

**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**

**Statement by the Permanent Mission of Türkiye
Consultative Meeting under Article 5 of the BWC**

Submitted by Türkiye

Mr. Chairperson,

1. We would like to begin by thanking you for your able leadership in the conduct of the Consultative Meeting of the BWC.
2. We appreciate Your Excellency's and the Implementation Support Unit's dedication and efforts in ensuring that the Treaty provisions, including Article 5, are successfully implemented.

Mr. Chairperson,

3. Türkiye is a party to all fundamental Conventions and international instruments in countering Weapons of Mass Destruction, including the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (BWC) since 1974, and a member of major export control regimes in this field.
4. It fulfills all of its obligations stemming from these Conventions, instruments and regimes, and supports all international efforts to prevent the proliferation of WMDs.
5. We consider the BWC one of the key components of the international non-proliferation and disarmament regime and the cornerstone of the efforts to prevent biological agents and toxins from being used as arms.
6. Therefore, its full and effective implementation is a priority for my country.
7. In line with the Article 10 of the Convention, Türkiye cooperates with several State Parties for peaceful purposes to develop capacities in countering the biological threats and pandemics, and participates in exchange of equipment, materials and information for this purpose.

Mr. Chairperson,

8. Article 5 of the Convention provides an appropriate forum to consult both at bilateral and multilateral levels and to cooperate in solving any problems which may arise in relation to the objective, or in the application, of the Convention.



9. We have examined with utmost attention the request by one State Party to organize a consultative meeting under Article 5, and decided to attend the consultations with a constructive approach.

10. With this being said and concerning the documents submitted which indirectly links an unmanned aerial vehicle produced by a Turkish company to biologicals activities or weapons, we would like to bring the following points to the attention of the State Parties of the Convention.

11. The said unmanned aerial vehicle produced in Türkiye is only used for airborne reconnaissance, surveillance and target elimination requirements.

12. Its technical specifications do not include any system or mechanism that can be used as biological weapons.

13. We believe that the questions concerning such an important matter should be put forward with utmost care.

Mr. Chairperson,

14. Türkiye has been actively engaged in, and initiated diplomatic efforts to prevent the war, reach a ceasefire, and promote peace in the region from the beginning of the war against Ukraine.

15. Last of our efforts to this end is yielded its results with the conclusion and implementation of the Agreement on Black Sea Grain Initiative, together with the UN.

16. We will continue our efforts in putting an end to the war between our two neighbours as soon as possible, and promoting peace and stability in the region.

I thank you, Mr. Chairperson.
