



THE BULGARIAN NATIONAL AUTHORITY'S Education & Outreach activities

Internationally Controlled Trade and Security Directorate

Ministry of Economy

2016



Recommendations of the Third Review Conference

1. "...implementing education and outreach activities, including by disseminating materials, conducting workshops and regional meetings"
2. "...develop relationships and partnerships with other relevant bodies, national and international, that are working to promote the peaceful and responsible use of chemistry, including capacity building";
3. "...develop relations and partnerships as appropriate with relevant regional and international organisations, as well as chemical industry associations, the private sector, academia, and civil society, in order to raise awareness of the activities of the OPCW";
4. "... promote the ethical norms of the Convention, ... to inculcate awareness amongst scientists and engineers at an early stage in their training..."



The Bulgarian National Authority - our initial steps (1)

Counter-proliferation Centre of the State Agency for National Security (SANS): to nominate and assign an Agency expert.

Our Goal: an expert to join the team developing outreach materials and delivering lectures to academia representatives

Result: The Agency has responded positively and such an expert has already been identified



The Bulgarian National Authority - our initial steps (2)

- ✓ **NA and SANS have addressed the Minister of Education and Science**

Our Goal: To provide Ministry's view and support

Results: We have received suggestions to focus on particular university student segments and specific universities, and the National Defence College.

A ministry representative has also been nominated to join the newly established team.



The Bulgarian National Authority - our initial steps (3)

- ✓ **NA representatives met with the Director for Foreign Economic Relations at the Bulgarian Industrial Association**

Our Goal: to discuss the topics and to ensure a better cooperation

Results: A seminar for representatives of production sites and trade companies was organized.

The support of the Bulgarian Chamber of Chemical Industry (BCCI) enabled a wider participation.



The Bulgarian National Authority - our initial steps (4)

✓ **Cooperation with the Custom Agency**

Our Goal: Disseminating customized materials on dual-use items and raising awareness amongst customs officers

Result: The Head of National Security Department at the University of Security and Economy has delivered a detailed presentation on weapons of mass destruction



The Bulgarian National Authority - our initial steps (5)

- ✓ National Strategy for Non-Proliferation of Weapons for Mass Destructions and Means of Supply in relation to C-WMD Network (RACVIAC) initiative

Our Goal: To elaborate a strategy

Results: National team members have been approved with an Order of the Prime Minister. The draft strategy has been submitted also to The Bulgarian Academy of Science



The Bulgarian National Authority - our initial steps (6)

✓ Cooperation with Universities

Our Goal: survey of academic programs

Result: Some universities offer training in national security and international law that incorporate the topic of conventions and agreements on non-proliferation



Specific Issues

- **University autonomy**
- **Reduced number of expert team members**
- **The time-factor with respect to both devising adequate presentations and event arrangements**
- **Event budget**

OUR CHALLENGE: To inspire the mind of students – these young, clever and ambitious people – that are to become the inventors of the future chemical science.



Thank you for your attention!



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