National Implementation Measures

Prepared by the Islamic Republic of Iran

1. The Islamic Republic of Iran firmly advocates the total elimination of all categories of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) including biological and toxin weapons. The Islamic Republic of Iran, as a Party to BTWC, supports the principles and objectives of the Convention and spares no efforts to strengthen its effectiveness at national and international levels.

2. To ensure domestic compliance with the Convention obligations, some national measures, a summary of which follows, have recently been taken in conformity with obligations under the Article IV and respective recommendations of the Fourth Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, as well as with other international commitments:

3. The legal system of the Islamic Republic of Iran is based on monism. Therefore the mere ratification of the international legal treaties such as the BTWC by the parliament incorporates them into domestic law. Article 9 of the National Civil Code stipulates that international instruments adopted by the parliament are considered thereafter as internal and domestic law.

4. Upon the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the State Parties to the Convention, the Islamic Republic of Iran participated in the annual exchange of information on its biological activities. This information has been provided in the form of CBM declarations to the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs.

5. In view of the importance of global efforts against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, in conjunction with the United Nations Security Council Resolutions, enacting anti-terrorism legislation has been under constant consideration by the relevant authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran. To this end, a Draft Act which is, at present, under review of the cabinet has been prepared. This Draft Act consists of a preamble, 3 chapters, and 21 articles covering definitions and criteria for terrorist crimes, penalties, and punishments. This Draft is comprehensive in nature to treat any kind of terrorist activities involving, inter alia, use or threat of use of chemical, biological and toxin weapons, as well as any production, retention, stockpiling, stealing, transporting, transfer, or development of chemical, biological and toxin agents that have no justification for prophylactic, protective or other peaceful purposes, as terrorist crimes. In chapter 3 of this Draft, necessary penalties and punishments have been
devised as a legal guarantee to prevent such crimes. Moreover, in accordance with the above mentioned Draft, a national anti-terrorism committee consisting of inter governmental agencies is to be established to monitor its proper enforcement.

6. The Supreme National Security Council of the Islamic Republic of Iran for implementing national obligations undertaken by States Parties under Article IV of the Convention in 1998 instructed the establishment of the Interim National Authority (INA) of the BTWC. The INA comprises the representatives of relevant bodies and organizations and has expertise capability for the preparation of necessary regulations and guidelines in the BTWC context. Had the additional protocol to the Convention been finalized and entered into force, the National Authority could function on a broader basis in fulfilling national obligations.