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Bioterrorism

Final Communiqué

1st Interpol Global Conference

Lyon, France, 1-2 March 2005



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Introduction

The 1st Interpol Global Conference on Preventing Bio-terrorism was held in Lyon, France on 1 and 2 March 2005. It was attended by more than 500 delegates from 155 countries, with representatives from the police, scientific and academic communities, as well as delegates from international and non governmental organizations.

The Conference,

Recognized the continuing threat posed by global terrorism and the ongoing need to enhance the co-ordination of effort at national and international levels, in order to strengthen the global response to this serious challenge and threat to international security;

Acknowledged that the terrorist use of biological weapons, inter alia, constitutes a serious threat to global security and to the civilian population across the world;

Agreed that effective international law enforcement co-ordination and national action is necessary, in partnership with relevant agencies, to recognize, prevent and contain the threat from the terrorist use of biological weapons; and

Welcomed the timely Interpol initiative, supported by the Alfred P Sloan Foundation, to improve the understanding, preparedness and capability of law enforcement agencies to tackle bio-terrorism.

In particular, the Conference noted that:

Developing further co-operation between law enforcement agencies, public and animal health authorities and other relevant organizations, nationally and internationally, is essential to address the threat of bio-terrorism; and

Interpol has an important role to play in supporting national and international efforts to prevent and investigate terrorism generally, and bio-terrorism particularly.

In this respect, delegates agreed that:

- The Conference had provided a valuable opportunity to improve understanding of the current and future threats posed by bio-terrorism;
- Interpol, as the global police organization, should further promote and enhance co-operation and partnership initiatives between law

enforcement and relevant agencies to strengthen the global response to bio-terrorism; and

- Specifically, Interpol should be encouraged to further co-ordinate, develop and enhance the knowledge, training and capability of law enforcement to recognize, prevent, contain and investigate bio-terrorist threats, including by:
 - establishing a resource centre at the disposal of worldwide law enforcement;
 - enhancing co-operation and understanding between international organizations and research centres, including those dealing in genetic engineering;
 - developing an Incident Response Guide; and,
 - providing training and awareness programmes, including Regional workshops;
 - seeking to develop, with law enforcement and relevant agencies, ways of gathering and sharing information concerning the threat of bio-terrorism more effectively.

News and Media Releases

- ▶ [Interpol Conference agrees on measures to fight Bio-Terrorism](#) [ar](#) [en](#) [es](#) [fr](#)
- ▶ [Bio-Terrorism Conference opens with warning of major threat](#) [ar](#) [en](#) [es](#) [fr](#)
- ▶ [Interpol Bio-Terrorism Conference set to be largest ever](#) [ar](#) [en](#) [es](#) [fr](#)
- ▶ [Interpol hosts first global conference on bio-terrorism](#) [ar](#) [en](#) [es](#) [fr](#)
- ▶ [Interpol launches police training programme on bio-terrorism](#) [ar](#) [en](#) [es](#) [fr](#)

Speeches

- ▶ [Speech by Jackie Selebi, President, Interpol](#)
- ▶ [Speech by Ronald K. Noble, Secretary General, Interpol](#)

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- ▶ [Speakers' CVs](#)
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- ▶ [Agenda \(Diffusion - 30/12/2004\)](#) [ar](#) [en](#) [es](#) [fr](#) (Acrobat files)