

**Formal Consultative 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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Item 6 of the agenda

**Respective outstanding questions by the Russian Federation
to the United States and to Ukraine concerning the fulfilment
of their respective obligations under the Convention in the context
of the operation of biological laboratories in Ukraine**

**Nigeria's Statement to be delivered at the Formal
Consultative Meeting pursuant to Article V of The
Biological Weapons Convention (BWC)**

Submitted by Nigeria

Thank you for giving Nigeria the floor.

Chairperson,

1. Globalisation and the increasing interconnectedness of our world, including current and projected increases in public health threats, arising from consistently emerging pandemic scenarios and challenges of infectious diseases, are constant reminders that threats to public health are existential. In this regard, it is pertinent to stress that national health security of States is intertwined with and critical to global health security.

2. On this note and anchored firmly on the need to protect its citizens, the Government of Nigeria has continued to invest in integrated surveillance, public health laboratory services, evidence-based infection prevention and control, risk communication, logistics, and supply chain management and coordination as safeguards to the health of Nigerians, while fulfilling global health security obligations.

Chairperson,

3. Nigeria fulfils multiple mandates through its one-health approach, constantly guided by committed research efforts of its skilled workforce. Concrete strategic partnerships with local, international, non-government, and government organisations are therefore critical to achieving our goals. Cognizant of this understanding, Nigeria collaborates with registered international development partners bilaterally and through the Health Partners Coordinating Committee (HPCC). One of such partnerships is the platform with the United States Disease Threat Reduction Agency (US-DTRA).

4. Indeed, the Biological Threat Reduction agenda, anchored through the programme on Cooperative Threat Reduction, has been in operation since 2018 and has transparently supported our national infectious disease prevention and response programme. In this regard, Nigeria has benefited from such support in the contexts of Biosafety, Biosecurity, Training, and Funding for safe waste disposal with the aid of newly provided incinerators for public health laboratories. I must nonetheless underscore that such beneficial partnerships exist between Nigeria and many country organs, including the United States of America.



5. As I conclude, Chairperson, permit me to seize this opportunity, to extend profound gratitude to these development partners and organizations, including the United States DTRA and the US Centre for Disease Control & Prevention, for the laudable initiatives, particularly in offering to work with us constructively and transparently, even as we remain committed to strengthening national and global health security in cooperation with all countries, organizations and partners.

I thank you.
