

Editorial

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July 2023 marked a significant step in global disarmament as the United States finalized the dismantling of its chemical weapons stockpile. While progress has been made, abandoned and outdated chemical arsenals still linger, prompting discussions among nations involved in owning or housing such weapons, albeit at a sluggish pace. The persistent use of chemicals for various purposes continues to pose a threat of chemical terrorism, alongside warnings about the potential resurgence of chemical weapons.

The Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) has largely succeeded in achieving chemical disarmament, now pivoting towards refining its verification procedures and prioritizing relevant inspections. However, it also needs to fulfill other obligations, such as fostering international cooperation and providing assistance, crucial components integral to the convention. Efforts to promote peaceful uses of chemistry are underway but may require acceleration.

In parallel, the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) continues to convene meetings and conferences as scheduled, despite administrative limitations. However, advancements in biotechnology consistently challenge the effectiveness of the convention. Recent conflicts have seen disputes regarding compliance with the BWC, aggravated by the absence of infrastructure and geopolitical complexities hindering verification efforts.

In his article, Rajiv Nayan explores the completion of the US chemical disarmament and its implications for international law, while Animesh Raul provides an in-depth view of the cyber-biosecurity landscape, particularly concerning India's biomedical institutions. Anshu Joshi delves into the intersection of technology and terrorism, highlighting how it reshapes global politics and the emergence of new forms of power and threats. Additionally, Rohit Sharma analyzes the declassified report on potential connections between the Wuhan Institute of Virology and the origin of the COVID-19 pandemic, released by the US Office of the Director of National Intelligence

This issue of the CBW Magazine also comprises other features like Chemical-Biological News. With our readers' feedback, we wish to publish issues in the future that focuses on a subject of particular concern. Kindly address contributions and feedback to: cbwmagazineeditor@gmail.com.