PREPARED BY:

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

STATEMENT DURING THE BIOLOGICAL AND TOXINS WEAPONS CONVENTION (BWC) MEETING OF STATES PARTIES, 22ND TO 25TH NOVEMBER, 2021, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Agenda Item 6.c: Strengthening National Implementation

Thank you, Mr. Chair for giving me the floor.

1. Kenya aligns itself with the statement delivered by Azerbaijan on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

2. The delegation of Kenya thanks Mr. Arman Baissaunov for the report presented and commends his efforts as MX 3 Chair.

Mr. Chair,

3. In Strengthening National implementation and Institutional Strengthening of the Convention, Kenya has developed a robust coordination mechanism for stakeholders who contribute information required in Confidence building Measures (CBM).

4. To this end, Kenya has established BWC desk officers in over fifty relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies who have been tasked with timely reporting on CBMs, as well promoting the objectives, mandate and activities of the BWC, including monitoring and evaluation.

5. Regarding the legal and regulatory framework, Kenya is currently developing a Biosecurity strategy that will set out the government’s long-term objectives for managing biological threats.
6. The strategy will focus on averting or responding to the infiltration of harmful biological agents and diseases not only within Kenya and her border, but also beyond borders in partnership with member states. It will specify the country’s strategic actions, and implementation framework, and lay the foundation for engagement with key stakeholders to develop annual action plans to fast-track the delivery of the developed national biosecurity strategy. In this regard, the Draft National Biosecurity Policy and Proposed Biosecurity Bill are undergoing internal consultations with policy makers.

I thank you for your attention.