Instructions for Organizing an Online Dissertation Council Meeting via Video Conference

1. Preparation for the Meeting 1.1. Notification of Participants

- o **Deadline:** 5 working days before the dissertation defense.
- To Whom: Doctoral student, members of the dissertation council, official reviewers, invited specialists.
- o **Methods:** Email and publication on the council's website.

1.2. Platform for Video Conference

- Choose a reliable platform (e.g., Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Google Meet).
- Check technical requirements: stable internet connection, video and audio quality.

2. Ensuring Technical Conditions 2.1. Visual Identification of Participants

o Ensure all participants have their video on and are clearly visible.

2.2. Continuous Streaming

Set up a live stream of the meeting for online broadcasting.

2.3. Recording the Meeting

o Record video and audio of the meeting for future reference.

2.4. Secret Voting

 Use the voting feature on the platform or a third-party service (e.g., Google Forms) for secret voting.

3. Conducting the Meeting 3.1. Opening the Meeting

- o The chairperson:
 - Establishes the quorum and legitimacy of the meeting.
 - Introduces the doctoral student, specialty, dissertation topic, scientific advisors, and official reviewers.

3.2. Official Presentations

- The academic secretary:
 - Announces the list of documents in the doctoral student's file.
- The doctoral student:
 - Presents the main points of the dissertation.

Ouestions and Answers:

Participants ask questions, and the doctoral student responds.

3.3. Presentations by Scientific Advisors and Reviewers

- o If an international advisor is absent, their review will be read.
- Official reviewers present online.

3.4. **Discussion**

- Unofficial reviews are read by the academic secretary.
- o Organize a discussion among participants.

3.5. Voting

- o Form a counting commission (3 members from the council).
- Conduct secret voting.

3.6. Announcement of Results

- o The chairperson of the counting commission announces the results.
- The outcomes of the defense are declared, and the conclusion of the dissertation council is prepared.

4. Decision Making

- The conclusion is adopted by open voting with a simple majority.
- Possible decisions:
 - 1. Award the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or a professional doctorate.
 - 2. Send the dissertation for revision.
 - 3. Send the dissertation for re-defense.
 - 4. Deny the awarding of the degree.

5. Closing the Meeting

- Closing remarks by the chairperson.
- Set deadlines and procedures for obtaining the official conclusion of the dissertation council.