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Excellencies, dear colleagues,

Following the letter of the MXs Chairs dated 14 June 2018, which included also the draft provisional agenda for MX 5, I would like to share with you some more detailed information and my proposal as regards the structure and the topics for discussion in the MX 5.

A few states parties responded to the MSP Chair's letter, they expressed their ideas how to organize this MX and listed their priorities with regard to the issues to be included into the program of work and discussed. Having compiled and assessed all received contributions and in order to avoid an unstructured discussion and keep consistent with both the text of the MSP decision and the political understanding reached at the MSP last year, I would propose the following topics for discussion under the agreed agenda item of the MX5:

- Possible additional legal measures, including proposals for a legally binding protocol;
- Measures to improve transparency, including existing CBMs, possible proposals for broadening of the existing set of CBMs, and other possible transparency measures;
- Measures to address questions and concerns (e.g. effective implementation and possible strengthening of implementation of Article V,VI,VII of the Convention and related agreements from Review Conferences);
- Other possible measures for institutional strengthening (strengthening the ISU and stabilizing the financial situation, capacity-building assistance under Article X).

However, the proposed structure for discussion does not preclude the liberty of state parties to raise other relevant issues.

Since our work in the MX is supposed to be a collaborative process, I will rely on active participation and constructive contributions of participating experts. I will invite state parties submitting working papers to introduce them and there is also time available for a possible side event covering the topics of MX5.

I welcome your comments on my proposal; do not hesitate to contact me directly through my email ([otakar\\_gorgol@mzv.cz](mailto:otakar_gorgol@mzv.cz)) or through the ISU. I am looking forward to a productive session.

Please accept the assurances of my highest considerations

  
Otakar Gorgol

## Biological Weapons Convention

### Meeting of Experts on Institutional Strengthening of the Convention (MX5)<sup>1</sup>

16 August 2018

Day	Session
Thu, 16 Aug	AM (10:00 – 13:00)
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <u>Opening of the Meeting</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Remarks by the Chair, Mr. Otakar Gorgol of the Czech Republic</li></ul></li><li>2. <u>Adoption of the agenda</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">BWC/MSP/2018/MX.5/1</a></li></ul></li><li>3. <u>Adoption of the rules of procedure</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">BWC/CONF.VIII/2</a></li></ul></li><li>4. <u>Consideration of the full range of approaches and options to further strengthen the Convention and its functioning through possible additional legal measures or other measures in the framework of the Convention</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">BWC/MSP/2018/MX.5/2</a> – Background information document submitted by the Implementation Support Unit<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Possible additional legal measures, including proposals for a legally binding protocol</li><li>○ Measures to improve transparency, including existing CBMs, possible proposals for broadening of the existing set of CBMs, and other possible transparency measures</li></ul></li></ul></li></ol>
	PM (15:00 – 18:00)
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>4. <u>Consideration of the full range of approaches and options to further strengthen the Convention and its functioning through possible additional legal measures or other measures in the framework of the Convention (cont.)</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Measures to address questions and concerns (e.g. effective implementation and possible strengthening of implementation of Articles V, VI and VII of the Convention and related agreements from Review Conferences)</li><li>○ Other possible measures for institutional strengthening (strengthening the ISU and stabilizing the financial situation, capacity-building assistance under Article X)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <a href="#">Status of contributions to the BWC as of 31 July 2018</a></li></ul></li></ul></li><li>5. <u>Adoption of the factual report reflecting the deliberations of the Meeting, including possible outcomes</u></li><li>6. <u>Closing of the Meeting</u></li></ol>

<sup>1</sup> This is an indicative listing and will be updated as additional working papers are submitted. States Parties can of course request to take the floor under any agenda item. Those wishing to do so, particularly if intending to deliver a technical presentation, should contact the ISU as soon as possible so that the appropriate arrangements can be made.

