

**MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE
DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND STOCKPILING OF
BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) AND TOXIN
WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

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Secretariat:
BWC Implementation Support Unit
United Nations Office for Disarmament
Affairs (Geneva Branch)
Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

tel: +41 (0)22 917 2230
e-mail: bwc@un.org
web: <http://www.unog.ch/bwc>

To the Permanent Representatives of the States Parties
to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development,
Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological
(Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction

28 April 2020

**CHAIRPERSON OF THE 2020 MEETING OF STATES PARTIES TO THE
BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION**

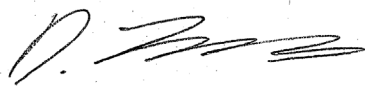
Excellency,

As you will recall, the 2019 Meeting of States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention Meeting approved the nomination by the Group of the Non-Aligned Movement and Other States of H.E. Mr. Aliyar Lebbe Abdul Azeez, Permanent Representative of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva, as Chairperson of the Meeting of States Parties in 2020 (paragraph 29 of [BWC/MSP/2019/7](#)).

The Implementation Support Unit has recently been informed by the Permanent Mission of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka that, as Ambassador Azeez is no longer serving as Sri Lanka's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva and has returned to Sri Lanka, he cannot continue to serve as Chairperson of the Meeting of States Parties this year.

The Group of the Non-Aligned Movement and Other States has informed the Implementation Support Unit that it will shortly submit a new nomination for the position. Once received, the Implementation Support Unit will write again to States Parties informing them of the Group's nomination and initiating a silence procedure for the approval of the nominee, in line with previous practice.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Daniel Feakes
Chief, BWC Implementation Support Unit