

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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Geneva, 28 September 1984

To : Karlheinz Lohs
Matthew Meselson
Julian Perry Robinson

From : M.M. Kaplan, Secretary-General

In Björkliden the Council established the above individuals and myself as a subcommittee to prepare a statement on behalf of Pugwash for the review conference of the Biological Weapons Convention which presumably will take place in 1985, although the final date has not as yet been fixed. I have been asked to report on this matter to the Pugwash Executive Committee which will meet in Geneva on 15 and 16 December.

I would therefore welcome any suggestions you have, and I hope that Julian will be good enough to prepare a first draft.

My own view is that despite some shortcomings the BW Convention has been very valuable and any tampering with it should be done with great hesitation lest an unravelling occurs. I believe that the USA will focus on shortcomings which they believe exist with respect to lack of verification provisions and the potential of DNA recombinant work. We should try to address these two possible objections as well as any others.

Matt,

I don't recall if I sent you a copy of my editorial coming out soon in the October issue of the Newsletter, immortalizing your talk in Björkliden. Matt