



**PGA WORKSHOP TO PROMOTE RATIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE BIOLOGICAL AND TOXIN WEAPONS CONVENTION IN LATIN AMERICA (BTWC)**

Santiago, Chile
16 May, 2017

SANTIAGO PLAN OF ACTION

Mindful of the grave dangers posed to our respective countries and peoples by the proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, including Biological and Toxin Weapons

Alarmed, in particular, at the growing evidence in the past few years that certain Non-State Groups including terrorist organizations, such as ISIS, Al Qaeda and Boko Haram, may be seeking to acquire, develop, use or manufacture biological and toxin weapons

Recognizing the importance of achieving universality and national implementation of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC) in our respective countries as well as other international instruments that also seek to counter the proliferation of Biological and Toxin Weapons and other Weapons of Mass Destruction, including UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004), and UN Security Council Resolution 2325 (2016)

Mindful of the importance of close national, regional and international cooperation and coordination in addressing these threats

Determined, as lawmakers and advocates, to take steps that are necessary to promote improved, as appropriate universality and national implementation of the BTWC in our respective countries as well as improved national implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004), and UN Security Council Resolution 2325 (2016)

We, PGA Members of Parliament from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Paraguay and Uruguay, hereby undertake to:

1. *Encourage* our respective Governments, as appropriate, to ratify and robustly implement the BTWC;
2. *Encourage* our respective Governments to fully implement UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004), and UN Security Council Resolution 2325 (2016);
3. *Encourage* our respective Governments to meet their reporting requirements in connection with the BTWC as well as under UNSCR 1540 (2004);
4. *Raise the matter* in relevant Parliamentary Committee Meetings, Plenary Sessions and in communications with relevant Government Ministries, as appropriate;
5. *Explore the possibility* of drafting and introducing new legislation to facilitate improved implementation of the BTWC and UNSCR 1540 (2004), and UNSCR 2325 (2016), in consultation and with the cooperation of PGA, as appropriate;
6. *Undertake* to keep PGA informed within 3 months from the end of this Workshop of what steps we have taken, pursuant to this Plan of Action;

Extend our sincere appreciation to the Parliament of Chile for their hospitality in hosting this important Workshop, which seeks to create a safer, more secure and more peaceful world for us all.

Done this 16th Day of May in Santiago, Chile

