

**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 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

24 April 2018

**CHAIRPERSON OF THE BWC MEETING OF EXPERTS ON STRENGTHENING
NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION (MX3)**

Excellency,

As you will recall, the 2017 Meeting of States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention decided that, in 2018, 2019 and 2020, States Parties will meet every year for five Meetings of Experts and a Meeting of States Parties. As announced in the letter from the Implementation Support Unit dated 23 January 2018, the Meetings of Experts in 2018 will meet as follows:

- 7-8 August 2018: MX1 - Cooperation and Assistance, with a Particular Focus on Strengthening Cooperation and Assistance under Article X
9-10 August 2018: MX2 - Review of Developments in the Field of Science and Technology Related to the Convention
13 August 2018: MX3 - Strengthening National Implementation
14-15 August 2018: MX4 - Assistance, Response and Preparedness
16 August 2018: MX5 - Institutional Strengthening of the Convention

As also agreed by the 2017 Meeting of States Parties, MX 1 and MX2 will be chaired by a representative of the Group of the Non-Aligned Movement and Other States, MX3 and MX4 will be chaired by a representative of the Western Group and MX5 will be chaired by a representative of the Eastern European Group.

In this regard, the Coordinator of the Western Group, the delegation of Australia, has informed the Implementation Support Unit that the Group has nominated the Permanent Representative of Spain to the Conference on Disarmament, **Ambassador Julio Herráiz España**, as Chairperson of MX3 in 2018.

If you have any objection to the appointment of Ambassador Julio Herráiz España as Chairperson of MX3, please inform me in writing by **Wednesday 2 May 2018**. If no State Party has objected by this date, I will notify all States Parties that the appointment is officially confirmed with effect from Thursday 3 May 2018.

We look forward to receiving nominations for the Chairs of MX2, MX4 and MX5 in 2018 as soon as possible.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Feakes', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Daniel Feakes
Chief, BWC Implementation Support Unit