Israel as regards States which have signed and ratified or acceded to it. The said Protocol shall cease *ipso facto* to be binding on the State of Israel as regards any enemy State whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose allies, or the regular or irregular forces, or groups or individuals operating from its territory, fail to respect the prohibitions which are the object of this Protocol."

- **Italy**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 3 April 1928

## J [\[top\]](#)

- **Jamaica**, succeeded 28 July 1970

Jamaica may be regarded as maintaining an implicit reservation on declaring succession from the United Kingdom which had a reservation in force at the time (see explanatory note at end of page).

- **Japan**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 21 May 1970
- **Jordan**, acceded 20 January 1977

Jordan entered the following reservation -- "The accession by Jordan to the Protocol does not in any way imply recognition of Israel, and does not oblige Jordan to conclude with Israel any arrangement under the Protocol. Jordan undertakes to respect the obligations contained in the Protocol with regard to States which have undertaken similar commitments. It is not bound by the Protocol as regards States whose armed forces, regular or irregular, do not respect the provisions of the Protocol."

## K [\[top\]](#)

- **Kenya**, acceded 6 July 1970
- **Korea, Democratic People's Republic of**, acceded 4 January 1989

The DPRK entered the following reservation on accession -- "The said Protocol is only binding on the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as regards those States which have signed and ratified the Protocol or have acceded thereto. The said Protocol shall cease to be binding on the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose Allies, fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol."

- **Kuwait**, acceded 15 December 1971

Kuwait entered the following reservation on accession -- "The accession by the State of Kuwait to this Protocol does not in any way imply recognition of Israel, or the establishment of relations with the latter on the basis of the present Protocol. In case of breach of the prohibition mentioned in this Protocol by any of the Parties, the State of Kuwait will not be bound, with regard to the Party committing the breach, to apply the provisions of this Protocol."

## L [\[top\]](#)

- **Laos**, acceded 20 May 1989
- **Latvia**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 3 June 1931
- **Lebanon**, acceded 17 April 1969
- **Lesotho**, succeeded 10 March 1972

Lesotho may be regarded as maintaining an implicit reservation on declaring succession from the United Kingdom which had a reservation in force at the time (see explanatory note at end of page).

- **Liberia**, acceded 17 June 1927
- **Libya**, acceded 29 December 1971

Libya entered the following reservation -- "The accession to the Protocol does not imply recognition or the establishment of any relations with Israel. The present Protocol is binding on the Libyan Arab Republic only as regards States which are effectively bound by it and will cease to be binding on the Libyan Arab Republic as regards States whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose allies, fail to respect the prohibitions which are the object of this Protocol."

- **Liechtenstein**, acceded 6 September 1991
- **Lithuania**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 15 June 1933
- **Luxembourg**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 1 September 1936

M [\[top\]](#)

- **Madagascar**, acceded 2 August 1967
- **Malawi**, acceded 14 September 1970
- **Malaysia**, acceded 10 December 1970
- **Maldives**, succeeded 27 December 1966

The Maldives may be regarded as maintaining an implicit reservation on declaring succession from the United Kingdom which had a reservation in force at the time (see explanatory note at end of page).

- **Malta**, succeeded 21 September 1964

Malta may be regarded as maintaining an implicit reservation on declaring succession from the United Kingdom which had a reservation in force at the time (see explanatory note at end of page).

- **Mauritius**, succeeded 12 March 1968

Mauritius may be regarded as maintaining an implicit reservation on declaring succession from the United Kingdom which had a reservation in force at the time (see explanatory note at end of page).

- **Mexico**, acceded 28 May 1932
- **Monaco**, acceded 6 January 1967
- **Mongolia**, acceded 6 December 1968

Mongolia had entered the following reservation which was withdrawn in 1990 -- "In the case of violation of this prohibition by any State in relation to the People's Republic of Mongolia, or its allies, the government of the People's Republic of Mongolia shall not consider itself bound by the obligation of the Protocol towards that State.

- **Morocco**, acceded 13 October 1970

N [\[top\]](#)

- **Nepal**, acceded 9 May 1969
- **Netherlands**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 31 October 1930

The Netherlands had entered the following reservation on ratification which was withdrawn in 1995 -- "As regards the use in war of asphyxiating, poisonous or other gases, and of all analogous liquids, materials or devices, this Protocol shall *ipso facto* cease to be binding on the Royal Netherlands government with regard to any enemy State whose armed forces or whose allies fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol."

[*Note*: This reservation had been made specifically to include "the Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curacao" while the withdrawal was specific to "the Kingdom in Europe, the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba".]

- **New Zealand**, acceded 24 May 1930

New Zealand had entered the following reservations which were withdrawn in 1989 -- "Subject to the reservations that His Majesty is bound by the said Protocol only towards those Powers and States which have both signed and ratified the Protocol or have acceded thereto, and that His Majesty shall cease to be bound by the Protocol towards any Power at enmity with Him whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose allies, do not respect the Protocol."

- **Nicaragua**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 5 October 1990
- **Niger**, succeeded 5 April 1967

Niger may be regarded as maintaining an implicit reservation on declaring succession from France which had a reservation in force at the time (see explanatory note at end of page).

- **Nigeria**, acceded 15 October 1968

Nigeria entered the following reservation -- "The Protocol is only binding on Nigeria as regards States which are effectively bound by it and shall cease to be binding on Nigeria as regards States whose armed forces or whose allies' armed forces fail to respect the prohibitions which are the object of the Protocol."

- **Norway**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 27 July 1932

P [\[top\]](#)■ **Pakistan**, succeeded 15 April 1960

By a note of 13 April 1960, Pakistan informed the depositary Government that it was a party to the Protocol by virtue of Paragraph 4 of the Annex to the Indian Independence Act of 1947.

Pakistan may be regarded as maintaining an implicit reservation on declaring succession as the entities which it could be argued it derived its legal succession from -- the United Kingdom and "British India" -- both had reservations in force at the time (see explanatory note at end of page).

■ **Panama**, acceded 4 December 1970■ **Papua New Guinea**, succeeded 2 September 1980

Papua New Guinea entered the following reservation -- "The said Protocol is only binding on the Government of Papua New Guinea as regards those States which have signed and ratified the Protocol or have acceded thereto. The said Protocol shall cease to be binding on the Government of Papua New Guinea in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose Allies, fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol."

■ **Paraguay** , acceded 22 October 1933

22 October 1933 is the date of receipt of the instrument of accession. The date of the notification by the French government "for the purpose of regularization" is 13 January 1969.

■ **Peru**, acceded 13 August 1985■ **Philippines**, acceded 8 June 1973■ **Poland**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 4 February 1929■ **Portugal**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 1 July 1930

Portugal had entered the following reservation on ratification which was withdrawn in 2002 -- "(1) The said Protocol is only binding on the government of the Portuguese Republic as regards States which have signed and ratified it or which may accede to it. (2) The said Protocol shall *ipso facto* cease to be binding on the government of the Portuguese Republic in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces or whose allies fail to respect the prohibitions which are the object of this Protocol."

Q [\[top\]](#)■ **Qatar**, acceded 18 October 1976R [\[top\]](#)■ **Republic of Korea**, acceded 4 January 1989

The Republic of Korea entered the following reservation -- "The said Protocol is only binding on the Government of the Republic of Korea as regards those States which have signed and ratified the Protocol or have acceded thereto. The said Protocol shall cease to be binding on the Government of the Republic of Korea in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose Allies, fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol."

[According to information the French Government (as depositary) passed to the United Nations Secretary-General, reproduced in UN document A/59/179 dated 23 July 2004, this reservation was "partially withdrawn" in 2002. SIPRI has been informed by a government official from the Republic of Korea that the withdrawal relates to bacteriological and toxin weapons and that the withdrawal has been effective as of 8 October 2002.]

■ **Romania**, signed 25 June 1925, ratified 23 August 1929

Romania had entered the following reservation on ratification which was withdrawn in 1991 -- "(1) The said Protocol only binds the Romanian government in relation to States which have signed and ratified or which have definitely acceded to the Protocol. (2) The said Protocol shall cease to be binding on the Romanian government in regard to all enemy States whose armed forces or whose allies *de jure* or in fact do not respect the restrictions which are the object of this Protocol."

■ **Russia**, acceded 5 April 1928

The USSR (for which Russia is the successor state for the purposes of this protocol) had entered the following reservation on ratification which was withdrawn by Russia in 2000 -- "(1) The said

Protocol only binds the government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in relation to the States which have signed and ratified or which have definitely acceded to the Protocol. (2) The said Protocol shall cease to be binding on the government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces or whose allies *de jure* or in fact do not respect the prohibitions which are the object of this Protocol."

- **Rwanda**, succeeded 11 May 1964

Rwanda may be regarded as maintaining an implicit reservation on declaring succession from Belgium which had a reservation in force at the time (see explanatory note at end of page).

## S [\[top\]](#)

- **Saint Kitts and Nevis**, succeeded 27 April 1989

Saint Kitts and Nevis may be regarded as maintaining an implicit reservation on declaring succession from the United Kingdom which had a reservation in force at the time (see explanatory note at end of page).

- **Saint Lucia**, succeeded 21 December 1988

Saint Lucia may be regarded as maintaining an implicit reservation on declaring succession from the United Kingdom which had a reservation in force at the time (see explanatory note at end of page).

- **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**, succeeded 24 March 1999

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines may be regarded as maintaining an implicit reservation on declaring succession from the United Kingdom which might have had a reservation in force at the time (see the United Kingdom entry and the explanatory note at the end of page).

- **Saudi Arabia**, acceded 27 January 1971

- **Senegal**, acceded 15 June 1977

- **Sierra Leone**, acceded 20 March 1967

- **Slovakia**, succeeded 1 January 1993 (declaration 20 September 1993)

Czechoslovakia (signed 17 June 1925, ratified 18 August 1938) had entered the following reservation which was withdrawn in 1990 -- "The Czechoslovak Republic shall *ipso facto* cease to be bound by this Protocol towards any State whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose allies, fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol." Czechoslovakia was formally dissolved on 31 December 1992.

- **Solomon Islands**, succeeded 1 June 1981

Solomon Islands entered the following reservation on declaring succession from the United Kingdom -- "The obligations stemming from the aforesaid Protocol shall be binding upon the Solomon Islands only in their relations with States which have ratified the Protocol or acceded to it and which respect its provisions."

- **South Africa**, acceded 24 May 1930

South Africa had entered the following reservation on ratification which was withdrawn in 1996 -- "Subject to the reservations that His Majesty is bound by the said Protocol only towards those Powers and States which have both signed and ratified the Protocol or have acceded thereto, and that His Majesty shall cease to be bound by the Protocol towards any Power at enmity with Him whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose allies, do not respect the Protocol."

- **Spain**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 22 August 1929

Spain had entered the following reservation which was withdrawn in 1992 -- "Declares as binding *ipso facto*, without special agreement with respect to any other Member or State accepting and observing the same obligation, that is to say, on condition of reciprocity, the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous and other Gases and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925."

- **Sri Lanka**, acceded 20 January 1954

- **Sudan**, acceded 17 December 1980

- **Swaziland**, acceded 23 July 1991

- **Sweden**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 25 Apr. 1930

- **Switzerland**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 12 Jul. 1932

- **Syria**, acceded 17 December 1968

Syria entered the following reservation on accession -- "The accession by the Syrian Arab Republic to this Protocol and the ratification of the Protocol by its government does not in any case imply recognition of Israel, or lead to the establishment of relations with the latter concerning the provisions laid down in this Protocol."

## T [\[top\]](#)

- **Tanzania**, acceded 22 April 1963
- **Thailand**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 6 June 1931

Thailand entered the following reservation -- "Declares as binding ipso facto, without special agreement with respect to any other Member or State accepting and observing the same obligation, that is to say, on condition of reciprocity, the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous and other Gases and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva, June 17, 1925."

- **Togo**, acceded 5 April 1971
- **Tonga**, succeeded 19 July 1971

Tonga may be regarded as maintaining an implicit reservation on declaring succession from the United Kingdom which had a reservation in force at the time (see explanatory note at end of page).

- **Trinidad and Tobago**, succeeded 31 Aug. 1962

Trinidad and Tobago may be regarded as maintaining an implicit reservation on declaring succession from the United Kingdom which had a reservation in force at the time (see explanatory note at end of page).

- **Tunisia**, acceded 12 July 1967
- **Turkey**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 5 October 1929

## U [\[top\]](#)

- **Uganda**, acceded 24 May 1965
- **Ukraine**, acceded 7 August 2003
- **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**, signed 17 June 1925, ratified 9 April 1930

The UK had entered the following reservation on ratification which was withdrawn in relation to biological weapons in 1991 and in relation to chemical weapons in 1997 or 2002 (see note below) -- "(1) The said Protocol is only binding on His Britannic Majesty as regards those Powers and States which have both signed and ratified the Protocol or have finally acceded thereto. (2) The said Protocol shall cease to be binding on His Britannic Majesty towards any Power at enmity with Him whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose allies, fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol."

[The 1997 date comes from a speech by UK Foreign Minister Tony Lloyd in May 1997 while the 2002 date is from information the French Government (as depositary) passed to the United Nations Secretary-General, reproduced in UN document A/59/179 dated 23 July 2004.]

- **United States of America**, signed 17 June 1925, ratified 10 April 1975

The USA entered the following reservation -- "The protocol shall cease to binding on the government of the United States with respect to the use in war of asphyxiating, poisonous or other gases, and all analogous liquids, materials, or devices, in regard to any enemy State if such State or any of its allies fails to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol."

- **Uruguay**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 12 April 1977

## V [\[top\]](#)

- **Venezuela**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 8 February 1928
- **Viet Nam**, acceded 15 December 1980

Viet Nam entered the following reservation -- "The said Protocol is only binding on the Government of Viet Nam as regards those States which have signed and ratified the Protocol or have acceded thereto; The said Protocol shall cease to be binding on the Government of Viet

Nam in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces, or the armed forces of whose Allies, fail to respect the prohibitions laid down in the Protocol."

## Y [\[top\]](#)

- **Yemen**, acceded 17 March 1971
- **Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)**, signed 27 June 1925, ratified 28 February 1929

Yugoslavia entered the following reservation -- "The said Protocol shall cease to be binding on the government of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes in regard to any enemy State whose armed forces or whose allies fail to respect the prohibitions which are the object of this Protocol."

[*Note:* although the legal relationship between the Yugoslavia that ratified the Geneva Protocol and the current state of Serbia and Montenegro is ambiguous, the latter claims to be a party to the Protocol by virtue of the former's deposit (submission by Serbia and Montenegro to the 1540 committee, as reproduced in UN doc. S/AC.44/2004/(02)/100/Add.1, dated 23 January 2006)]

### Explanatory Note -- non-deposits of instruments

Under international law, to become a party to a treaty a state must deposit a relevant instrument with the depositary power (in the case of the Geneva Protocol this is France).

While a number of states believe themselves to be parties to the Geneva Protocol as they have made public statements to that effect they are not parties unless they have deposited a relevant instrument with the French Government. An example of this is **Belarus** -- On 2 March 1970 the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic stated that "it recognizes itself to be a Party" to the Geneva Protocol of 1925 (United Nations document A/8052, Annex,III).

States claiming succession also need to deposit a relevant instrument with the French Government. Confirming this, the Embassy of France in Stockholm wrote to SIPRI on 26 August 1970 saying "The French Government is of the opinion that a general statement of continuity by a country attaining independence is not sufficient for a depositary power for an international convention to consider that state as being bound by that convention" [unofficial translation]. Notwithstanding this, the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA -- an agency of the US Government) used to include on its list of parties to the Geneva Protocol a category: "By virtue of agreement with former parent State or notification to the Secretary General of the United Nations of succession to treaty rights and obligations upon independence". This category included **Bahamas, Botswana, Burma, Guyana, Seychelles** and **Singapore**. These states do not appear in recent lists of parties to the Geneva Protocol produced by the US Department of State (the department that inherited ACDA's responsibilities) based on information supplied by the French Government, nor do they appear on similar lists compiled by the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs.

### Explanatory Note -- reservations

For the purposes of this document, reservations are divided into three categories: "explicit", "implicit" and "withdrawn".

*Explicit reservations* are those that have been made explicitly by the state concerned and are recorded in the list above. Most take the form of (1) limiting the remit of the protocol as only binding in relation to states that have become party to it and (2) reserving a right to use the methods of warfare prohibited by the protocol if the state is subject to an attack by such methods. The first of these may be interpreted as superfluous as the protocol itself stipulates that the contracting parties agree to be bound "as between themselves" or this may be interpreted as those states putting down such a reservation believe the protocol to prohibit all uses of the methods of warfare covered therein. States with remaining explicit reservations include: Algeria, Angola, Bahrain, Bangladesh, China, Fiji, India, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, DPRK, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Syria, Thailand, USA, Viet Nam and Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

*Implicit reservations* are those that derive from succession of states in circumstances where the predecessor state had a reservation at the time of independence. Some states with implicit reservations may have inherited them without realising the significance of them. Article 20.1 of the 1978 Vienna Convention on the Succession of States in Respect of Treaties is clear about reservations: "When a newly independent State establishes its status as a party or as a contracting State to a multilateral treaty by a notification of succession ... it shall be considered as maintaining any



reservation to that treaty which was applicable at the date of the succession of States in respect of the territory to which the succession of States relates unless, when making the notification of succession, it expresses a contrary intention or formulates a reservation which relates to the same subject-matter as that reservation." This convention codifies what had been the established legal doctrine. Therefore, any state which (i) made a declaration of succession (in whatever form) from a predecessor state which had a reservation in force at the time; and (ii) neither made any mention of the reservation in that declaration nor disassociated itself from the reservation at a later date may be said to have implicitly accepted the reservation.

Any state which decided to accede to the protocol rather than be considered a successor state would not be affected by any reservation made by the predecessor state.

States with remaining implicit reservations include: Cyprus, Gambia, Grenada, Indonesia, Jamaica, Lesotho, the Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Niger, Pakistan, Rwanda, St Kitts & Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Trinidad and Tobago.

*Withdrawn reservations* are those that have been explicitly withdrawn by the state in question.

States known to have withdrawn their reservations include: Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia (as was), Estonia, France, Ireland, Mongolia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Romania, Russia, South Africa, Spain and the UK.

[\[top\]](#)



**MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE  
CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF  
THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND  
STOCKPILING OF BACTERIOLOGICAL  
(BIOLOGICAL) AND TOXIN WEAPONS AND  
ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

BWC/MSP/2005/MX/INF.5  
21 June 2005

ENGLISH ONLY

---

Third Meeting  
Geneva, 5-9 December 2005

Meeting of Experts  
Geneva, 13-24 June 2005

**LIST OF STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE  
DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND STOCKPILING OF BACTERIOLOGICAL  
(BIOLOGICAL) AND TOXIN WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

as at June 2005

Prepared by the Secretariat

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. Afghanistan         | 26. Cambodia                                 |
| 2. Albania             | 27. Canada                                   |
| 3. Algeria             | 28. Cape Verde                               |
| 4. Antigua and Barbuda | 29. Chile                                    |
| 5. Argentina           | 30. China                                    |
| 6. Armenia             | 31. Colombia                                 |
| 7. Australia           | 32. Congo                                    |
| 8. Austria             | 33. Costa Rica                               |
| 9. Azerbaijan          | 34. Croatia                                  |
| 10. Bahamas            | 35. Cuba                                     |
| 11. Bahrain            | 36. Cyprus                                   |
| 12. Bangladesh         | 37. Czech Republic                           |
| 13. Barbados           | 38. Democratic People's Republic of<br>Korea |
| 14. Belarus            | 39. Democratic Republic of the Congo         |
| 15. Belgium            | 40. Denmark                                  |
| 16. Belize             | 41. Dominica                                 |
| 17. Benin              | 42. Dominican Republic                       |
| 18. Bhutan             | 43. Ecuador                                  |
| 19. Bolivia            | 44. El Salvador                              |
| 20. Bosnia-Herzegovina | 45. Equatorial Guinea                        |
| 21. Botswana           | 46. Estonia                                  |
| 22. Brazil             | 47. Ethiopia                                 |
| 23. Brunei Darussalam  | 48. Fiji                                     |
| 24. Bulgaria           | 49. Finland                                  |
| 25. Burkina Faso       |  |

50. France
51. Gambia
52. Georgia
53. Germany
54. Ghana
  
55. Greece
56. Grenada
57. Guatemala
58. Guinea-Bissau
59. Holy See
60. Honduras
61. Hungary
62. Iceland
63. India
64. Indonesia
65. Iran (Islamic Republic of)
66. Iraq
67. Ireland
68. Italy
69. Jamaica
70. Japan
71. Jordan
72. Kenya
73. Kuwait
74. Kyrgyzstan
75. Lao People's Democratic Republic
76. Latvia
77. Lebanon
78. Lesotho
79. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
80. Liechtenstein
81. Lithuania
82. Luxembourg
83. Malaysia
84. Maldives
85. Mali
86. Malta
87. Mauritius
88. Mexico
89. Monaco
90. Mongolia
91. Morocco
92. Netherlands
93. New Zealand
94. Nicaragua
  
95. Niger
96. Nigeria
97. Norway
98. Oman
99. Palau
100. Pakistan
101. Panama
102. Papua New Guinea
103. Paraguay
104. Peru
105. Philippines
106. Poland
107. Portugal
108. Qatar
109. Republic of Korea
110. Republic of Moldova
111. Romania
112. Russian Federation
113. Rwanda
114. Saint Kitts and Nevis
115. Saint Lucia
116. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
117. San Marino
118. Sao Tome and Principe
119. Saudi Arabia
120. Senegal
121. Serbia and Montenegro
122. Seychelles
123. Sierra Leone
124. Singapore
125. Slovakia
126. Slovenia
127. Solomon Islands
128. South Africa
129. Spain
130. Sri Lanka
131. Sudan
132. Suriname
133. Swaziland
134. Sweden
135. Switzerland
136. Tajikistan
137. Thailand
138. The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
139. Timor Leste (East Timor)
140. Togo
141. Tonga

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| 142. Tunisia   | 149. Uruguay    |
| 143. Turkey  | 150. Uzbekistan |
| 144. Turkmenistan  | 151. Vanuatu    |
| 145. Uganda  | 152. Venezuela  |
| 146. Ukraine   | 153. Viet Nam   |
| 147. United Kingdom of Great Britain<br>and Northern Ireland | 154. Yemen      |
| 148. United States of America                                | 155. Zimbabwe   |

LIST OF SIGNATORIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE  
DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND STOCKPILING OF BACTERIOLOGICAL  
(BIOLOGICAL) AND TOXIN WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

as at June 2005

- |                             |                                 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Burundi                  | 9. Madagascar                   |
| 2. Central African Republic | 10. Malawi                      |
| 3. Côte d'Ivoire            | 11. Myanmar                     |
| 4. Egypt                    | 12. Nepal                       |
| 5. Gabon                    | 13. Somalia                     |
| 6. Guyana                   | 14. Syrian Arab Republic        |
| 7. Haiti                    | 15. United Arab Emirates        |
| 8. Liberia                  | 16. United Republic of Tanzania |
-





