

22 December 2009

Trust and Verify, October-December 2009, issue No. 127

The new issue is now available and can be accessed [here](#).

In this issue, Bharath Gopaldaswamy discusses infrasound technology while Jasper Pandza sheds light on how one can use Landsat 7 images and Photoshop with remarkable results. Plus Verification Watch, Science and Technology Scan and VERTIC News and Events.

22 December 2009

Putting the CTBT into practice

VERTIC's new brief examines the practical application of the various elements of the CTBT verification regime, their interplay, and suggests a model for technical interaction among States Parties to facilitate verification. It is written by two prominent Australian CTBT veterans.

Malcolm Coxhead is the Section Head for CTBT implementation at the Australian Safeguards and Non-Proliferation Office (ASNO), responsible for implementation of CTBT obligations and oversight of the International Monitoring System in Australia. He has led the process to elaborate a draft OSI Operational Manual in CTBT Preparatory Commission's Working Group B since mid-2004.

David Jepsen is the leader of the Nuclear Monitoring Project at Geoscience Australia, responsible for monitoring nuclear explosions worldwide and supporting the establishment of the CTBT verification system. From 1997-2007 he led the IDC Experts Group on seismo-acoustic Event Screening in the CTBTO Preparatory Commission.

Download VERTIC brief no. 10, '[Putting the CTBT into practice](#)', (PDF, 167k)

14 December 2009

VERTIC participates in Meeting of States Parties to the BWC

Angela Woodward (Programme Director), Scott Spence (Senior Legal Officer) and Rocío Escauriaza Leal (Legal Officer) participated in the Meeting of States Parties to the BWC, which took place in Geneva during 7-11 December.

Angela gave VERTIC's statement on the first day of the meeting, and Rocío spoke on behalf of the BioWeapons Prevention Project (BWPP). VERTIC also held a side event on Thursday, 10 December, chaired by Angela. Scott gave a presentation on VERTIC's new *Regulatory Guidelines for Implementation of the BWC and related requirements of UN Security Council Resolution 1540*. His presentation was followed by Bob Mathews who spoke on the regulatory regime for the BWC in Australia, along with building a culture of responsibility among life scientists through codes of workplace conduct, and Nicholas Sims who spoke on the development of an 'accountability mechanism' for the BWC. Bob is a member of VERTIC's International Verification Consultants Network; Nicolas is a member of VERTIC's Board of Trustees.

[VERTIC statement](#)

[BWPP statement](#)

4 December 2009

VERTIC releases two new papers on the CTBT

VERTIC is pleased to announce the release of two papers, in a new publication series *Occasional Papers*. The papers, by Edward Ifft, focus on modalities and technical considerations in on-site inspections under the CTBT.

Occasional Papers 1:

[On-site Inspections under the 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty \(CTBT\): Modalities \(Edward Ifft\)](#)

Occasional Papers 2:

[On-site Inspections under the 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty \(CTBT\): Technical Considerations \(Edward Ifft\)](#)

4 December 2009

VERTIC participates in successful launch of Chemical Weapons Convention Coalition; VERTIC congratulates the new Director-General of the OPCW

Angela Woodward (Programme Director – NIM) and Scott Spence (Senior Legal Officer) co-chaired the final day of a two-day civil society meeting, during the 14th Conference of the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention, on 2-3 December. The meeting was a collaborative effort with Dr Paul Walker at Global Green, the US affiliate of Green Cross International, and had the objective of establishing the world's first civil society coalition devoted to the complete elimination of chemical weapons.

VERTIC is proud to announce that consensus was reached among 40 participants, representing over 25 civil society organizations from around the world, on the founding document for the establishment of the Chemical Weapons Convention Coalition (CWCC). Its mission statement reads:

“The Chemical Weapons Convention Coalition (CWCC) is an independent, international body whose mission is to support the aims of the Chemical Weapons Convention and to supplement the efforts of the member states of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons with focused civil society action aimed at achieving full membership of the Convention, the safe and timely elimination of all chemical weapons, preventing the misuse of chemicals for hostile purposes and promoting their peaceful use.”

VERTIC also congratulates Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü of Turkey on the confirmation of his appointment as the next Director-General of the OPCW. Ambassador Üzümcü confirmed his support for civil society participation in the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in his acceptance statement and during a visit to the establishment meeting of the CWCC on 3 December.

3 December 2009

VERTIC participates in the 14th Conference of the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention

Angela Woodward (Programme Director – NIM) and Scott Spence (Senior Legal Officer) represented VERTIC at the 14th Conference of the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention, which took place during 30 November to 4 December in The Hague, Netherlands. Angela and Scott were also participants and co-chairs of a two-day meeting with the objective of establishing an NGO Coalition Against Chemical Weapons. This was a collaborative effort with Dr Paul Walker at Global Green, the US affiliate of Green Cross International.

VERTIC participated on 2 December in the “Open Forum”, a civil society event open to all delegations at the Conference. Scott gave a [presentation](#) on VERTIC's National Implementation Measures Programme.

12 November 2009

VERTIC-Pugwash Event on fissile material

VERTIC and British Pugwash will hold a joint event on national and international control of fissile materials on 26 November 2009. This event is open and on the record. All invited. However, places are limited, so register in time to Sandra Butcher at [sibutcher \(at\) earthlink.net](mailto:sibutcher@earthlink.net)

3 November 2009

Minister Victor Slipchenko joins VERTIC advisory board

Mr. Victor Slipchenko entered Soviet Union and later Russian Federation diplomatic service in 1968 upon graduation from the Moscow State Institute of International Relations. With more than 40 years of diplomatic service, Mr. Slipchenko had acquired vast experience in negotiation and implementation of arms control and disarmament agreements as well as in building both international and domestic consensus on these issues.

In particular, Mr. Slipchenko was an active participant in the trilateral negotiations on a comprehensive nuclear test ban in the late 70s and bilateral talks with the United States on the TTBT Verification Protocol in the 80s. During his diplomatic service, in particular in his capacity as Russian Foreign Ministry's Deputy Director for Disarmament Affairs, Mr. Slipchenko had been actively involved in the formation and day-to-day implementation of the Russian arms control and non-proliferation policy, inter alia, by co-ordinating his country's review and decision making processes on withdrawal and dismantlement of nuclear weapons as well as on the safe disposal of HEU and plutonium released as a result of Russia's nuclear disarmament program.

In 1993, Mr. Slipchenko was appointed by the Russian Government as Deputy Chief Negotiator for CTBT in

Geneva. In that capacity he had contributed to the elaboration in the Conference on Disarmament of a draft treaty on the subject, inter alia, while serving as Friend of the Chair on on-site inspections. Through his eleven-year service in the United Nations Secretariat, in particular in the UN Department for Disarmament Affairs, Mr. Slipchenko had acquired experience in arms control administration and management in an international organization. From 2005 to 2009, he had served as expert of the UN Security Council's Committee 1540 on non-proliferation.

Mr. Slipchenko had participated in many international seminars and conferences on arms control and security issues and published numerous articles on these subjects both in Russia and abroad. In 2009, he authored a book entitled One Life of a Disarmament Diplomat. Mr. Slipchenko retired from his country's foreign service with a diplomatic rank of Minister Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. He is married and has two children.

23 October 2009

VERTIC participates in BWC Workshop in Saudi Arabia

Angela Woodward (National Implementing Measures Programme Director) and Scott Spence (Senior Legal Officer), along with senior officials from the Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit in Geneva, participated in a workshop sponsored by the Government of Saudi Arabia in Riyadh during 20 to 21 October 2009. The event, with participants from Saudi Arabia and other GCC countries, covered the current biological weapons threat, overlaps between the BWC and UN Security Council Resolution 1540, national implementation, assistance, cooperation, coordination, confidence-building measures, scientific and technological developments, as well as regional and national perspectives and activities.

The delegation was taken on a tour of the research and laboratory facilities of the King Faisal Specialist Hospital. The VERTIC/ISU delegation was also hosted to a dinner by H.H. Prince Dr. Turki bin Muhammad bin Saud Al-Kabir, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Multilateral Relations, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

See also the [UN press release](#)

VERTIC presentations:

[Confidence-Building Measures \(CBMs\) for the 1972 Biological Weapons Convention and Transcript](#)

[Regional perspectives: the BWC in the Middle East/North Africa Regional Perspectives](#)

[National Implementation of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and UN Security Council Resolution 1540](#)

[VERTIC's National Implementing Measures Programme](#)

15 October 2009

VERTIC NIM Programme discussed in Clingendael paper by former Permanent Representative of Netherlands to OPCW

VERTIC's NIM Programme was discussed in a paper published by the Netherlands Institute of International Relations Clingendael. Ambassador Maarten Lak, Strategic Adviser to the Netherlands MFA and former Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the OPCW, authored "Governance in the international security arena: A role for non-state stakeholders as co-providers of security", which was presented at an invitation-only seminar on 13 October.

In the paper, Ambassador Lak discusses VERTIC's role in national implementation of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention, and concludes by noting that "...the record to date and the support given by VERTIC in conjunction with several key states supporting the BTWC in practice and the full reporting that these and VERTIC provide have made this symbiotic relationship valuable. The states benefiting from technical assistance services attest to this. If, and when, a proper inter-governmentally agreed verification mechanism for the BTWC would ever be established, VERTIC's and the Implementation Support Unit from UNODA's experience should certainly be built upon".

[Governance in the international security arena: A role for non-state stakeholders as co-providers of security](#)

8 October 2009

VERTIC publishes BWC Regulatory Guidelines

VERTIC is pleased to announce the publication of its new 'Regulatory Guidelines for National Implementation of the 1972 Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and Related Requirements of UN Security Council Resolution 1540'.

VERTIC has developed these *Regulatory Guidelines* as guidance for States when they are engaged in the process of preparing any regulatory and administrative measures that may be necessary to *supplement* their primary legislation for national implementation of the 1972 Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention, as well as the biological weapons-related provisions of UN Security Council Resolution 1540.

VERTIC is grateful to the Global Partnership Program, Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, for the translation into French and Russian of VERTIC's BWC Regulatory Guidelines.

الصلة ذات والإلتزامات الوطني الصعيد على 1972 لعام السمومية و البيولوجية الأسلحة حظر اتفاقية تنفيذ تنظيمية ارشادات 1540 رقم الأمن مجلس قرار بمقتضى

Regulatory Guidelines for National Implementation of the 1972 Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and Related Requirements of UN Security Council 1540

Guide de réglementation en vue de l'application à l'échelon national de la Convention de 1972 sur les Armes Biologiques ou à Toxines et les dispositions pertinentes de la Résolution 1540 du Conseil de Sécurité des Nations Unies

Resolution Нормативные рекомендации по осуществлению на национальном уровне Конвенции 1972 года о запрещении биологического и токсинного оружия и связанных с ней требований Резолюции 1540, принятой Советом Безопасности ООН

Guía para la Reglamentación de la Convención de 1972 sobre Armas Biológicas y Tóxicas y Requisitos Relacionados de la Resolución 1540 del Consejo de Seguridad de la ONU

8 October 2009

VERTIC National Authority Factsheet available in Arabic

VERTIC is pleased to announce that its factsheet on the 'National Authority for the Biological Weapons Convention' (Factsheet No.10) is now available in Arabic.

This factsheet is already available in English, French, Russian and Spanish and can be downloaded from our [NIM Webpage](#)

[Factsheet No.10 in Arabic](#)

1 October 2009

VERTIC co-organises side event during the Comprehensive Review of UN Security Council Resolution 1540

VERTIC co-organised a major civil society event led by the Stanley Foundation "Resolution 1540: At the Crossroads". The side event took place during the open meeting of the Comprehensive Review of UN Resolution 1540, on 1 October at UN headquarters in New York.

The meeting had the objective of sharing ideas on how to have a civil society impact on and further enhance the implementation of Resolution 1540. Experts from the 1540 Committee, UN Member State delegations, as well as participants from NGOs from around the world participated in the event.

The event was co-sponsored by the UN Office of Disarmament Affairs and co-organized by the World Institute for Nuclear Security, the Arab Institute for Security Studies, the Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC), the Nonproliferation for Global Security Foundation, the Henry L. Stimson Center, Fondation pour la Recherche Stratégique (FRS), Institute for Security Studies, and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

Rocío Escarriaza Leal, VERTIC's Legal Officer, presented the findings and conclusions of the report issued after the conference co-organised by VERTIC and the Netherlands Institute of International Relations

Clingendael – with funding from the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs — on the “Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 at the national level: promotion of best practices and policy and technical co-ordination and co-operation”, held in March of this year. VERTIC also submitted, as an input to the side event, its “Report on VERTIC’s Technical Coordination Meeting: For legislative assistance facilitators and providers in the nuclear, chemical and biological weapons fields”.

[VERTIC’s statement on the VERTIC-Clingendael Conference on “Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 at the national level: promotion of best practices and policy and technical co-ordination and co-operation”](#)

[Report on “Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 at the national level: promotion of best practices and policy and technical co-ordination and co-operation”](#)

[Report on VERTIC’s Technical Coordination Meeting: For legislative assistance facilitators and providers in the nuclear, chemical and biological weapons fields](#)

1 October 2009

Trust and Verify, July-September 2009, issue No. 126

The new issue is now available and can be accessed [here](#).

In this issue, Hassan Elbahtimy discusses verified dismantlement of nuclear warheads, Richard Guthrie writes about the 2009 BWC Meeting of Experts and Andreas Persbo offers some thoughts on the verification of a fissile material cut-off treaty. Plus Verification Watch, Science and Technology Scan and VERTIC News and Events.

24 September 2009

VERTIC endorses CTBT NGO Statement

VERTIC has endorsed the NGO statement to the CTBT Article XIV conference which opens in New York today.

The statement argues, "To help put the CTBT over the finish line, we also strongly urge that like-minded pro-CTBT states work together to develop and execute a common diplomatic strategy to persuade the remaining states to sign and/or ratify the treaty before the next Article XIV Conference two years from now. Failure to pursue such an effort will cast doubt on the sincerity of the many strong statements of support for CTBT entry into force expressed at this conference.

It also states, "With the support of a wide array of NGOs in the United States and around the globe the President must convince the Senate that the Treaty enhances U.S. security, is effectively verifiable, and would not compromise future efforts to maintain the reliability, safety, or security of the United States’ existing stockpile of nuclear warheads. Technical advances in each of these areas over the past decade should make the case for the CTBT even stronger than it was in 1999 when the Senate failed to provide its advice and consent for ratification."

The [full statement](#) is available at the Arms Control Association’s website.

22 September 2009

VERTIC will participate in BWC Workshop in Saudi Arabia

Angela Woodward (National Implementing Measures Programme Director) and Scott Spence (Senior Legal Officer), along with staff from the Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit, will be participating in a workshop sponsored by the Government of Saudi Arabia in Riyadh during 20 to 21 October 2009. The event will cover the current biological weapons threat, overlaps between the BWC and UN Security Council Resolution 1540, national implementation, assistance, cooperation, coordination, confidence-building measures, scientific and technological developments, as well as regional and national perspectives and activities.

For more information please visit the [BWC Implementation Support Unit’s website](#).

22 September 2009

VERTIC participates in BWC Workshop in Kazakhstan

Scott Spence, Senior Legal Officer, participated in a BTWC Regional Awareness Raising Seminar and Capacity-Building Workshop, in Astana, Kazakhstan

during 16-17 September 2009. Scott gave presentations on national implementing measures for the BTWC and the biological weapons-related provisions of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 and on the establishment of a National Authority for the BTWC.

21 September 2009

VERTIC delivers statement to IAEA

On 14 September 2009, VERTIC delivered a short statement to the IGO/NGO liaison group at the General Conference. The statement went through the organization's activities in respect to the verified dismantlement of nuclear arms, the Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty and National Implementation Measures.

The presentation was entitled '[Our activities relevant to the work of the IAEA](#)' (pdf, 48kb) and was delivered by VERTIC's acting Executive Director, Andreas Persbo.

14 September 2009

VERTIC launches trial blog to cover the IAEA General Conference

VERTIC will be updating the community on events at the IAEA General Conference through its trial blog:

[*Trust & Verify Online*](#)

11 September 2009

VERTIC nuclear researcher presents at Monterey

On 25 August 2009, Hassan Elbahtimy delivered a presentation on the UK-Norway initiative to a [CNS](#) workshop on 'verification challenges'.

The presentation, entitled '[UK-Norway Initiative: Mapping progress](#)' (pdf, 2.4mb) went through some of the lessons learned from the initiative without prejudging the outcome of the Initiative's internal review and evaluation process.

VERTIC's work in this area is funded by the Ford Foundation, the NRPA and the UK Ministry of Defence. We are grateful to IVCN member Patricia Lewis for her kind invitation to present our work in sunny California.

7 September 2009

Montpellier keynote

On Friday, 4 September 2009, VERTIC's acting executive director delivered a keynote address to the 2009 International School of Nuclear Law (ISNL).

The keynote is entitled, '[towards a stronger verification regime in nuclear disarmament. Some simple observations](#)' (pdf, 6.4mb) and examines some key questions that should be addressed by international lawyers in support of various initiatives on nuclear disarmament.

The ISNL was established in 2001 by the University of Montpellier 1 and the NEA and benefits from support by the International Nuclear Law Association (INLA) and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Its objective is to provide a high quality, intensive course of education in international nuclear law to law students at doctoral or masters level and to young professionals in the nuclear sector who wish to develop their knowledge. Participants study all essential aspects of nuclear law: radiological protection, nuclear safety, radioactive waste management, transport of nuclear materials, physical protection, non-proliferation, regulation of trade, environmental protection and nuclear third party liability and insurance

1 September 2009

The ElBaradei legacy

VERTIC's acting executive director has recently published an article together with legendary journalist Mark Hibbs on the legacy of outgoing IAEA director-general Mohamed ElBaradei.

The profile piece was picked up by the IAEA Daily Press Review and has been placed in the [Director-General's Corner](#) on the IAEA website. A number of political blogs and websites have also started to highlight it.

Interview: Mohamed ElBaradei [\[pdf\]](#)

By Bulletin Staff

After three terms, 12 years, and countless unprecedented challenges, the IAEA can't help but be changed by its outgoing director-general. Three months before Mohamed ElBaradei leaves office, he explains how such an evolution is only a start.

The EIBaradei legacy [\[pdf\]](#)

By Mark Hibbs and Andreas Persbo

As the International Atomic Energy Agency's director-general, Mohamed ElBaradei stood up to the United States, prevented a widening Middle East conflict, and won the Nobel Peace Prize. Yet as he prepares to leave his post, the future of the agency is in doubt.

25 August 2009

VERTIC acting director talks at UNIDIR

On 21 August 2009, Andreas Persbo delivered a talk on the challenges of verifying a fissile material cut-off to the Conference on Disarmament. His talk, entitled, '[a verified ban on fissile material production](#)', was delivered in the second session of a seminar organized by UNIDIR. The talk was based on a VERTIC prepared study on the FMCT commissioned by SIPRI in early 2009.

The first session featured speakers from the International Panel on Fissile Materials.

VERTIC's work on the FMCT is funded by the Ford Foundation.

24 August 2009

VERTIC Statement at the 2009 BWC Meeting of Experts

Scott Spence, VERTIC's Senior Legal Officer, delivered VERTIC's statement to the 2009 Meeting of Experts to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC).

VERTIC's statement gave an overview of the various achievements of the NIM Project.

[VERTIC Statement](#)

5 August 2009

UNIDIR-VERTIC handbook now in French

UNIDIR has re-released our joint handbook to assist negotiators in devising verification and compliance systems for arms control and disarmament agreements. The Handbook provides a wealth of models and previous experience to draw on in developing appropriate and effective monitoring, verification and compliance systems. It includes agreements, terms and in-depth analyses and will interest the expert and the layperson alike. The book is designed to be useful both globally and regionally. Written with the Middle East in mind, where arms control will be an essential component in the regional peace process, it was published in back-to-back English and Arabic format. It is now available in French.

The translated version, '[Les termes de la sécurité: un manuel sur la vérification et le respect des dispositions des traités](#)', is available from the UNIDIR website (pdf, 349k).

22 July 2009

CNS feature story on UK-Norway Initiative

The James Martin Center for Non-Proliferation Studies recently published a feature story on the UK-Norway Initiative. It contains an image of the exercise weapon being displayed to a number of the VIPs that visited the facility on the first day. The image also shows the present information barrier setup.

See Christina Hansell, '[Full-Scale Exercise Mocking Up Non-Nuclear State Verification of Nuclear Warhead Dismantlement Held](#)', CNS Feature Story, 21 July 2009'

17 July 2009

BBC covers UK-Norway Initiative

The BBC has joined publications such as the Economist, Nature and New Scientist in highlighting VERTIC's work on the verified dismantlement of nuclear arms. Yesterday, BBC security correspondent Gordon Corerea ran an article on '[How to dismantle a nuclear bomb](#)' for the BBC News World website.

Also, '[The World Tonight](#)' on BBC Radio 4 ran a five minute segment on the on-site inspection exercise (the 'monitoring visit') conducted by the UK and Norway last month. The programme is available for UK residents on the [BBC iPlayer](#).

VERTIC acts as a non-technical advisor to, and an independent observer of, this very important project. The project partners are:

[AWE plc](#), Aldermaston, UK

[Institute for Energy Technology](#), Kjeller, Norway

[NORSAR](#), Kjeller, Norway

Ministry of Defence, London, UK

Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI), Kjeller, Norway

Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority, Østerås, Norway

For more information and a selection of further coverage, see:

Factsheet 9: Verifiable Nuclear Disarmament (pdf, 858k);

'Bombers vs verifiers: A nuclear race worth winning', New Scientist, 24 June 2009; and

'Swords and Ploughshares: The new nuclear pioneers', The Economist, 14 August 2008

VERTIC's work in this area is funded by the UK Ministry of Defence and the Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority.

7 July 2009

VERTIC submits report to UK Ministry of Defence

VERTIC has submitted a report on 'observations on the evolution of verification' to the UK Ministry of Defence. The report outlines past and recent developments in verification, and draws some general conclusions for use by verification systems designers.

5 July 2009

Server downtime

The VERTIC server was down for Development House electrical maintenance 3-5 July 2009, which means that some e-mails addressed to our staff may have bounced. The server is now back on-line. Please check that your e-mail has been delivered properly.

3 July 2009

Andreas Persbo gives presentation to the APS

Andreas Persbo, VERTIC's acting Executive Director, joined a meeting at the American Physical Society (APS) in Washington, DC, on 30 June 2009. He gave a brief update on the activities of the UK-Norway Initiative. The meeting was well attended, with several representatives of predominantly US national laboratories in the room.

VERTIC's activities in support of the UK-Norway Initiative is funded by the UK Ministry of the Defence and the Norwegian Radiological Protection Authority.

1 July 2009

Trust and Verify, April-June 2009, issue No. 125

The new issue is now available and can be accessed [here](#).

In this issue, Andreas Persbo recalls discussions with Iranians, while Sir Hugh Beach ponders the state of the nuclear safeguards regime. Plus Verification Watch, Science and Technology Scan and VERTIC News and Events.

25 June 2009

Larry MacFaul presents illegal logging pilot project results

On 23 June 2009, Larry MacFaul, together with Sam Lawson, gave a presentation entitled "Ten years on - what have we achieved? The Chatham House pilot assessment of progress in tackling illegal logging and associated trade" to the [14th Illegal Logging Update and Stakeholder Consultation](#).

The meeting was attended by about 200 delegates drawn from non-governmental organizations, governments and the private sector.

The project has developed a set of indicators to measure the extent and effectiveness of the response to illegal logging across a range of countries and sectors. The indicators cover awareness of the issue, government policy development and implementation, private sector policy development and implementation, and what is known about the extent of illegal logging and associated trade. The project findings should also assist policy-makers and other stakeholders in developing the most effective responses to this issue. Monitoring of these indicators will take place biennially.

The presentation discussed the projects pilot phase, which assessed progress in five countries: Indonesia, Cameroon, Vietnam, UK and US. The pilot report was released at the meeting. The report includes the

results of the country assessments as well as a description of the project methodology and lessons learned from the pilot phase.

The project is now moving into its full phase, covering an additional seven countries.

[Pilot report](#), Chatham House (PDF, 4560k).

[Project website](#), Chatham House.

22 June 2009

VERTIC observes on-site inspection exercise

On 15-19 June 2009, VERTIC staff observed the first ever joint on-site inspection exercise conducted by a nuclear- and a non-nuclear weapon state.

The exercise was held on the facilities of the Institute for Energy Technology, the Norwegian Defence Research Agency and NORSAR and involved participants from the UK Atomic Weapon's Establishment, Ministry of Defence, Foreign & Commonwealth Office, and the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills. The exercise was reported in Norwegian media. Several other representatives from the media were invited to observe.

In the coming months, the project will engage in evaluation and assessment. A report to the 2010 NPT review conference will be prepared, as will an independent assessment by VERTIC.

VERTIC is grateful to the Ford Foundation, the Norwegian Radiological Protection Authority and the UK Ministry of Defence for its support to the nuclear arms control programme.

12 June 2009

VERTIC Factsheet No.10

VERTIC has published a new factsheet on the 'National Authority for the Biological Weapons Convention'. This factsheet provides guidance to set up a National Authority for the BWC. The factsheet is currently available in English, French, Russian and Spanish.

Factsheet 10

National Authority for the Biological Weapons Convention

Fiche Technique 10

Autorité Nationale pour la Convention sur les Armes Biologiques

Справка 10

НАЦИОНАЛЬНЫЙ ОРГАН ПО РЕАЛИЗАЦИИ КОНВЕНЦИИ
О ЗАПРЕЩЕНИИ БИОЛОГИЧЕСКОГО ОРУЖИЯ

Ficha Técnica 10

Autoridad Nacional para la Convención sobre Armas Biológicas

10 June 2009

New VERTIC Factsheet

VERTIC has published a new factsheet on 'Verifiable Multilateral Nuclear Disarmament' (Factsheet Number 9).

Factsheet 9

4 June 2009

NIM Project discussed in l'Observatoire de la Non-Prolifération

VERTIC's National Implementation Measures (NIM) Project was discussed in the latest version of the '[Observatoire de la Non-Prolifération](#)', which is published monthly by [CESIM](#) (Centre d'Etudes de Sécurité Internationale et de Maîtrise des Armements).

28 May 2009

VERTIC BWC and CWC Factsheets available in Russian

VERTIC is grateful to the Global Partnership Program, Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, for

the translation into Russian of VERTIC's Factsheets on the Biological Weapons Convention (Factsheet Number 7) and on the Chemical Weapons Convention (Factsheet Number 8).

[BWC Factsheet](#)
[CWC Factsheet](#)

15 May 2009

Presentation on UK-Norway Initiative

On 8 May 2009, the UK-Norway Initiative presented its second progress report to the preparatory committee to the 2010 PrepCom. This presentation outlines project activities in 2009/2010. It also touches on some preliminary lessons learned.

[Presentation](#)

16 April 2009

VERTIC Sample Act available in Russian

VERTIC is grateful to the Global Partnership Program, Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, for the translation into Russian of VERTIC's "*Sample Act for National Implementation of the 1972 Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and related Requirements of the UN Security Council Resolution 1540*":

[Russian](#)

Образец закона для осуществления на национальном уровне Конвенции 1972 года о запрещении биологического и токсинного оружия и связанных с ней требований Резолюции 1540, принятой Советом Безопасности ООН

26-27 March 2009

Clingendael/VERTIC Workshop on Resolution 1540 Implementation

Clingendael and VERTIC co-hosted a workshop on implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004). The event took place in The Hague on the 26 and 27 of March and was by invitation only.

The objective of this workshop was to discuss how national implementation of the obligations of the Resolution might be more effective by comparing 'best practices' and promoting greater policy and technical co-operation and co-ordination among the 1540 Committee and the nuclear, biological and chemical weapons regimes.

[Report of the meeting](#)

18 March 2009

New VERTIC Briefs

VERTIC Brief No.9:

Report on VERTIC's Technical Coordination Meeting: For legislative assistance facilitators and providers in the nuclear, chemical and biological weapons field

This Brief contains some of the ideas, themes and conclusions that emerged during the Technical Coordination Meeting for legislative and technical assistance facilitators and providers, hosted by VERTIC on 29 January 2008. The meeting aimed to discuss approaches to developing the capacity of states, to hear experiences of providing assistance, to discover lessons learned, and finally, to consider ways in which facilitators and providers could liaise or collaborate with each other in the future to achieve the overall objective of a safer, more secure world.

[VERTIC Brief no. 9](#)

VERTIC Brief No.8:

News from Open Skies: A co-operative treaty maintaining military transparency

Hartwig Spitzer

This paper outlines the main provisions of the Treaty on Open Skies and discusses the interest of the original and new states parties in the agreement. It focuses primarily, though, on events since 2005: the first Review Conference, preparations for use of additional sensor categories, the flight allocation for 2008, and the outcome of treaty implementation—that is, support for monitoring of arms control treaties and military transparency in a co-operative setting.

[VERTIC Brief no. 8](#)

28 January 2009

VERTIC presentation on CTBT OSIs

On 28 January 2009, VERTIC gave a presentation on lessons learned from the CTBTO's first integrated on-site inspection exercise held in Kazakhstan. The presentation was given to a meeting organized by the Washington DC based New America Foundation. Other presenters were David Hafemeister (the Arms Control Association) and James Acton (the Carnegie Endowment). The meeting, chaired by Jeffrey Lewis (the New America Foundation), was attended by about 60 non-governmental representatives, academics, and government officials.

[VERTIC Presentation](#) (PowerPoint Slide Show)

[VERTIC Presentation](#) (PDF)

28-30 January 2009

VERTIC participates in a biosecurity workshop in Uganda

Scott Spence, VERTIC's Senior Legal Officer, participated in a workshop in Kampala, Uganda during 28-30 January on "Establishing and Promoting Standards and Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) for Running Safe, Secure, and Sustainable Laboratories in Africa". There were participants from nine countries from all regions of Africa and speakers from Europe, North America, and Africa.

Scott gave a presentation on "5 Steps to National Implementation of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and Security Council Resolution 1540", including a review of agencies for biological incident response and policy-making.

Topics covered in the workshop included: an overview of biosafety issues and linking science to policy, intertwining biosafety and biosecurity, and setting laboratory standards. There were also 4 breakout groups for deeper discussion on training and oversight for mitigating laboratory accidents, quality control and assurance for high-security labs including collection & handling of infectious agents, determining whether to analyze locally or to send to a regional or international lab, and legal and regulatory systems on biosafety and biosecurity.

[VERTIC Presentation](#)

20-21 January 2009

13th Illegal Logging Update and Stakeholder Consultation

Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House, London.

Discussions at this meeting focused mainly on the FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPAs), with sessions on Ghana, Cameroon and Malaysia, and an overview of negotiations under way elsewhere. There was also a session devoted to the European Commission's proposal for a system of 'due diligence' for timber operators; and sessions on REDD and forest governance, certification, private sector activities and latest research.