



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
Georgetown University Medical Center
Center for Global Health Science and Security



Senior-Level TTX on a Deliberate Biological Event

BWC Meeting of Experts

15 August 2018

Geneva, Switzerland

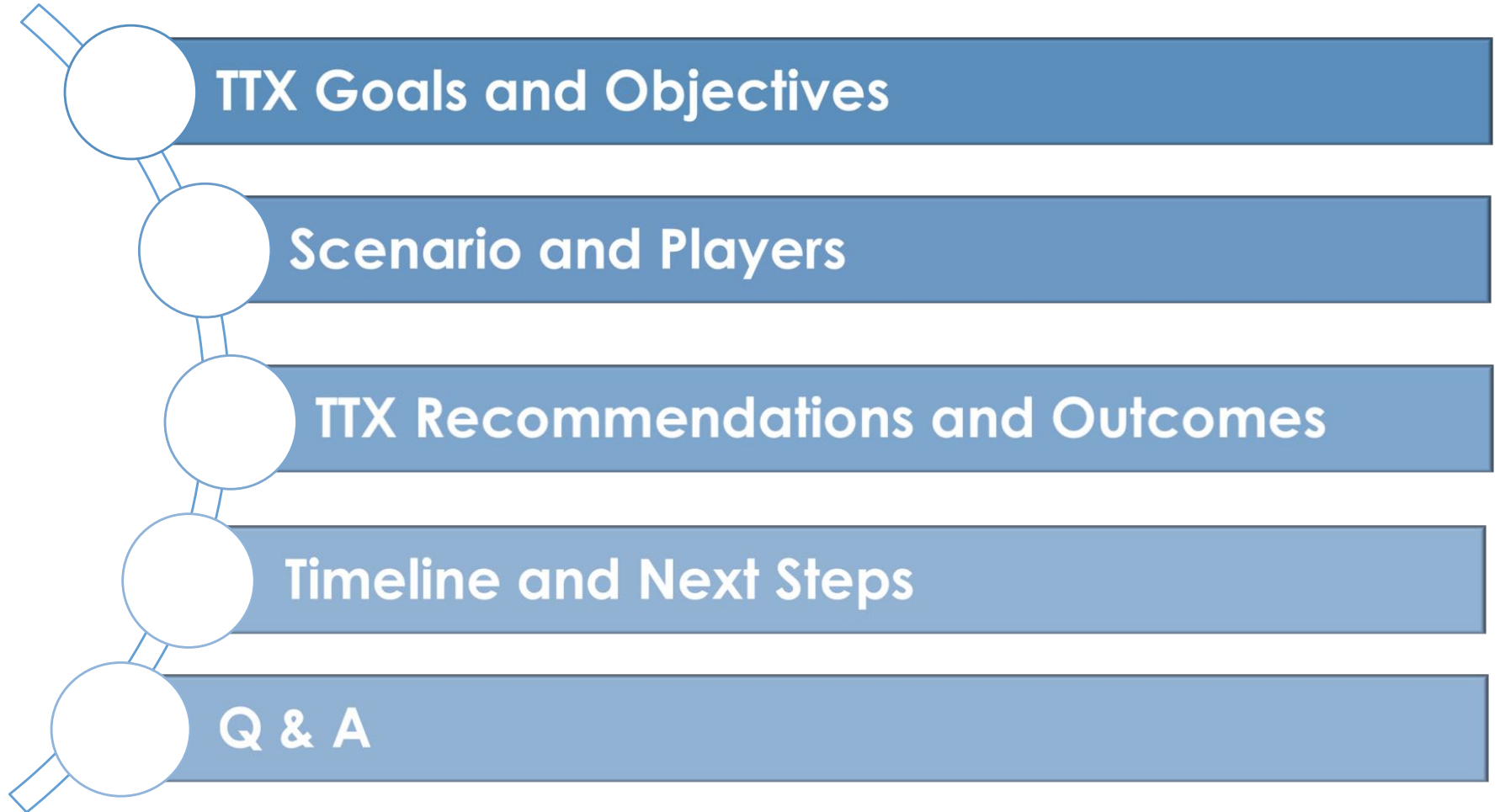
Michelle Nalabandian, Program Officer, NTI

Canada



NTI:bio

Overview



TTX Goals and Objectives

What problem are we trying to solve?

- ▣ **Some stakeholders in the UN and international response community may for deliberate events**
 - ▣ There is no single UN/IO for making decisions during a deliberate use event
- ▣ **Many stakeholders lack plans or mandates to respond to deliberate events**
 - ▣ There are no comprehensive established protocols for information sharing between security, public health, and humanitarian actors
- ▣ **Effective response requires complex interactions of public health, humanitarian, and law enforcement communities**
 - ▣ There is no specific mechanism for layering a deliberate use framework on top of the “normal” response for responding to biological events

TTX Goals and Objectives

Goal

Develop specific recommendations to strengthen coordination and response of UN organizations and other international response entities to a deliberate biological release.

Objectives

- Focus attention on the multi-dimensional and unique challenges arising in the event of a deliberate release of a biological agent
- Identify and heighten awareness of current shortfalls in existing international response capabilities and procedures
- Address the role(s) of the UN, IOs, and humanitarian response actors
- Explore specific recommendations, including development of needed processes, relationships, and capabilities for a successful coordinated, cooperative integrated response

TTX Scenario

Scenario

- TTX will take place in February 2019, in advance of the Munich Security Conference
- Credible scenario of deliberate release of highly contagious bio agent
- Events will track the incident from initial outbreaks of infectious disease to a global public health and governance crisis

Players

- Participants will include former UN officials and former senior leaders from the WHO, OIE, FAO, Interpol, OPCW, ICRC, UNOCHA, and other relevant branches of the UN system
- Current or former governmental officials from countries on the UN Security Council will be invited to observe

TTX Recommendations and Outcomes

- ▣ **Identify main stakeholder(s) responsible for coordination of the response to a deliberate biological event**
- ▣ **Determine concrete mechanisms for coordination between international organizations with disparate mandates during a deliberate biological event**
 - ▣ Public health and humanitarian response, investigation and attribution
- ▣ **Determine gaps in guidance to inform the response from Member States, Regional Organizations, and Non-Governmental Organizations during a deliberate biological event**

Timeline and Next Steps

- ▣ **Dry run of exercise**
 - ▣ Purpose is to challenge scenario assumptions, vulnerabilities, and limitations
- ▣ **Side event during BWC MSP, Global Partnership, GHSA Ministerial, etc.**
- ▣ **Conduct senior-level TTX in advance of Munich Security Conference (February 2019)**
- ▣ **Results and recommendations will be briefed during senior-level events throughout 2019**

Questions?

The planning and conduct of this TTX will rely upon a partnership between Georgetown University Center for Global Health Science and Security, NTI Global Biological Program (NTI | bio), Center for Global Development, and Talus Analytics.

This effort is funded through generous support from the Open Philanthropy Project and the Government of Canada.

