EU Council Decision 2016/51
in support of the Biological Weapons Convention

Regional Workshop for the Pacific Region Universalisation of the BWC
Nadi, Fiji, 27–28 July 2017

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Council Decision 2016/51

- **Date:** 18 January 2016
- **Duration:** 2016 – 2019 (36 months)
- **Financial support:** € 2,340,000
- **Implementation agency:** UNODA
Main areas of activity

- **Promoting universal adherence to the BWC**
  - Targeted activities in coordination with other relevant actors
  - Regional workshops (e.g., for Pacific Islands in Fiji, 27 – 28 July 2017)
  - In-country preparatory workshops and meetings with key stakeholder groups (e.g., Haiti and Tanzania)
  - Other regional and in-country workshops are in initial stages of consideration

- **Enhancing interaction with non-governmental stakeholders on science and technology**
  - Series of regional workshops on scientific and technological issues and on biosafety and biosecurity
  - To facilitate international cooperation for peaceful purposes
  - To start in 2017

- **Developing national capacities for BWC implementation**
  - Essentially for developing countries
  - Also Article VII and support for CBM process

- **Supporting preparations for the 8th Review Conference**

- **Strengthening the United Nations Secretary-General's Mechanism**

- **Enabling tools for awareness-raising, education and engagement**
Project 4: Supporting preparations for the 8th Review Conference (2016)

- 4 regional and sub-regional workshops
  - Eastern Europe and Central Asia
    - Host country: Kazakhstan
    - Astana, 15 – 16 June 2016
  - Latin America
    - Host country: Brazil
    - Brasilia, 22 – 23 August 2016
  - South and South-East Asia
    - Host country: India
    - New Delhi, 29 – 30 August 2016
  - African Union Members (initially East and South-East Africa)
    - Hosting organisation: African Union
    - Addis Ababa, 13 – 14 September 2016

- Among the achievements:
  - Promotion of inter-regional dialogue and cooperation in support of the BWC
  - Yielded valuable insights into regional and national dynamics regarding implementation of the BWC and visions for the future of the convention
  - These insights inform the conceptual preparation of the universalisation activities (Project 1) under the EU Council Decision
Principal aims of the Regional Workshop for the Pacific Region

- **Engagement of the regional states not yet party to the BWC**
  - General information on the BWC, its goals, processes and challenges
  - Information on the process of accession (or succession) to the BWC
  - Introduction to the broader sets of issues of relevance to regional states relevant to the BWC
  - Understanding of national issues that thus far have held back accession to the BWC

- **Sharing national experiences from States Parties**
  - National implementation
  - Confidence-building measures
  - Bio-security & -safety
  - International cooperation for peaceful purposes
  - Role of national stakeholder communities in joining and implementing the BWC

- **Identification and discussion of obligations and rights as a Party to the BWC**
  - Assumption of obligations under the BWC
  - Financial and other resource implications of being a party to the BWC
  - Opportunities for assistance requests and learning about assistance offers
  - Support programmes
Contact

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