



American Model United Nations
General Assembly First Committee

GA First/I/5

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly First Committee

The General Assembly First Committee,

1 *Cognizant of the dangers the abuse of biotechnology research poses,*

2 *Aware of the importance of private and public biological research,*

3 *Emphasizing that the value and positive impact of new biotechnologies and research, whether that be*
4 *economic, agricultural, or medical advancements, outweighs the risk of possible misuse of the technology,*

5 *Recognizing the importance of the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) for being a point of information*
6 *exchange,*

7 *Fully aware of Article X in the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) that calls for the “fullest possible*
8 *exchange of equipment, materials, and scientific technology information for the use of biological agents and toxins*
9 *for peaceful purposes’,*

10 *Considering the importance of Member States sovereignty and control over research programs,*

11 *Bearing in mind that despite the BWC recognized negative economic impacts of using biological warfare,*
12 *the possible economic benefits of biotechnology research for Member States warrants continued investments,*

13 *Remembering resolution General Assembly A/RES/49/86 which creates an ad hoc group which aims to affirm*
14 *commitment to technological research and economic growth associated with biotechnology whilst still adhering to*
15 *the BWC,*

16 1. *Requests that public research in Member States be monitored by the ISU;*

17 2. *Implores Member States to follow BWC guidelines and only use biotechnology research in peaceful*
18 *applications;*

19 3. *Reaffirms how important a Member States biological research can be in medical fields from preventing*
20 *the spread of diseases and viruses, to becoming more knowledgeable about issues such as:*

21 (a) *the potential for biotechnical research to mitigate the effects of future pandemics;*

22 (b) *advancing gain-of-function (GoF) research to improve the understanding of viruses among Mem-*
23 *ber States, including their methods of transmission and how they evolve, in order to develop new treatments and*
24 *vaccines to protect the international community;*

25 (c) *Preparing States to peacefully combat the effects of biowarfare;*

26 4. *Endorses the creation of a scientific expert group within the ISU mirroring the likes of the Scientific*
27 *Advisory board within the Chemical Weapons Convention to ensure safe and productive research:*

28 (a) *This board will follow the current BWC guidelines, especially Article IV, in collaboration with*
29 *NGO VERTIC, which promotes effective verification of international agreements;*

30 5. *Supports the creation of a non-mandatory information sharing database between Member States:*

31 (a) *Similar to the Confidence Building Measures (CBM) this database will aim to facilitate the*
32 *positive impacts and promote increased transparency of biotechnology research to prevent the misuse of biotechnology*
33 *research;*

34 6. *Invites* Member States to affirm peaceful biotechnology's ability to contribute to their economy, for
35 example:

36 (a) Providing farmers with tools that make production cheaper and more manageable;

37 (b) Decreasing medical costs;

38 (c) Creating trillion dollar industries as seen in other countries;

39 7. *Further invites* Member States to safely promote agricultural biological research especially that related
40 to sustainable development:

41 (a) Examples include but are not limited to: Genetic Modification (GM), Pesticides, Bio Sustainable
42 Crops, Bio Remediation;

43 8. *Affirms* Member States' right to implement all facets of this document as they see fit.

Passed, Yes: 29 / No: 25 / Abstain: 17