

# WHO and the way forward

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**African Biosecurity Workshop – South Africa**

**28-30<sup>th</sup> May 2008**

**Peter I Folb**

# WHO's relevant public health mandate

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- **WHO constitution of 1948**
- **WHA Resolution 55.16 (2002)**  
Global public health response to natural occurrence, accidental release or deliberate of biological and chemical agents or radio-nuclear material that affect health.
- **International Health regulations, Resolution 58.3 (2005)**  
Prevention and control of the international spread of disease and public health risks.
- **WHA Resolution 58.29 (2005)**  
Enhancement of laboratory bio-safety.



# WHO Meeting 16-18 October 2006 – Themes

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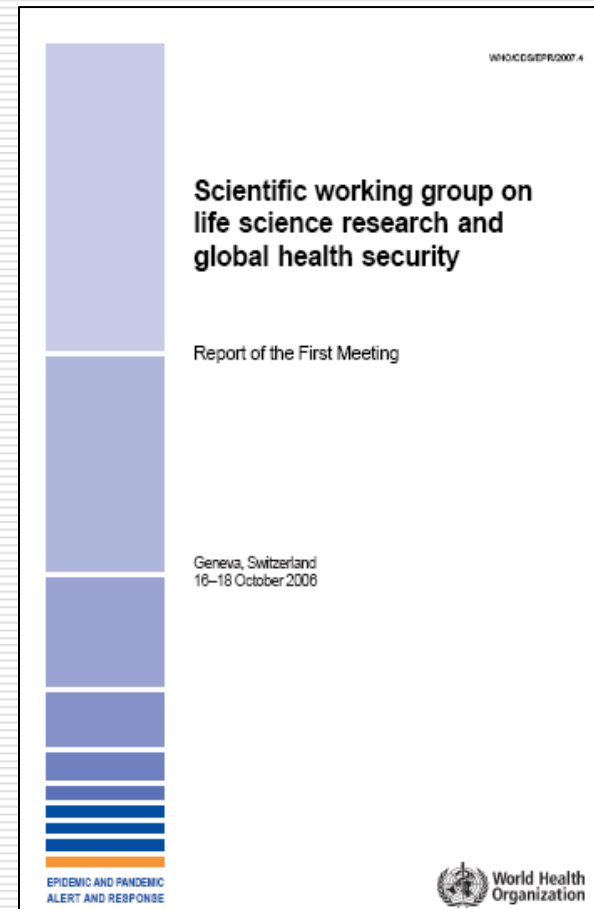
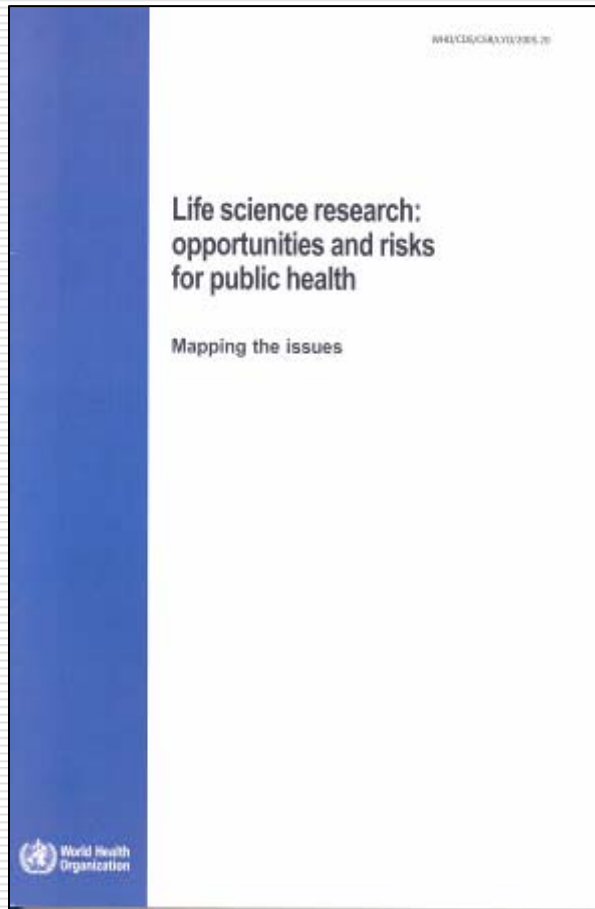
- **Education and training**
- **Prepare for major outbreak**
- **Develop risk assessment methodologies**
- **Guidelines for oversight**
- **Capacity building**

# WHO Meeting 16-18 October 2006 - Issues

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- **Importance of public confidence in science**
- **Scope of life science research**
- **Crucial role of WHO**
- **Precedents for WHO leadership**
- **Laboratory standards and oversight**

# WHO Reports



# Precedents and standards

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**WHO diarrhoeal diseases control programme**

**Global advisory committee on vaccine safety**

**Global training network**

**United Kingdom animal safety legislation**

**Loughborough Clean Water Project**

# The way forward

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- **Regional activities**
- **Establish WHO expert committee**
- **New levels of research oversight**
- **Methodologies**
- **Recruit public trust in science**