



CBRN  
**Centres  
of Excellence**  
An initiative of the European Union



*Italian Presidency of the G7 Global Partnership Against  
the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass  
Destruction*

**Under the 2017 Italian Presidency of the Global Partnership against the Spread  
of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction (IT GP) and  
within the framework of the EU Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear  
Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence (EU CBRN CoE) Initiative**

**Pilot African Regional Conference  
Comparative review of biological threats needs assessments and national  
action plans implemented under**

**WHO (IHR-JEE)  
CBRN CoE  
1540 UNSCR  
BWC**

**25-26 October 2017**

**Hotel Tour Hassan Rue Chellah, Hassan, Rabat, Morocco**

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in cooperation with



**unieri**  
United Nations  
Interregional Crime and Justice  
Research Institute

# Programme

## 25 October 2017

Co-chairs:

Mr Cendali Pignatelli Valerio, Disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy – G7GP

Mr Tristan Simonart, CBRN Centres of Excellence coordinator, International  
Cooperation and Development, European Commission

**09:00-09:30 Registration**

**09:30-10:00 Welcome and Opening Remarks**

**Mr Redouane HOUSSAINI, Directeur des Nations Unies et des Organisations Internationales au MAECI**

**Ms. Barbara Bregato, Italian Ambassador to the Kingdom of Morocco**

**Mr Alessio Cappellani, European Union Ambassador to the Kingdom of Morocco**

**10:00-11:00 Introduction to countries' biological assessments and action plans** (panel discussion with BWC ISU, EU, UNICRI and WHO)

Moderator: Dr Florence Fuchs, Chief Preparedness & Core Capacity Building, WHO Lyon

Introduction: Dr Anne Sophie Lequarre, Scientific Officer biological threats, EU CBRN CoE, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

### ***SESSION 1 - TOOLS- Comparative review***

The scope of this session is to launch a comparative overview of the voluntary country assessments and action plans tools developed within the framework of the Joint External Evaluation (JEE) under the WHO International Health Regulations, the Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004), the Biological Weapons Convention and the EU CBRN Centres of Excellence.

**11:00-11:30 Coffee break**

**11:30-13:00 Comparative review of the biological security capacity needs identified by the countries** (panel discussion with Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Gabon, Ghana, Liberia, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo)

Moderator: Dr Maryse Simonet, Health security expert, European Commission

### ***SESSION 2 - NEEDS –comparative assessment***

The scope of this session is to review biological security capacity needs identified by countries in the wake of the West Africa Ebola crisis, as for example (not exhaustive):

- Protection, control and accountability of high risk biological agents and samples at the laboratory-level (e.g. lab-inventory management systems);
- Protecting and tracking samples during transport, export/import and trans-

shipment (e.g. shipping specimens for diagnostic testing);

- Biosecurity awareness raising and education for laboratory technicians and hospital staff, covering core competencies related to the prevention of insider/outsider threats (e.g. bio-risk assessment);
- Biosecurity awareness and education for national law enforcement and border security, covering core competencies related to the prevention of cross-border threats linked with porous borders and illicit trafficking, and
- Strengthening national and regional prevention, preparedness and response to emerging bio-threats (e.g. bio/ agroterrorism).

### **13:00-14:30 Lunch**

**14:30-15:30 Priority biological security capacity needs identified by countries** (panel discussion representatives from Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Gabon, Ghana, Liberia, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo)

Moderator: Dr Cornelius Bartels, Deputy Head Global Health and Biosecurity, Robert Koch Institute, Germany

### **SESSION 3 – PRIORITIES FOR THE REGION**

The scope of this session is to identify key regional priorities from the previous comparative session that could trigger further analysis work and/or serve as a basis for upcoming new regional or international partnerships.

### **15:30-17:00 International partners and activities in the region**

Moderator: Dr Nathalie Spears, Biological and Chemical Security, UNSCR 1540, WMD Threat Reduction Program, Canada

Introduction: Dr Steff Stienstra, International expert, CRBN CoE P48, The Netherlands

### **SESSION 4 – PARTNERSHIP FOR ACTION**

The scope of this session is to have an overview of ongoing bilateral and multilateral biological activities and projects in the countries.

- What are the main activities of national and international partners to support biological security needs identified by countries ?
- How can we enhance the regional coordination?

### **17:00-17:30 Conclusions and Closing Remarks by the co-chairs**

### **19:00-21:00 Dinner**

**Programme**  
**26 October 2017**  
Co-chair: IT G7GP and EU

**09:30-10:00 Opening Remarks and Summary of Outcomes from Day 1, EU**

**10:00-11:30 Discussion and Coordination of Work:**

Moderator: Dr Maria Rita Gismondo, CLIMVIB, L. Sacco University Hospital, Italy

Introduction: Ms. Marian De Bruijn, Programme Management Officer, CBRN CoE, CBRN Risks and Security Governance, UNICRI

**SESSION 5 - LIST OF ACTIONS**

- *How to align existing/future projects with countries' needs ?*
- *How to reinforce coordination of existing/future projects ?*
- *How to develop new projects to support countries' needs ?*

**11:30-12:00 Coffee break**

**12:00-13:30 Discussion and Coordination of Work (continuation of the session)**

**13:30-14:30 Lunch**

**14:30-16:00 Proposals for the next meeting of the Global Partnership in Rome (15-17 November 2017)**

Moderator: Mr Adriaan Van der Meer, Senior Advisor, European Commission

**16:00-17:00 Closing Remarks and Conclusion, Morocco, EU, G7GP IT**

# List of Participants

**Members of G7 Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction**

**The Heads of the CBRN CoE Regional Secretariats of the African Atlantic Façade, North Africa and Sahel and Central and East Africa**

**European Union representatives, EU Delegation in Morocco, European Commission, European External Action Service**

**African countries:**

- Cameroon
- Cote d'Ivoire
- DRC
- Gabon
- Ghana
- Liberia
- Morocco
- Mauritania
- Niger
- Senegal
- Sierra Leone
- Togo

**International Organizations :**

- BWC ISU
- Interpol
- UNICRI
- UNODA
- WHO