

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

25 August 2017

**BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION: OFFICE-HOLDERS FOR THE 2017
MEETING OF STATES PARTIES**

Excellency,

The Eighth BWC Review Conference decided that the Meeting of States Parties in December 2017 will be chaired by a representative of the Group of the Non-Aligned Movement and Other States Parties to the BWC. The Review Conference also decided that the Chair will be supported by two Vice-Chairmen, one from each of the other two regional groups.

The Coordinator of the Group of the Non-aligned Movement and Other States Parties to the BWC, the delegation of Venezuela, has informed the ISU that the Group has nominated the Permanent Representative of India to the Conference on Disarmament, **Ambassador Amandeep Singh Gill**, as Chairman of the 2017 Meeting of States Parties.

As informed in my letter of 26 May 2017, the Western Group has already nominated **Ambassador Michael Biontino** of Germany as one of the Vice-Chairmen. My letter also informed that the Eastern European Group had nominated Ambassador Fedor Rosocha of Slovakia as the other Vice-Chairman. In the meantime, the Coordinator of the Eastern European Group has informed the ISU that Ambassador Rosocha has left Geneva and that the Group has therefore nominated his successor, **Ambassador Juraj Podhorský**, as the other Vice-Chairman.

The appointments to the positions of office-holders for the 2017 Meeting of States Parties are therefore as follows:

Chairman: Ambassador Amandeep Singh Gill (India)

Vice-Chairman: Ambassador Juraj Podhorský (Slovakia)

Vice-Chairman: Ambassador Michael Biontino (Germany)

If you have any objection to the respective appointments of Ambassador Gill as Chairman and Ambassador Podhorský and Ambassador Biontino as Vice-Chairmen, please inform me in writing by **Friday 1 September 2017**. If no State Party has objected by this date, I will notify all States Parties that the appointments are officially confirmed with effect from Monday 4 September 2017.

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



Daniel Feakes
Chief, BWC Implementation Support Unit