



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 June – 12 July 2010

**DTRA**

## **BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (BWC)**

### **White House Aims to Boost U.S. Biosecurity**

*Global Security Newswire, 06 July 2010, <http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/>*

The Obama administration on Friday issued an executive order that would rank the government's directory of disease agents based on their threat to public health and increase physical security and personnel screening at U.S. biological research facilities. (1,118 words)

[Click here for full text.](#)

## **CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (CWC)**

### **CMA Destroys 75 Percent of U.S. Chemical Weapons**

*Chemical Materials Agency, 06 July 2010, <http://www.cma.army.mil/>*

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) announced today that on July 1, 2010, it achieved the destruction of 75 percent of its chemical agent stockpile as defined under international treaty obligations. (332 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

### **Maradykovsky Finishes Destroying over 150 Tonnes of Toxic Agents**

*ITAR-TASS, 07 July 2010, accessed via Open Source Center*

Russia's Maradykovsky chemical weapons disposal plant in the Kirov region has finished destroying more than 150 tonnes of yperite-lewisite mixtures. (821 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

### **New Russian CW Disposal Site to Open Later this Year**

*Global Security Newswire, 08 July 2010, <http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/>*

A new chemical warfare material disposal plant is slated to open later this year in central Russia's Bryansk Region, with full operations expected by early 2011, Interfax reported. (251 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

### **Global Campaign to Destroy Chemical Weapons Passes 60 Percent Mark**

*OPCW, 08 July 2010, <http://www.opcw.org/>*

The destruction of chemical weapons that have been declared to the OPCW by States Parties under the provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) has surpassed 60 percent of global stockpiles, according to data reported today by the OPCW Technical Secretariat in The Hague. (363 words) [Click here for full text.](#)



News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 June – 12 July 2010

**DTRA**

## CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS (CCM)

### **Lao Government Announces Plan to Host 1<sup>st</sup> Cluster Munitions Conference**

*Vientiane Times, 08 July 2010, accessed via Open Source Center*

The Lao government officially announced it will host the first meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions from November 9-12 in Vientiane and declared the establishment of the Cluster Munitions Trust Fund yesterday. (552 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

## NEW STRATEGIC ARMS REDUCTION TREATY (NEW START)

### **Romney Misinformed on Nuclear Pact, Lugar Says**

*Global Security Newswire, 09 July 2010, <http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/>*

Former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney made poorly informed assertions in his argument this week against ratifying the replacement to the 1991 Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, U.S. Senator Richard Lugar (R-Indiana) said in a statement yesterday. (805 words)

[Click here for full text.](#)

## TREATY ON OPEN SKIES

### **Nations Photograph Each Other under Treaty**

*Stars and Stripes, 05 July 2010, <http://www.stripes.com/>*

“Every week of the year almost, countries are flying over [other] countries as part of the treaty,” said Marine Maj. Keith Oki, deputy mission commander for the latest U.S. flight over Russia.

(627 words) [Click here for full text.](#)

## FULL TEXT OF WEEKLY ARTICLES FOLLOWS:



News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 June – 12 July 2010

DTRA

## White House Aims to Boost U.S. Biosecurity

*Global Security Newswire*, 06 July 2010, <http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/>

The Obama administration on Friday issued an executive order that would rank the government's directory of disease agents based on their threat to public health and increase physical security and personnel screening at U.S. biological research facilities.

"Research on such so-called Biological Select Agents and Toxins [BSAT] ... is critical for the development and availability of public health and medical tools that are needed to detect, diagnose, recognize, and respond to outbreaks of infectious disease of both natural and deliberate origin," the White House said in a fact sheet.

"At the same time, the expansion since 2001 of infrastructure and resources dedicated to work with BSAT," it added, "coupled with the revelation that the perpetrator of the 2001 Bacillus anthracis (anthrax) attacks likely was a United States government researcher have raised concerns regarding the need to ensure BSAT are properly secured against those who would deliberately misuse them to harm people, animals, plants, or the environment."

The executive order, which followed the administration's review of biosecurity policy and procedures, is intended to address such concerns. Today, there are 82 listed "select agents" – pathogens and biological toxins, such as anthrax, declared to pose a severe threat to human or animal health by the Health and Human Services and Agriculture departments.

Under the new executive order, those two agencies over the next 18 months would prepare a list of high-risk, or "Tier 1," materials that present "the greatest risk of deliberate misuse with most significant potential for mass casualties or devastating effects to the economy, critical infrastructure, or public confidence."

The departments would evaluate options for the "targeted application of physical security and personnel reliability measures" for the agents and toxins placed in the highest risk tier. Personnel reliability programs are traditionally used to evaluate whether an individual is trustworthy enough to work with sensitive material or technology.

In addition, the order instructs the two lead agencies to consider reducing the overall number of disease materials on the select agent list. Agriculture and Health and Human Services would communicate the specific physical security and personnel reliability practices that registered laboratories would need to implement in accordance with the new tiered system.

The revised policies would receive support from the Justice Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the fact sheet accompanying the order states without elaboration. The order

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 June – 12 July 2010

**DTRA**

also instructs department and agency heads to establish a plan to coordinate oversight of select agent and toxins security. The blueprint would lay out methods for coordinated inspections of facilities; identify and resolve security and compliance issues; and detail how information would be shared among participating agencies.

A major influx of funding for biodefense activities over the last 10 years has produced concerns about the growing number of facilities and personnel conducting research with potentially lethal disease materials. This has led to calls from some sectors for increased regulation of the hundreds of relevant research sites.

Last year, the congressionally mandated Commission on the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferation and Terrorism concluded that an attack involving a weapon of mass destruction was likely to occur somewhere in the world by the end of 2013 unless significant security improvements are made. A biological strike was considered more likely than a nuclear attack because of the worldwide availability of deadly pathogens and other disease materials. [...]

The executive order somewhat mirrors legislation recently passed by the House Homeland Security Committee that would overhaul security at the country's biological research facilities and strengthen federal efforts against weapons of mass destruction.

That bill would see a panel of government and private agencies develop a tier of disease materials deemed to be the most serious threats to the United States. The Agriculture and Health and Human Services departments would conduct inspections of those laboratories and retain their current oversight roles.

The House bill was introduced several months after similar legislation was approved by the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee. That measure would separate the list of select agents and toxins into three tiers based on the danger they pose to the populace. Laboratories that handle the eight to 10 most lethal materials would be placed in the top tier and receive the strictest safety measures, under the watch of the Homeland Security Department. It remains unclear when the either bill would receive a full vote from the House or Senate.

The White House order also calls for the creation of a "Federal Experts Security Advisory Panel" for the select agent program. That committee, composed of federal security and scientific experts, would serve as the program's lead security advisory body, providing guidance on the stratification or reduction of the select agent list; best practices for physical security and

[back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 June – 12 July 2010

**DTRA**

personnel reliability; and other issues as determined by the Agriculture and Health and Human Services departments.

The Homeland Security Department would head a smaller group within the expert panel to provide guidance on recommended physical security practices for high-threat pathogens and toxins. In addition, the executive order directs the National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity to serve as an external source for advice and input on the program's policies and practices.

The executive order was received positively on Capitol Hill.

"With the issuance of this order, the president took a major step forward in addressing one of our most significant homeland security challenges – the threat of a biological attack," House Homeland Security Committee Chairman Bennie Thompson (D-Mississippi) said in a statement. "As with the WMD Prevention and Preparedness Act of 2010, which is moving through the House, the order requires the federal government to develop security enhancements to help prevent biological agents and toxins, like smallpox and anthrax, from getting in the hands of terrorists."

"Senator Lieberman welcomes the president's order as a significant step that brings the administration closer to the committee's vision for biodefense – as set forth by the WMD Prevention and Preparedness Act," Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee spokeswoman Leslie Phillips said in a statement today to Global Security Newswire. "He is only disappointed that the order does not go far enough to tap the Department of Homeland Security's existent expertise to prevent the most dangerous pathogens from falling into terrorists' hands."

The White House directive document was also greeted kindly by a leading organization in the bioresearch community.

"Many of the policies laid out in the executive order ... seem to be consistent with the views of the scientific community on laboratory biosecurity" Kavita Berger, associate program director at the American Association for the Advancement of Science's Center for Science, Technology and Security Policy, said today by e-mail. "The executive order attempts to deconflict regulations across relevant agencies, which could help reduce compliance burdens on research institutions," she told GSN.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 June – 12 July 2010

DTRA

## CMA Destroys 75 Percent of U.S. Chemical Weapons

Chemical Materials Agency, 06 July 2010, <http://www.cma.army.mil/>

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) announced today that on July 1, 2010, it achieved the destruction of 75 percent of its chemical agent stockpile as defined under international treaty obligations.

“This accomplishment marks another extraordinary team effort between our storage and destruction staffs consisting of both government and contractor personnel,” said CMA Director Conrad Whyne.

This accomplishment represents destruction efforts since entry-into-force, when the United States ratified the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) in April 1997. Also, 75 percent represents 22,958 tons of agent and more than 2.1 million munitions. CMA reached the 50 percent milestone in December 2007 and the 60 percent destruction mark in April 2009.

While not an official treaty-mandated achievement, 75 percent represents the ongoing progress the United States, under CMA’s leadership, is making in fulfilling its international obligations to destroy the aging and obsolete chemical weapons stockpile. CMA is on pace to meet the April 2012 deadline by destroying the 90 percent of the stockpile under its purview. The U.S. Army Element Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA) program is responsible for destroying the remaining 10 percent.

In reaching the 75 percent destruction mark, CMA has also reduced the overall public risk from continued storage of the stockpile by 94 percent. CMA’s progress is reflected in the fact that neutralization sites at Aberdeen, Maryland, and Newport, Indiana, as well as the incineration site at Johnston Atoll in the Pacific Ocean, have successfully destroyed their chemical warfare materiel stockpiles and are closed.

The four remaining CMA sites at Anniston, Alabama; Pine Bluff, Arkansas; Tooele, Utah and Umatilla, Oregon, continue to use incineration, a proven safe and effective treatment, in accomplishing their mission. In addition, CMA’s Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project (NSCMP) has made substantial progress assessing and treating chemical materiel separate from the national stockpile.

NSCMP also beat the treaty deadline for destruction of the nation’s chemical warfare production facilities and recently completed a mission at the Pine Bluff Explosive Destruction System site, destroying more than 1,200 recovered munitions. [...]

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 June – 12 July 2010

**DTRA**

## **Maradykovsky Finishes Destroying over 150 Tonnes of Toxic Agents**

*ITAR-TASS, 07 July 2010, accessed via Open Source Center*

Russia's Maradykovsky chemical weapons disposal plant in the Kirov region has finished destroying more than 150 tonnes of yperite-lewisite mixtures.

"This is the complete stock of these chemical weapons that was kept at the military depots in Maradykovo and was subject to disposal," the head of the regional department of conventional problems, Mikhail Manin, told Itar-Tass on Wednesday.

"Now the plant is preparing to dispose of aerial bombs with soman, one of the most dangerous nerve agents. Their disposal may begin in late July," Manin said.

"The plant is operating as usual under the federal program for the disposal of stocks of chemical weapons in the Russian Federation. All operations are carried out as scheduled under the control and in the presence of inspectors from the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)," he said.

Maradykovsky has already destroyed more than 71 percent of chemical weapons stored at its depots since the 1950s, including 232,599 kilograms of sarin and 99.4 percent of VX gases.

The Maradykovsky chemical weapons disposal plant in the Kirov region is now in Phase Four of the federal chemical disarmament program.

By the end of Phase Four, the plant will have disposed of over 6,900 tonnes of toxic agents kept in its arsenals since the middle of the 20th century.

Maradykovsky is the third Russian facility that began full-scale disposal of chemical weapons in September 2006, and the second-largest by the amount of toxic agents stored in it. Over 40,000 aerial bombs and warheads stuffed with mixtures of toxic agents had been stored in its arsenals since 1953.

Maradykovsky became operational on September 8, 2006 and became Russia's third chemical weapons disposal plant. Over 6,900 combat nerve gases – VX, sarin, soman and mixtures of yperite and lewisite – in over 40,000 aerial bombs and warheads had been kept there since 1953. The plant started destroying VX gases first. In accordance with international safety requirements, the bodies of 5,633 pieces of ammunition were deformed and another 1,662 shells are going through the detoxification process.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



## BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 June – 12 July 2010

**DTRA**

The Maradykovsky chemical weapons disposal plant has no negative impact on the health of the people in the Kirov region where it is located, experts from Moscow and St. Petersburg said. For a year medics and environmentalists from the Federal Medial and Biological Agency and the St. Petersburg Research Institute of Hygiene, occupational Pathology and Human Ecology monitored the environment and the health of adults and children in two districts of the Kirov region that are within the area covered by the chemical weapons disposal plant's protection measures.

The level of pollution in the area did not exceed the maximum permissible ones, which means that "the technologies used for destroying hazardous toxic agents provided for in the design fulfill the task of minimizing air pollution," Yelizaveta Oleinikova, a leading researcher from the St. Petersburg Research Institute of Hygiene, occupational Pathology and Human Ecology, said.

The plant should destroy all of the stocks by 2012. Russia plans to use seven disposal facilities during this process.

During the first stage, 400 tonnes of poison substances were eliminated by April 29, 2003, which made up 1 percent of Russia's chemical weapons (40,000 tonnes).

In the course of Phase Two, Russia disposed of 8,000 tonnes of chemical weapons. At the facility in the village of Gorny, 1,143 tonnes were eliminated, while the facility in the village of Maradykovsky accounted for 4,500 tonnes of eliminated agents out of the scheduled 7,500 tonnes.

The chemical weapons disposal plant in Kambarka, Udmurtia, has destroyed all 6,400 tonnes of lewisite that were kept at its depots.

The plant in Kambarka has been operating without failures since commissioning on March 1, 2006. Kambarka is one of the seven chemical weapons disposal plans built in Russia under a national program of chemical disarmament. It stored 6,400 tonnes of lewisite since the 1940s, which made up 15.9 percent of all toxic agents inherited by Russia from the former Soviet Union.

The Pochep site in the Bryansk region stores over 7,500 tonnes of nerve gases and plays a special role in the final stage of the federal chemical disarmament program. The site contains almost 19 percent of Russia's war gases. All of them have to be disposed of within the period of time prescribed in the Hague Convention.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 June – 12 July 2010

**DTRA**

The facility in the village of Leonidovka, Penza Region, will take part in implementing the program. Its first phase went on line on June 17, 2008.

The construction of the facility in the town of Shchuchye, Kurgan region, continues. Its second stage will be launched in 2010, head of the Federal Department for Safe Storage and Disposal of Chemical Weapons Valery Kapashin said earlier.

The final stage of the program envisions the destruction of 100 percent of chemical weapons by December 29, 2012. The plants in the town of Pochep, Bryansk region, and the town of Kizner, Udmurtia, will take part in the implementation of this stage.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 June – 12 July 2010

**DTRA**

## **New Russian CW Disposal Site to Open Later this Year**

*Global Security Newswire, 08 July 2010, <http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/>*

A new chemical warfare material disposal plant is slated to open later this year in central Russia's Bryansk Region, with full operations expected by early 2011, Interfax reported.

"The launch and commission of the plant in an operational environment will begin in the fourth quarter of this year, and the plant will reach its planned capacity in early 2011," said Valery Kapashin, who leads the Federal Directorate for Safe Storage and Destruction of Chemical Weapons.

"During the destruction of toxic material [VX nerve agent] the very latest equipment will be used which has no equivalent throughout the world," Kapashin said.

Roughly 19 percent of the chemical warfare agents left over from the Soviet Union are stored at the Pochep weapons depot.

Russia acknowledged last month that it would not be able to meet the Chemical Weapons Convention's April 2012 deadline for complete destruction of its 40,000 metric tons of chemical warfare agents. The new anticipated disposal completion date is 2015.

Meanwhile, the Maradykovsky chemical agent disposal plant in the Kirov Region has finished eliminating 150 metric tons of a mixture of lewisite and mustard blister agents, ITAR-Tass reported yesterday.

"This is the entire stockpile of this type of chemical weapons stored in military depots in Maradykovo and subjected to destruction," said regional directorate for conventional problems chief Mikhail Manin.

The facility is set to move on to the disposal of soman-filled aerial bombs. Disposal of the nerve agent is tentatively slated to commence at the end of the month, Manin said.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 June – 12 July 2010

DTRA

## Global Campaign to Destroy Chemical Weapons Passes 60 Percent Mark

OPCW, 08 July 2010, <http://www.opcw.org/>

The destruction of chemical weapons that have been declared to the OPCW by States Parties under the provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) has surpassed 60 percent of global stockpiles, according to data reported today by the OPCW Technical Secretariat in The Hague.

The Technical Secretariat has now verified the destruction of approximately 41,692 metric tonnes, or 60.05 percent, of all Category 1 chemical weapons that have been declared by seven possessor States since the Convention's entry into force on 29 April 1997.

"Reaching this milestone is surely the OPCW's main achievement to date, bringing us ever closer to realizing the vision of a world free of these horrific weapons," said the OPCW Director-General, Ambassador Rogelio Pfirter. "The strong commitment shown by the possessor States in fulfilling their obligations proves that complete chemical disarmament under the terms of the Convention is indeed an attainable goal, and has made a significant contribution to international peace and security."

Three of the possessor States – Albania, India, and a State Party that requests anonymity – have already completed destruction of their chemical weapons. The two countries with the largest stockpiles, the Russian Federation and United States of America, have met their intermediate destruction deadlines set by the Convention and are accelerating their activities. The Russian Federation has destroyed nearly 48 percent of its stockpiles to date and the United States just over 75 percent; however, both countries have confirmed that they will not complete destruction of their weapons before the 29 April 2012 deadline.

The two most recently declared possessor States – Iraq, which joined the Convention in 2009, and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, which joined in 2004 – have yet to begin destruction activities.

The Chemical Weapons Convention is the first and only treaty that is designed to eliminate an entire category of weapons of mass destruction under a stringent regime of inspections to verify compliance. Since its entry into force in 1997 the Convention has attracted 188 States Parties representing more than 98 percent of the world's population and chemical industry. The OPCW Technical Secretariat currently commits 85 percent of its inspection resources to monitoring and verifying the destruction of chemical weapons stockpiles and their associated production facilities.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 June – 12 July 2010

**DTRA**

## Lao Government Announces Plan to Host 1<sup>st</sup> Cluster Munitions Conference

*Vientiane Times, 08 July 2010, accessed via Open Source Center*

The Lao government officially announced it will host the first meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions [CCM] from November 9-12, 2010, in Vientiane and declared the establishment of the Cluster Munitions Trust Fund yesterday.

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Hiem Phommachanh made the announcement to the diplomatic corps, representatives from international and non-government organizations, media and government officials.

At least four documents are expected to be approved at the November meeting, Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' International Organizations Department, Mr. Saleumxay Kommasit, told a press conference.

Those documents are the Vientiane Declaration, Vientiane Action Plan, Working Plan for 2011, and a report outlining the implementation of the convention. The documents will define measures and working plans to realize the convention, said Mr. Saleumxay.

To ensure a successful hosting of the international event, the Lao government has formed a national committee, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Thongloun Sisoulith, to supervise preparations. Additionally, eight sub-committees have been formed to undertake responsibilities in specific areas. The committee has already met three times to assess progress, evaluating that all-round preparations are going well, Mr. Saleumxay said.

The international meeting will also be used to highlight the dangers and devastating impacts caused by cluster munitions (known locally as “bombies”). Ahead of the meeting, delegates are scheduled to take a field trip to witness the clearance of unexploded ordnance in Xieng Khuang province.

Mr. Hiem said the convention is of considerable importance as it aims to make the world free of cluster munitions. He said the Lao government has actively supported the convention and participated in the negotiation process to formulate the treaty since its early stages. Laos has also actively encouraged and mobilized other countries to sign the convention, Mr. Hiem said.

The United Nations General Assembly gave approval for Laos to host the conference on December 2, 2009.

[back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 June – 12 July 2010

**DTRA**

Since the convention opened for signatories in December 2008, 106 countries have signed and 37 nations have ratified it. The convention will come into force on August 1, 2010.

To raise funds to support the meeting and other unexploded ordnance (UXO) related activities, the government has joined with the UN Development Program (UNDP) to establish the Cluster Munitions Trust Fund. UN resident coordinator and UNDP resident representative, Ms. Sonam Yang chen Rana, congratulated Laos for earning the right to host the first meeting of States Parties to the convention and assuming presidency. She praised the leading role Laos has played in the process to formulate the convention.

Laos is the world's most UXO-affected nation, accounting for 50 percent of all cluster munitions.

During the Indochina War from 1964-1973, the United States dropped more than two million tonnes of bombs on Laos, of which more than 270 million devices were cluster munitions. Of the dropped bombs, 30 percent failed to explode, resulting in UXO contamination in 14 of the country's 17 provinces. Since 1964, around 50,000 people have been injured or killed by UXO, with about 300 accidents occurring annually.

Official clearance of UXO began in 1996, and Laos has been able to clear more than 25,000 hectares of the total contaminated area of 87,000 square kilometers. It is estimated that at the current rate it will take hundreds of years to free the nation from all UXO.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 June – 12 July 2010

DTRA

## Romney Misinformed on Nuclear Pact, Lugar Says

*Global Security Newswire*, 09 July 2010, <http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/>

Former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney made poorly informed assertions in his argument this week against ratifying the replacement to the 1991 Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, U.S. Senator Richard Lugar (R-Indiana) said in a statement yesterday.

U.S. President Barack Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev in April signed the "New START" pact, which would obligate both nations to cap their fielded strategic nuclear weapons to 1,550 warheads, down from the maximum of 2,200 allowed each country by 2012 under the 2002 Moscow Treaty. The deal would also limit U.S. and Russian deployed nuclear delivery vehicles to 700, with another 100 platforms allowed in reserve. The pact must be approved by the U.S. Senate and by Russia's legislature.

Romney expressed concerns about various aspects of the treaty in a Tuesday commentary, including language on missile defense, provisions on warhead counting and the document's failure to address nonstrategic nuclear weapons.

The former GOP presidential candidate's "hyperbolic attack" on the treaty "repeats discredited objections and appears unaware of arms control history and context," Lugar, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's top Republican and a leading advocate of the pact, wrote in remarks released on his Web site. In arguing that the treaty would limit future U.S. missile defense options, Romney's commentary refers to "nonbinding preambular language that requires no restriction on missile defense and cannot be used to enforce an obligation under the treaty," Lugar said. The United States has no plans to repurpose ICBM silos into missile interceptor launchers, making the treaty's ban on such work insignificant, the senator added.

"Nothing in the treaty changes the bottom line that we control our own missile defense destiny, not Russia," Lugar wrote. The senator challenged Romney's assertion that the nuclear treaty would grant a Bilateral Consultative Commission expansive authority to make missile shield-related changes to the pact. "In fact, the commission cannot change anything in treaty text or make changes that affect substantive rights or obligations under this treaty," he said.

Romney argued "that missiles on railcars constitute a loophole in the treaty," Lugar added. "But the last Russian rail-based missiles were deactivated in 2008. If Russia decided to build new ones, they would count under the overall limits on ICBMs and their launchers."

"He also bemoans that New START does not 'apply the [multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicle] limits that were part of the prior START treaty.' But there were no MIRV limits in START I, and START II never entered into force. He objects to New START's counting of

 back to top

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 June – 12 July 2010

**DTRA**

bombers as just a single weapon, even though they can carry multiple warheads. But this provision favors the United States, given our bomber advantage, and reflects the position of Ronald Reagan, who originally proposed not counting bombers at all in START I."

Romney correctly noted that Moscow wields a larger number of nonstrategic nuclear weapons than the United States, but he "distorts their value by implying that they constitute a serious missile threat to Europe," Lugar said. "In fact, most of Russia's tactical nuclear weapons either have very short ranges, are used for homeland air defense, are devoted to the Chinese border or are in storage."

"A Russian attack on NATO countries is effectively deterred by NATO conventional superiority, our own tactical nuclear forces, French and British nuclear arsenals and U.S. strategic forces," according to Lugar. "An agreement with Russia that reduced, accounted for, and improved security around tactical nuclear arsenals is in the interest of both nations. But these weapons do not compromise our strategic deterrent. Rejecting the treaty would guarantee that no agreement on tactical nukes would occur. It also would mean giving up our human verification presence in Russia that has contributed greatly to strategic stability under the expired START I Treaty.

Having inspectors on the ground in Russia has meant that we have not had to wonder about the make-up of Russian strategic forces. New START would strengthen our nonproliferation diplomacy worldwide, limit potential arms competition, and help us focus our defense resources effectively. It offers concrete national security benefits that will make the American people safer and it should be ratified," Lugar said.

Meanwhile, the Russian Foreign Ministry pressed a panel in the lower house of the nation's parliament to endorse ratification of the pact, Interfax reported yesterday.

"The Foreign Ministry is positive that this treaty will prevent proliferation of nuclear armaments and improve our relations with the United States. The Foreign Ministry asks the [Duma International Affairs Committee] to recommend ratification of this treaty," Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said.

"This treaty is a reasonable military and political compromise," added Lt. Gen. Alexander Burutin, first deputy chief of the Russian Armed Forces General Staff. "The yearlong negotiations led to the elaboration of the treaty, which meets our interests and ensures genuine parity of rights in the provision of strategic stability in the foreseeable future."

[back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 June – 12 July 2010

DTRA

## Nations Photograph Each Other under Treaty

*Stars and Stripes*, 05 July 2010, <http://www.stripes.com/>

Not too long ago, the notion of the U.S. military announcing an intention to fly over a specific part of Russia and take thousands of pictures would have led to increased tensions, at the very least.

But that's what 25 American service members did recently, with counterparts from the Czech Republic – and the Russian military – on board. The flight, scheduled to focus on environs around Moscow, was part of the Open Skies treaty, a pact signed in 1992 that includes 34 countries who were allies or adversaries during the Cold War.

"Every week of the year almost, countries are flying over [other] countries as part of the treaty," said Marine Maj. Keith Oki, deputy mission commander for the latest U.S. flight over Russia. He and some other crew members are assigned to the Defense Threat Reduction Agency. Others came along from the 45<sup>th</sup> Reconnaissance Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska.

The OC-135B that stopped in Aviano [Italy] recently looked more like something used to convey U.S. diplomats around, with "The United States of America" in large letters across a white surface. "Open Skies" is painted on the tail. Inside, it looks more like a military aircraft, though the technology is, surprisingly, not the latest available.

The three cameras on board use wet film and aren't capable of capturing images in minute detail, especially from 20,000 to 35,000 feet.

"This is vintage 1960s technology that we're using here," Air Force Master Sgt. Chad Duffield, one of several linguists fluent in Russian, said with a smile during a tour.

Oki said the pictures are good enough to help verify some treaties, though. "You can tell a tank from a school bus," he said. "You might be able to fly over a base and see that they have 150 tanks, but you can't tell what model they are or what modifications may have been made on them."

The United States has other assets – such as satellites – that probably can gather much more intelligence, said Owen R. Cote Jr., associate director of the MIT Security Studies Program. [...]

The flights and the treaty are designed to increase trust between those participating, crewmembers said. There wasn't a lot of trust between the United States and the Soviet Union when President Dwight Eisenhower first proposed the idea in the 1950s, and it was rejected.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.



# BI-WEEKLY TREATY REVIEW



29 June – 12 July 2010

**DTRA**

But President George H.W. Bush found a more receptive atmosphere in 1992 when he suggested that not only the United States and Russia enter into the agreement, but other [Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) member] countries as well.

Oki said Russia flies over the most countries. Because countries are obliged to open all of their territory, some unusual routes can occur. One Russian flight flown a few years ago went directly over the White House, Oki said, which U.S. aircraft are not authorized to do.

The United States has 16 missions scheduled in 2010 – all over Russia or former Soviet countries. Each time, the United States tells the host country where it wants to fly, lands in a host country airport and has the aircraft and its equipment inspected.

The signatories agreed on specifications for the cameras and other equipment and don't use anything else. To make sure of that, members of the host country go along for the ride. The host country is provided with a copy of every frame taken during the flight. A typical mission might produce anywhere from 2,000 to 3,500 frames. Any other signatory can also obtain copies, although they are not available to the public, Oki said.

Crewmembers said countries are in the process of negotiating the potential use of digital cameras and newer technology. There is also the possibility of including countries such as China or India.

 [back to top](#)

News articles and publications found on the DTIRP website are compilations of open source current news articles and commentary concerning significant arms control treaty and related national security issues. The publications aim to give a balanced representation of how the public, other government organizations, and the media may view these arms control and threat reduction programs and issues. They are intended to serve the informational needs of Department of Defense (DoD) officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are not necessarily those supported by DoD, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, or the DTIRP.