

**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**

Geneva, 11 – 13 December 2023

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To the Permanent Representatives 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

18 October 2023

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE THIRD SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE
STRENGTHENING OF THE BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION AND THE 2023
MEETING OF STATES PARTIES**

Excellency,

As you are aware, the Ninth Review Conference of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) decided to establish a new Working Group on the Strengthening of the Biological Weapons Convention. The first session of the Working Group in March 2023 discussed organizational issues and decided that the Group's third session would take place in Geneva from 4 to 8 December 2023. In addition, the Review Conference decided that the 2023 Meeting of States Parties would take place in Geneva from 11 to 13 December 2023. The Chairperson of the Meeting of States Parties sent a letter dated 29 September 2023 and I would like to inform you of the practical arrangements for these two upcoming meetings.

The third session of the Working Group will commence at 10:00 on 4 December 2023 in Conference Room XVII (Building E, Door 40). The meeting will be webcast live on [UN WebTV](#) and the real-time audio feed will be available on the UN Geneva [ListenLive](#) platform. The Working Group will be chaired by Ambassador Flavio Soares Damico of Brazil. As agreed at the organizational meeting of the Working Group, the third session will discuss the following topics:

- Measures on confidence-building and transparency
- Measures on compliance and verification
- Measures on organizational, institutional and financial arrangements

The 2023 Meeting of States Parties will commence at 10:00 on 11 December 2023 in Conference Room XVIII (Building E, Door 40). The meeting will also be webcast live on [UN WebTV](#) and the real-time audio feed will be available on the UN Geneva [ListenLive](#) platform. The Meeting of States Parties will be chaired by Ambassador Cristian Espinosa of Ecuador.

Registration

Registration for both meetings is now open. Formal credentials are **not** required for the Working Group or the Meeting of States Parties. States Parties are requested to register their participation in the meetings by *note verbale* to the Implementation Support Unit at the e-mail address above conveying the composition of their delegation(s) with the full names, titles and functions of the members, no later than **17 November 2023**. Please clearly identify the head of delegation. Please submit one *note*

verbale for each meeting being attended, or make it clear that the same delegation list applies to both meetings. Detailed information on the process for individual participants to register to attend the meetings is provided in the enclosed aide-mémoire.

Documentation

Official documentation for the third session of the Working Group will be posted at <https://meetings.unoda.org/node/67453> when it becomes available. Official documentation for the 2023 Meeting of States Parties will be posted at <https://meetings.unoda.org/bwc-msp/biological-weapons-convention-meeting-of-states-parties-2023>

States Parties wishing to submit working papers are encouraged to do so by 17 November 2023 in order that the documents are processed and made available to all participants in good time. Such documents should be submitted in Microsoft Word format to the e-mail address above.

Further information

Detailed information on the arrangements for the third session of the Working Group and the 2023 Meeting of States Parties is provided in the attached aide-mémoire. Please review this document carefully prior to registration. Any queries can be directed to the Implementation Support Unit at the e-mail address above.

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



Daniel Feakes
Chief, BWC Implementation Support Unit

Attachment:

- (1) Aide-mémoire for participants from States Parties, Signatory States, Observer States, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations.