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The year 2020 has been marked by a major outbreak of the novel coronavirus aka SARS-CoV-2 which has continued to spread its fangs globally and has already led to more than 3 lakh deaths across the world. It has disrupted modern society on a scale that most living people have never witnessed; from forcing countries to close borders to pushing businesses to follow work from home models. While the nations across the world continue to take stringent measures to contain the spread of this highly contagious virus, the flattening of the curve is yet to be seen, in places.

This edition of CBW Magazine focuses on COVID-19 crisis. Here we have attempted to collate views from global experts, to present the bigger picture of how countries, have had their own distinct operational experiences and institutional challenges in the dual effort of curbing the spread of the virus and effectively curing the infected population through colossal political and policy limitations. While some articles highlight the efforts of the countries to bring the current situation under control besides the economic crunch and geopolitical chaos, some are generic in nature highlighting the struggle and operating procedures during the peak of the infection. There are many lessons to be learned from the current crisis and the post-pandemic phase is likely to witness a new world order. Additionally, the issue also focuses on the need to build on two decades of work within the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC) and for States Parties to agree on a Biosecurity Code of Conduct under the Convention.

This issue also comprises other features like Kaleidoscope and Chemical and Biological News. With our readers' feedback, we wish to publish issues in the future that focus on a subject of particular concern. Contributions and feedback are welcome and can be addressed to: cbwmagazineeditor@gmail.com.

Disclaimer: It is important to note that since the pandemic situation is changing rapidly and many of the articles were submitted as early as April end, there is a possibility of the need for data updation.