**Interview Guide**

1. How do you define and approach the following concepts and terms related to assurance in the context of the BWC?
   1. Verification
   2. Compliance
   3. Confidence
   4. Monitoring
   5. Strengthen or strengthening
2. What mechanisms, including activities and information, would increase your assurance that states parties are adhering to their obligations under the BWC?
   1. Are there specific mechanisms that would apply to specific BWC Articles?
   2. Are there particular mechanisms that you or your country would simply oppose or that would be impossible to implement?
   3. Are there mechanisms that you would agree to in principle but are not practically or technically feasible?
   4. Are there mechanisms discussed during the BWC protocol negotiations that would be substantially different if debated today? Or have scientific advances made some mechanisms that were previously not possible more feasible to implement today?
   5. Are there any mechanisms used for chemical or nuclear weapons verification that you believe would either be beneficial for the BWC? Or are there any that are not possible for the BWC?
3. Would you have any stipulations, limitations, reservations, or other requirements for implementing any of these mechanisms or gathering or providing this kind of information?
4. What do you think the value of assurance is? What is the value of having certainty that states parties are adhering to their BWC obligations?
5. Are there any changes over the past 20-30 years that would make implementing assurance mechanisms either easier or more difficult? Including:
   1. New technical developments and capabilities
   2. Political barriers
   3. The priority placed on the concept of verification or assurance in BWC discussions or activities
   4. The expanding range or scope of threats, including biological agents and actors