

**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

3 May 2018

**CHAIRPERSONS OF THE BWC MEETINGS OF EXPERTS ON ASSISTANCE,  
RESPONSE AND PREPAREDNESS (MX4) AND ON INSTITUTIONAL  
STRENGTHENING OF THE CONVENTION (MX5)**

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, in 2018 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 **Mr. Daniel Nord of Sweden**, as the Chairperson of MX4 on Assistance, Response and Preparedness. In addition, the Coordinator of the Eastern European Group, the delegation of Lithuania, has informed the ISU that the Group has nominated **Mr. Otakar Gorgol of the Czech Republic** as the Chairperson of MX5 on Institutional Strengthening of the Convention in 2018.

If you have any objections to the appointments of Mr. Nord as Chairperson of MX4 or of Mr. Gorgol as Chairperson of MX5, please inform me in writing by **Thursday 10 May 2018**. If

no State Party has objected by this date, I will notify all States Parties that the appointments are officially confirmed with effect from Friday 11 May 2018.

We look forward to receiving the nomination for the Chair of MX2 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', is centered on the page. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial 'D' and a long, sweeping underline.

Daniel Feakes  
Chief, BWC Implementation Support Unit