

ICCC – 12 CONFERENCE 2010

“ LEGAL AND SAFETY ISSUES”

**DUAL USE IN THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE
AND BRAZILIAN INITIATIVES:
PRONABENS**

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30 SEPT 2010

BRAZIL INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

- Biological Weapons Convention (BTWC)
- Resolution 1540 of the United Nations Security Council

Article 8 D:

“calls upon all States to develop appropriate ways to work with and inform industry and the public regarding their obligations (under such laws)”

PRONABENS

Brazilian National Program for the promotion of dialogue between the public and the Government in matters related to Sensitive Goods. PRONABENS is responsible for the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1540 in Brazil.

Jointly developed by the Ministry of Science and Technology (MCT) and the Brazilian Intelligence Agency (Abin).



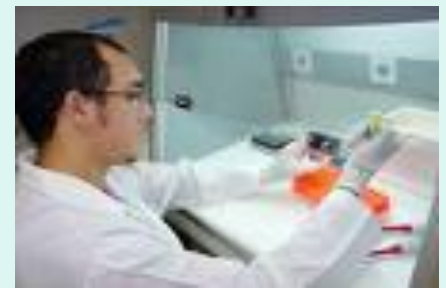
PRONABENS

PRONABENS conducts outreach activities (such technical visits and seminars) involving industries, research centers and whose governmental bodies activities are related to sensitive and/or dual-use goods and technologies.



ADVANTAGES OF THE PROGRAM

- Low costs and practical logistics
- “in loco” observation and direct contact with professionals who deal with sensitive goods
- Open and direct channel between industry, academia and governmental bodies
- Industry becomes a State ally
- Detection of eventual control gaps



PRONABENS HISTORY

The Program's main focus throughout the years:

2004 to the first half of 2005 – Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) – PRONABENS visited nearly all the companies that are subject to control of import/export activities

2005 to 2006 – Nuclear segment (all companies were visited)

2006 to today – Biological area

PRONABENS – BIOLOGICAL AREA

Target Public of PRONABENS:

- Research Centers;
- Universities;
- Public Health Laboratories;
- Microorganism Banks;
- Bio-industries, etc



PRONABENS

The involvement of operators in the control process raises awareness and favors the creation of a mindset focused on the adequate handling of sensitive goods.

This is of particular importance in the case of biological agents that can be easily obtained. Such awareness is essential to the effectiveness of biosecurity strategies.

PRONABENS SEMINARS ISSUES

Dual use in the biological area:

- Biosafety
- Biosecurity
- BioEthics
- Biotechnology
- Synthetic Biology



Main Results in the Biological Area

Publication of Brazilian List of Biological Sensitive Items, with the collaboration of Brazilian experts – CIBES Resolution number 10

Inter-ministerial Working Group on Biosecurity

Training course on identification of commodities involved in Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD): WMD Commodity Identification Training (CIT)

Workshop on national capacities in biosafety

Results (cont.)

The first challenge faced by PRONABENS approach to Biological threats is the promotion, among internal “audience”, whose activities have been traditionally linked to peaceful and even humanitarian purposes, of familiarity with concerns about bioterrorism, and, in particular, with concepts present in the current international regimes of disarmament and non-proliferation.



PRONABENS

Besides ensuring the Brazilian compliance to the BTWC provisions, Pronabens increases the participation of the Brazilian society in controlling dual use items and preventing biological accidents and prohibited activities, under national and international frameworks.



Thank you!

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