



REF. N° **KMG/BWC-MSP-2020/Vol. II (43)**

DATE **10th November, 2021**

Excellency,

1. I am writing in my capacity as Chairperson of the Meeting of States Parties of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC).
2. With reference to my earlier letter dated 22nd October, 2021, in which I informed that the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the Ninth Review Conference remains as originally planned, subject to availability of a conference room on Monday 29th November, 2021, I unfortunately have to inform you that no conference room is available.
3. Given that the Preparatory Committee is scheduled to open in just under three weeks and that many delegations may be considering travel and accommodation plans to attend the meeting on 29th November, 2021, it is not possible to wait any longer and I am therefore compelled to inform you that regrettably, the Preparatory Committee will not be able to meet during the second day on 29th November, 2021.
4. In accordance with the recommendations agreed earlier this year, the Preparatory Committee will commence on Friday, 26th November, 2021, immediately following the conclusion of the Meeting of States Parties. At this meeting, States Parties will consider the substantive agenda for the PrepCom, including extending the mandate of the Implementation Support Unit, adopting the necessary cost estimates and agreeing on when to schedule the second day of the meeting.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cleopa K. Mailu".

H.E. Dr. Cleopa K. Mailu, EGH
Ambassador/Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations Office in Geneva,
Chairperson of the 2020 BWC Meeting of States Parties

