Report of the Scientific Advisory Board

Dr Christopher Timperley (Chairperson of the SAB)



Scientific Advisory Board



SAB met for 22nd session on 8-12 June

Report issued as SAB-22/1 on 21 July

Chairperson:

Christopher Timperley (UK and Northern Ireland)

Vice-Chairperson:

Cheng Tang (Peoples Republic of China)



Departing members

Alejandra Suárez (Argentina)

Djafer Benachour (Algeria)

Michael Geist (Germany)

Muhammad Zafar-Uz Zaman (Pakistan)

Slavica Vučinić (Serbia)

William Kane (USA)

Convergence





Progress in life sciences outpacing BWC and CWC review cycles : will need to be monitored

Members of the SAB and TWG attended SPIEZ CONVERGENCE on 6-9 Oct 2014 in Switzerland

SAB Chairperson attended microbial production systems workshop sponsored by Global Network of Science Academies on 9 Aug 2015





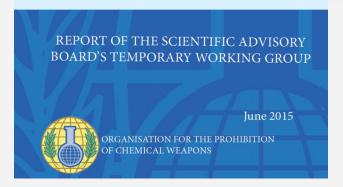
SAB Chairperson briefed States Parties at BWC Meeting of Experts at UNOG on 12 Aug 2015



Verification



VERIFICATION



TWG chaired by Prof. Roberto Martínez-Álvarez

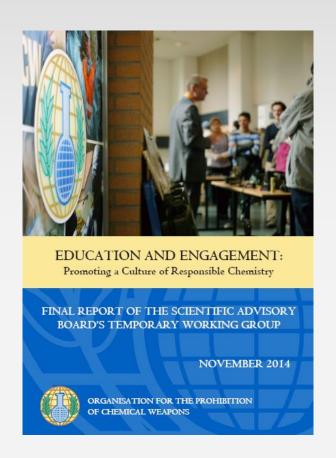
SAB Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson briefed report to States Parties on 11 June 2015

SAB Chairperson briefed industry cluster on 5 Oct and States Parties again on 7 Oct 2015





Education and outreach



Final report endorsed by SAB in November 2014 and made available to States Parties at annual meeting of National Authorities

SAB noted the TWG had many accomplishments: educational materials (multiple uses of chemistry, chemistry in conflict, and the Fires video series)

SAB noted this TWG had made a large impact through recommendations and outreach activities

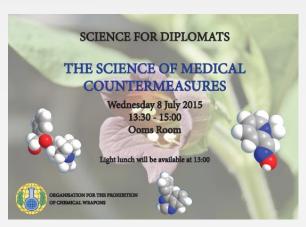
TWG members have been involved in establishing The Hague Ethical Guidelines (www.opcw.org)

Assistance and protection



RESPONSE TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S REQUEST TO THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD TO PROVIDE FURTHER ADVICE ON ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION

SAB provided further advice on best practices for preventing and treating health effects that arise from acute, prolonged and repeated organophosphorus nerve agent exposure



by Prof. Slavica Vulčinić

Advice augments frame of reference for medical professionals and emergency responders who may not have knowledge of symptoms and treatment options related to exposure to chemical warfare agents

SAB hopes the advice can be inputted into OPCW assistance-and-protection courses and workshops



Guest speakers at SAB-22



Prof. Ake Sellstrom

Leader of the UN mission to investigate the use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic



Dr. Daan Noort

Principal scientist at the Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research (TNO) Defence, Safety and Security



Ambassador Istvan Gyarmati

Chairperson of the Advisory Board to the UN Secretary-General on Disarmament Matters

SAB and **CBRN** security





SAB Vice-Chair attended meetings on CBRN security culture at side-events of the Global Partnership against the Spread of WMD

"A Road Map for Comprehensive and Sustainable CBRN Security Culture" Berlin, 3 November 2014

"Comprehensive CBRN Security Culture: Moving Forward to Address New Challenges" Munich, 24 April 2015

Planning for SAB report for RC-4

Two SAB meetings scheduled in 2016 and two in 2017

Plan to issue the SAB report 9 months prior to RC-4, so that:

- States Parties will be able to take scientific advice into account when formulating national positions
- States Parties will be able to discuss S&T developments in preparation for the review conference
- Technical Secretariat will be able to take S&T advice into account when making substantive proposals to the Review Conference

SAB highlighted the value of the Secretariat's S&T monitoring efforts

Intersessional work

Workshops on S&T topics will be organised by the Technical Secretariat to facilitate deliberations for SAB's report to RC-4

- Chemical forensics (CW agents and their precursors)
- Mechanisms of toxicity of chemical warfare agents

SAB members will attend scientific conferences to ensure the highest quality of S&T advice feeds into the SAB report to RC-4

SAB will provide technical advice in response to the Director-General's requests, on isotopically-labelled scheduled chemicals, and on stereoisomers of scheduled chemicals by middle of 2016

