

**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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2022 Meeting

Geneva, 26 August and 5-9 September 2022

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**

**2022 Formal Consultative Meeting under Article
V of the Biological Weapons Convention, Brazil's
Statement**

Submitted by Brazil

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1. The delegation of Brazil would like to thank Ambassador Gyorgy Molnar of Hungary for conducting, with the support of ISU, this formal consultative meeting under Article V, by which Parties undertake to consult and to cooperate in solving any problems which may arise from the application of the BWC.
2. In the first two days, States Parties have witnessed an exchange of a considerable amount of information among the delegations of the Russian Federation, the United States and Ukraine. The convening of this consultative meeting, under difficult circumstances, is in itself a display of the use of a provision of the Convention.
3. When States Parties make use of Article V, they abide by Article V, which is a procedural text. While doing so, States Parties pay tribute to, and respect, the BWC. Brazil interprets the effort made by each and every delegation to gather this week in Geneva as a recognition of multilateralism, as a way of solving issues, as a viable opportunity, one each delegation can always resort to.

Mr. Chairman,

4. Biological weapons remain as the least regulated weapons of mass destruction. While we lack a verification protocol, voluntary transparency measures – CBMs – are the only transparency mechanisms officially recognized by the Convention.
5. Our current challenges require that we undertake the negotiation of a verification protocol to foster confidence among States Parties and to ensure that legitimate scientific and technological research, including on biosafety and biosecurity, be carried out unhindered. Article X, after all, is a pillar of the BWC and comprises the very fabric of the regime we have been weaving together since the seventies of the last century.
6. But the biological weapons control regime and the promotion of legitimate scientific and technological research will remain vulnerable insofar as a legally binding, non-discriminatory and universally recognized verification protocol is not in place.



7. We look forward to the convening of the upcoming 9th Review Conference, when we expect to re-start negotiations on strengthening the BWC regime.

Thank you.
