**COMMITTEE:** World Health Organization

**QUESTION OF:** Strengthening Biosecurity and Managing Biorisk

**MAIN SUBMITTER:** Belgium

**CO-SUBMITTERS:** UK, Afghanistan

THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION,

*Reminding* all nations that bioterrorism leads to social panic, economic loss, mass casualties, and legal issues,

*Having studied* the biosafety measures and lab procedures adopted by various countries in the world, to find some developing countries have yet to implement basic biosecurity measures,

*Alarmed* by 196 countries being part of the International Health Regulations and the Global Health Security Index, but none of which are fully prepared for an emergency novel disease,

1. Calls upon member nations to cooperate with the World Health Organization and other relevant Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to raise societies’ awareness on different sanitation measures:
	1. incorporating into the school curriculum
	2. having public service announcements through means such as but not limited to:
		1. television
		2. radio
		3. social media
		4. annual events
	3. distributing resources related to sanitation through local sessions that exemplify how materials are used in rural villages;
2. Encourages member nations to implement rigorous biorisk prevention measures in the laboratory in cooperation with the World Health Organisation and other Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) through means:
	1. providing adequate safety equipment for personnel in the laboratories through means such as but not limited to:
		1. supplying laboratories with monitoring facilities and system checks to ensure the lab is abiding by the biorisk prevention measures by governmental involvement of organizing monitoring facilities or Founded Organizations such as ISO 35001,
		2. storing each laboratory with a sufficient number of gloves, goggles, and other disinfecting gear with the appropriate protective material,
	2. implementing tested and verified systems of environmental and security defence through means such as but not limited to:
		1. regularly monitoring the weather and possible natural risks at the location of the laboratories,
		2. maintaining a full time link to security companies to be available throughout the day in cases of risk,
	3. employing qualified and experienced personnel through means such as but not limited to:
		1. regularly re-educating the scientists on new bio-material,
		2. having a strict code of conduct and ethical expectations so that scientists at the lab do not engage in illegal activities,
		3. implementing national policies to ensure the credibility of said directors, via hiring scientists with experience with roles and responsibilities to ensure the safety of the public,
		4. allowing consensual investigations of backgrounds, psychological assessments, medical inspections and safety reviews when personnel are assigned to advanced experiments with a biosafety level of more than three;
3. Further recommends the cooperation of local institutions with laboratories to strengthen regulations and abide by the internationally agreed rules on biosafety in every nation through means of:
	1. having labs hold regular training sessions with local fire brigade, police, and medical institutions,
	2. ensuring that transportation companies and transferring mechanisms are handled properly and safely,
	3. IT sectors and security teams maintain real-time connection with these labs to respond to possible risks,
	4. create a safe distance between the cities and the laboratory;
4. Further encourages the creation of an international link of labs and scientists under the Science and Technology Policies Information Exchange System (SPINES) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to ensure adequate awareness among private government affairs on the potential risks and safety measures necessary for biorisk management through such as but not limited to:
	1. sharing of information on new VBM (valuable biological materials),
	2. increased awareness of possible emergencies and risks happening in different labs, including the potential for bioterrorism in the workplace;
5. Asks to increase national control or the UN create an organization dedicated towards the management of specific agricultural pesticides and industrial waste to ensure that such materials do not pose an active threat to the biosecurity of the nation through means such as but not limited to:
	1. ensuring the safe disposal of all industrial waste material that may cause the release of dangerous pathogens or encourage the proliferation of pathogens such as but not limited to:

i. high temperature incineration

ii. underground disposal

* 1. monitoring the purchase and use of pesticides by farmers through the local environmental administration to ensure the safety of the local environment.