The President of the Security Council presents her compliments to the members of the Council and has the honour to transmit herewith, for their information, a copy of a letter dated 7 March 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, and its enclosure.

This letter and its enclosure will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/2022/193.

7 March 2022
4132/44-110-16192

07 March 2022

Excellency,

I have the honour to enclose herewith the Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on Russia misinformation about weapons of mass destruction in Ukraine, in particular about the alleged development of biological weapons.

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having this letter and its enclosure distributed as a document of the General Assembly under sub-item (a) of the agenda item 35 “Prevention of armed conflict” and agenda item 67 “The situation in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine” of its 76th session and of the Security Council.

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

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Sergiy Kyslytsya
Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

H.E. Mr. António Guterres
Secretary-General
of the United Nations

New York

CC:
H.E. Mr. Abdulla Shahid
President of the 76th session
of the United Nations General Assembly

H.E. Ms. Lana Zaki Nusseibeh
President of the United Nations Security Council
Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates
to the United Nations

New York

ukraineun.org
Statement
of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on Russia Misinformation
about Weapons of Mass Destruction in Ukraine

The Russian Federation continues to circulate misinformation about weapons of mass destruction in Ukraine.

After a series of absurd statements by Russian officials about the alleged creation of a "dirty" nuclear bomb in our country, the Russian disinformation machine has switched to the biological weapons.

The Ministry of Health of Ukraine has refuted information circulated by Russian propaganda media about the alleged "emergency stripping of the military-biological program funded by the US Department of Defense" and "destruction of especially dangerous pathogens." The Ministry of Health of Ukraine also stresses that there are no American laboratories in our country.

All laboratory facilities in Ukraine perform a single general function - the indication and identification of pathogens of infectious diseases that have significant epidemic potential and/or international significance and are subject to regulation in accordance with international health regulations.

The Ministry of Health of Ukraine also drew attention to the fact that the documents published by Russia do not mention especially dangerous biopathogens, whose development Russian propaganda media attribute to Ukraine.

Russia's military aggression has significantly weakened Ukraine's national biological security system. In particular, by seizing Ukrainian research and sanitary-epidemiological institutions in the temporarily occupied Crimea, as well as in the temporarily occupied territories in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, Russia deliberately ignores the demands for providing information on the status and location of pathogens that were stored in these facilities and used in the development of vaccines as well as for diagnostic purposes for the benefit of the Ukrainian people.

Under the ongoing armed invasion of the Russian troops into Ukrainian territory, the Government of Ukraine is making every effort to ensure strong protection of all laboratories in the controlled territories.

In this context, any attempt by Russia to seize biological materials is extremely dangerous and could pose a threat to both the security of Ukraine and the whole Europe.

Russia's public statements about the alleged development of biological weapons in Ukraine should be considered as misinformation and provocation.

Ukraine calls upon the international community to increase pressure on Russia to comply with its international obligations, including within the Convention on the Prohibition of Biological Weapons, and not to pose additional security risks related to the biological agents.