

## Agenda item 7

### MX 3

Under this agenda item my delegation wants to register its views regarding a very significant challenge which impacts both international cooperation under Article X and national implementation under Article IV.

An effective national implementation in developing States parties of BWC requires two essential components: software component and hardware components.

Establishing national legal framework to implement the Convention is only one element in national implementation which can be categorized as software part of the task.

A lot of things must be carried out to support this software part. They form the hardware component of the national implementation, such as enforcement of national legislation; strengthening of national institutions and coordination among national law enforcement institutions; developing national capacities for response, investigation and mitigation; improving capabilities for disease surveillance and detection, diagnosis, and containment of infectious diseases; maintaining safety and security of biological materials; ensuring that the laboratories are in a constant state of readiness, and that are sufficiently equipped.

The list is long and we can add develop controls on transfers, and ensure a robust and secure chain of custody and customs controls.

Building and maintaining national capacities in the hardware part of national implementation of the Convention requires bilateral, regional and international cooperation and assistance in particular in developing countries.

Imposition of unilateral coercive measures or sanctions by a certain BWC State Party on several BWC States Parties including Iran has impeded or created serious obstacles for capacity building for effective national implementation of the Convention, especially when these illegitimate and unlawful unilateral coercive measures impede the targeted Party from participating in international exchanges relevant to the Convention or making use of resources available in bilateral and international cooperation like financial support; joint projects, research and development programmes; exchanges of scientists; electronic information networks; trade activities; capacity-building in areas such as customs controls.

These unilateral coercive measures as such constitute a breach of the obligations under the BWC.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.