



# Member State Information Session

## GBS Updates

15 February 2024

Promote **health** | Keep the world **safe** | Serve the **vulnerable**

# Information Session Agenda

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1. Outcomes and feedback on EB154
2. Updates on intergovernmental processes
3. Other intersessional work leading to WHA77
4. Any other business



# 1) Outcomes and feedback on EB154

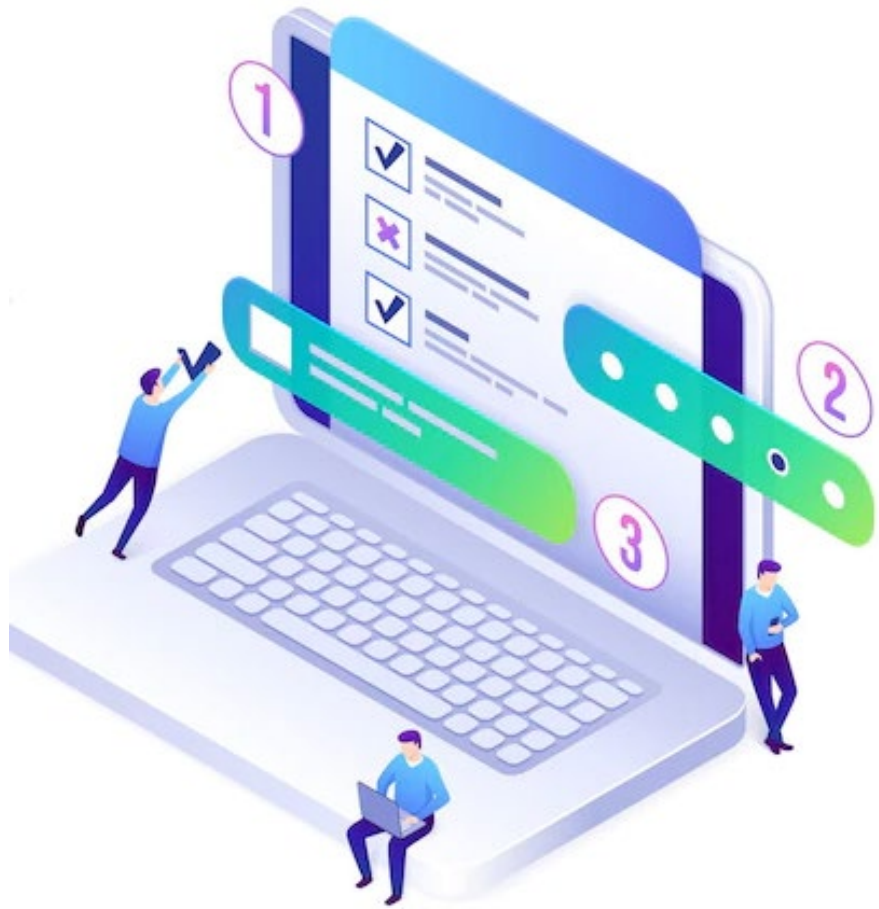
Promote **health** | Keep the world **safe** | Serve the **vulnerable**

# Outcomes of EB154: Big Picture

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## Overall, a successful, but challenging Executive Board meeting:

- An overloaded agenda meant anticipated evening sessions were required; time management was a major challenge
- Committed EB Chair effectively steered complex discussions to successful conclusions
- Three new RDs appointed (EMRO, SEARO, WPRO); appreciation expressed to outgoing RDs
- All reports noted and many decisions and resolutions adopted:
  - Member State resolutions: 7/14 require further consultation ahead of WHA77 during busy intersessional period
  - GPW14: important guidance and feedback regarding ongoing development
  - WHO Investment Round: approval of the full plan for the next steps
  - Global Health Architecture: important discussions, including on upcoming deadlines for INB and WGIHR
  - Governance reform decision to implement some changes (e.g. development of EB Bureau TORs); further work as part of informal meetings on Member States-led governance reform
  - Recommendations of the PBAC supported by the EB and contributed to streamlined discussions in the EB
  - Prolonged discussions on mentioning of certain groups in the HR report, process for the election of regional directors, amongst other matters
  - Decision deferred to EB155 through PBAC40 on the admission of two NSAs into official relations
  - Politicization of some issues led to inflammatory language being used, impacting decorum



# Feedback on EB154: results from a survey of Member States

117 responses from 70+ Member States

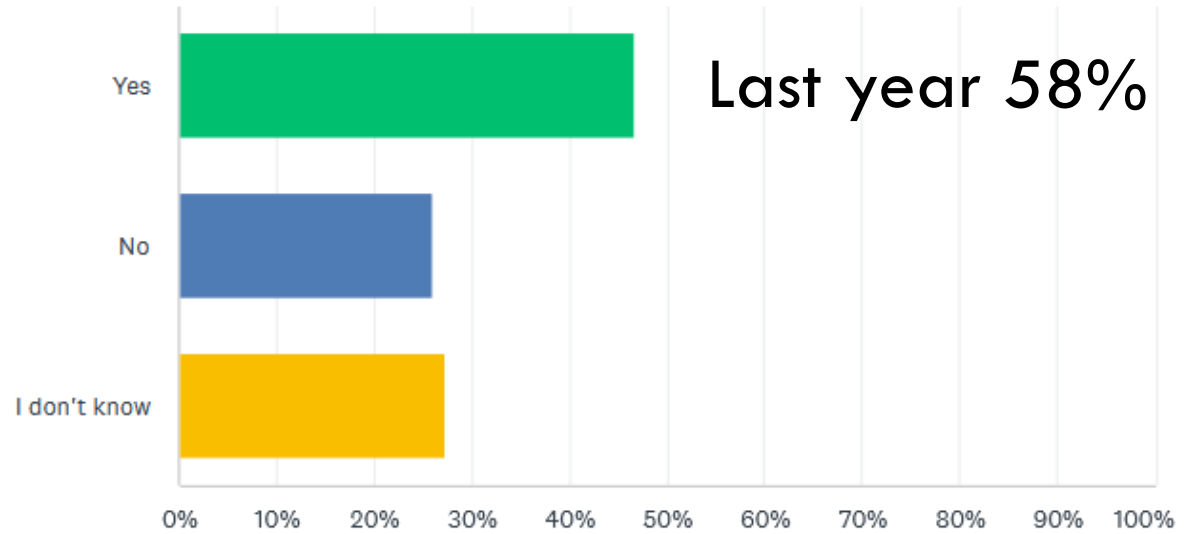
**Which aspects of the meetings worked particularly well?**

## Results

- Pre-session briefings +++
- Overall organization/logistics +++
- Chair's management of the agenda +++
- Procedural aspects ++
- Physical activity breaks

# Results

Can documentation be improved?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	46.75% 36
No	25.97% 20
I don't know	27.27% 21
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>77</b>

# Results

## Can documentation be improved?



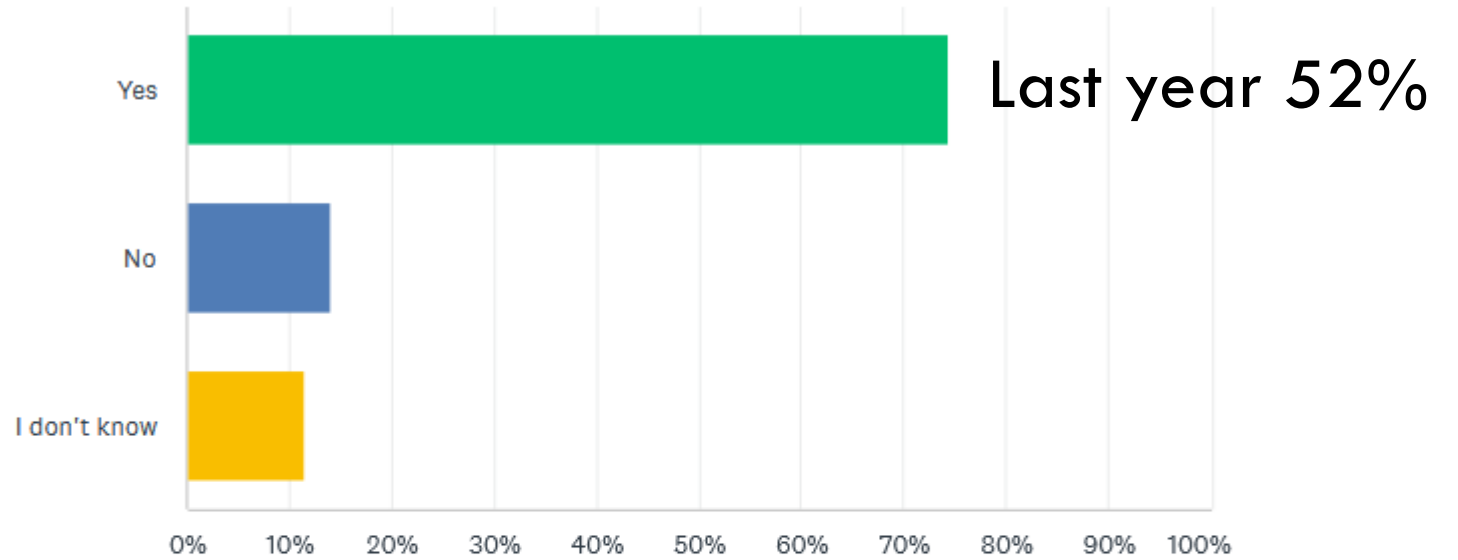
### Suggestions included:

- Timely provision of documents in six official languages +++++
- Shorter and more focused documents +++
- Including executive summary ++
- Provide notification when documents are expected to be published late



# Results

Can scheduling be improved?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	74.36%	58
No	14.10%	11
I don't know	11.54%	9
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>78</b>

# Results

## Can scheduling be improved?

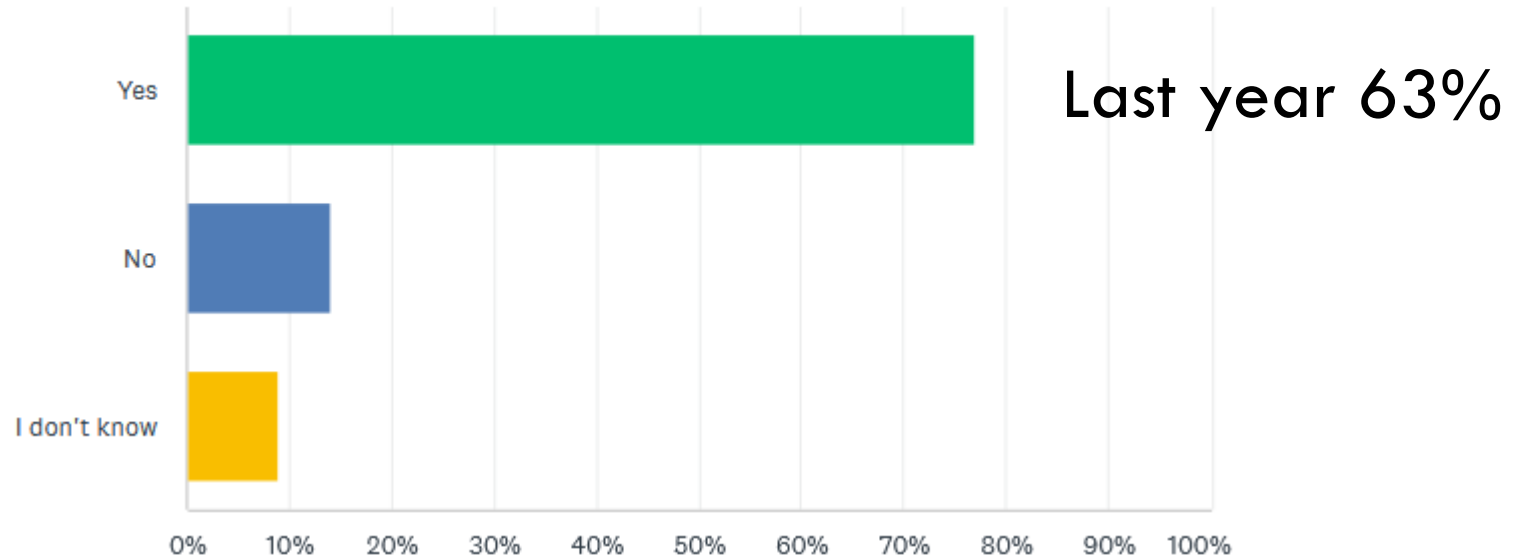


### Suggestions included:

- Avoid evening sessions+++++
- Avoid informal consultations during EB
- Extend number of days for the meeting
- Start earlier, reduce lunch break
- Group related topics for discussion
- Delegates need to stick to time allotted
- Reduce number of agenda items
- More health breaks

# Results

Can agenda management be improved?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	76.92% 60
No	14.10% 11
I don't know	8.97% 7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>78</b>

# Results

## Can agenda management be improved?

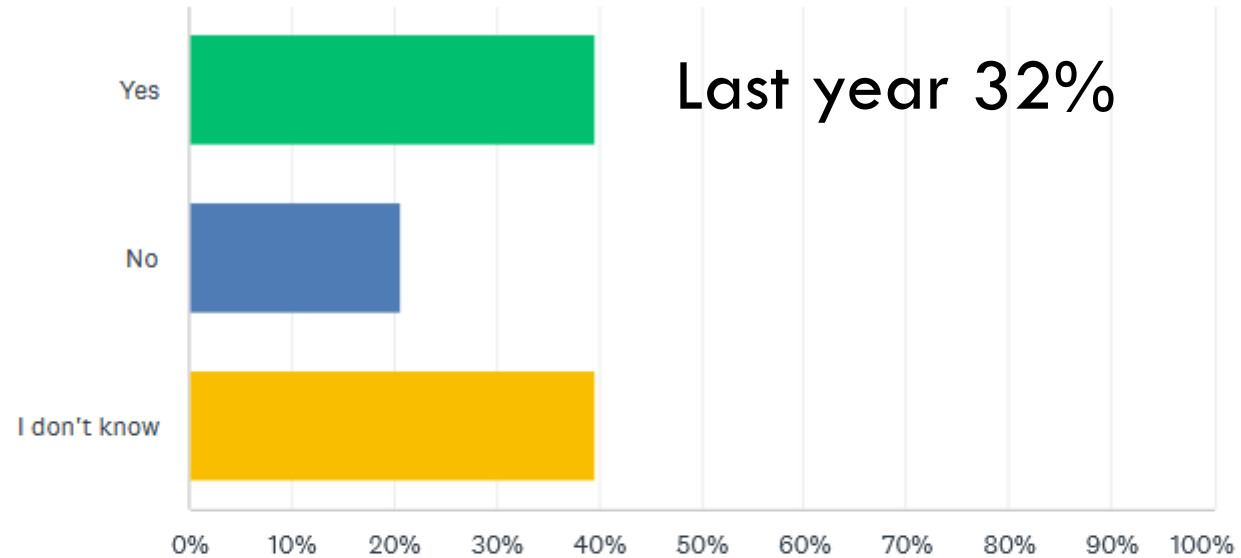


### Suggestions included:

- Focus on fewer items, prioritize most important, strategic topics +++
- MS must exercise restraint when proposing additional items and resolutions for the EB agenda ++
- In finalizing the EB agenda, the Bureau must consider the need for strategic direction/guidance on each item ++
- Use of written statements especially for non-EB members; shorter intervention time limit for non-EB members
- Chair to enforce time limits (hard limits applied consistently, automatic microphone shutoff)
- Speakers to exercise discipline and stick to agreed time limit
- Grouping of related agenda items
- Limit lengthy political debates
- Recommendations from AMSTG need to be taken seriously for the next cycle to prevent fatigue among delegates → Governance reform!

# Results

**Can any other aspect(s) be improved?**



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	39.71% 27
No	20.59% 14
I don't know	39.71% 27
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>68</b>

# Results

**Can any other aspect(s) be improved?**



## **Suggestions/observations included:**

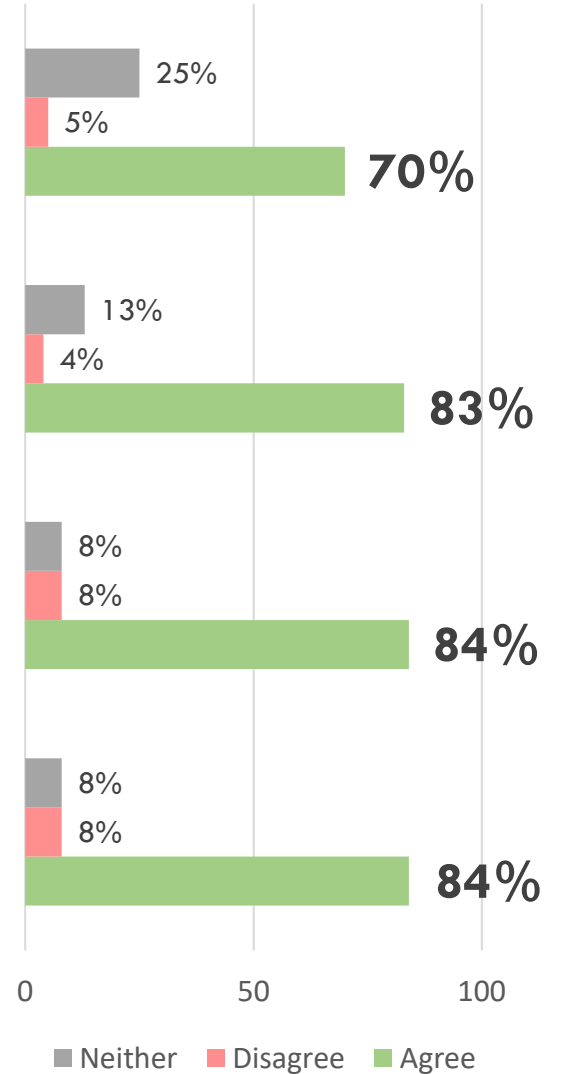
- Time management +++
- Technology/sound issues in Auditorium
- Need for more overflow rooms and charging stations
- Variation in catering
- Hold informal consultations on draft resolutions prior to EB in person
- Challenges regarding access to the meeting room

# Guiding questions in Secretariat Reports

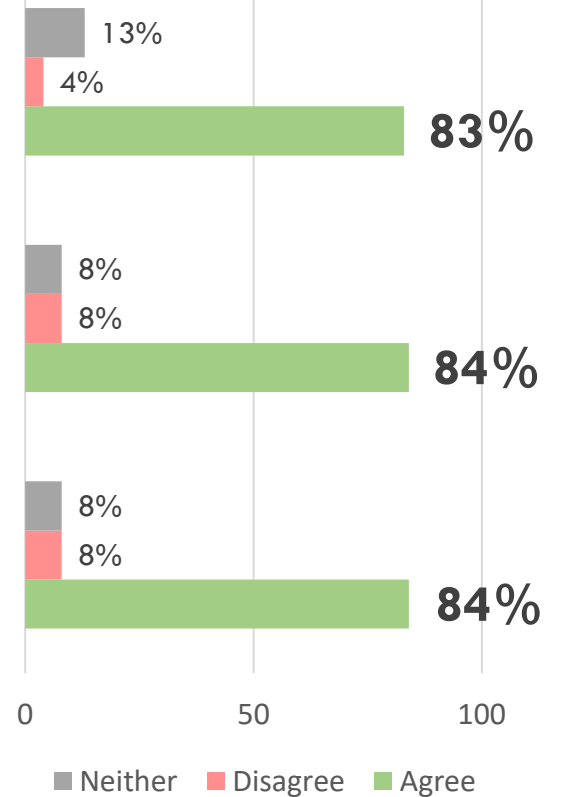


## Results

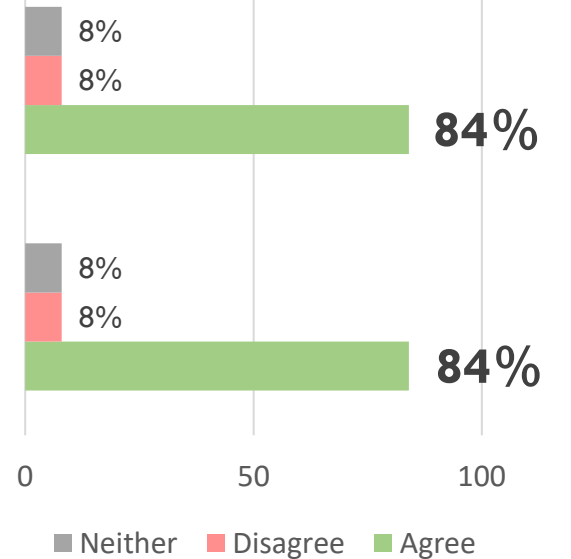
My delegation focused their interventions on answering the guiding questions contained in the Secretariat reports.



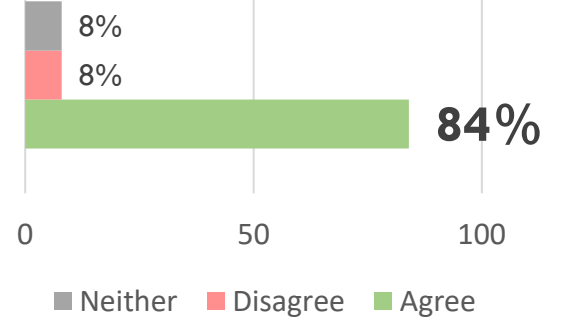
The Secretariat should continue to include guiding questions in their reports in the future.



Projecting the guiding questions on screen during the debate was helpful.

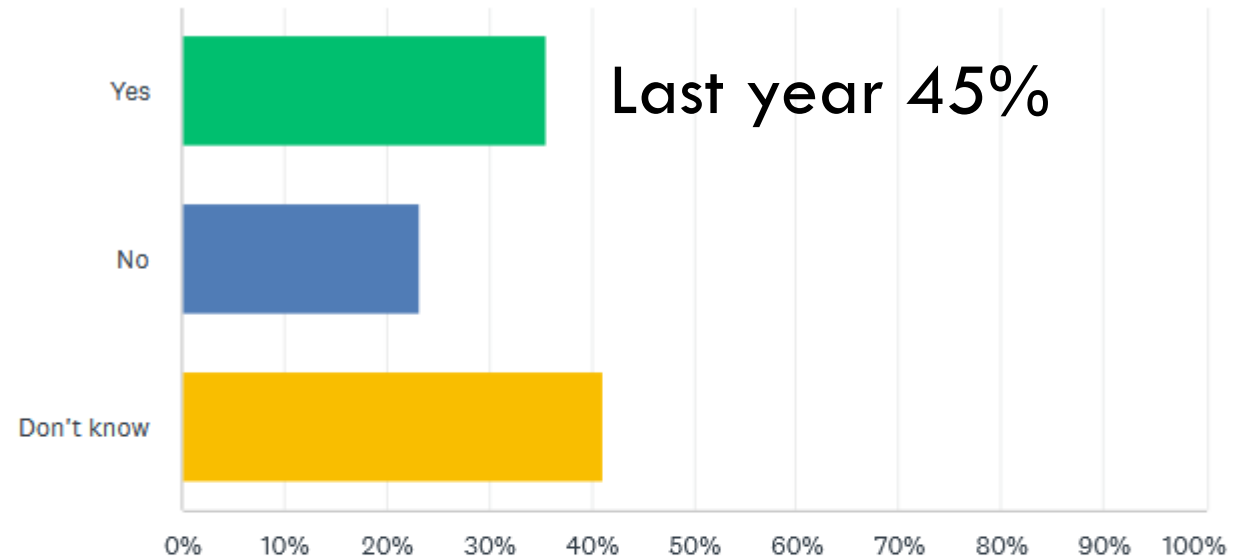


The Secretariat should continue to project guiding questions on the screen during the debate in the future.



# Results

Could the guiding questions be improved?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	35.62% 26
No	23.29% 17
Don't know	41.10% 30
TOTAL	73



# Results

**Could the guiding questions be improved?**



## **Suggestions/observations included:**

- Broad questions lead to less productive discussions
- Concise, concrete and targeted
- More strategic questions
- Guiding questions should not predetermine discussion
- Guiding questions should not be leading

# Results

## Written Statements



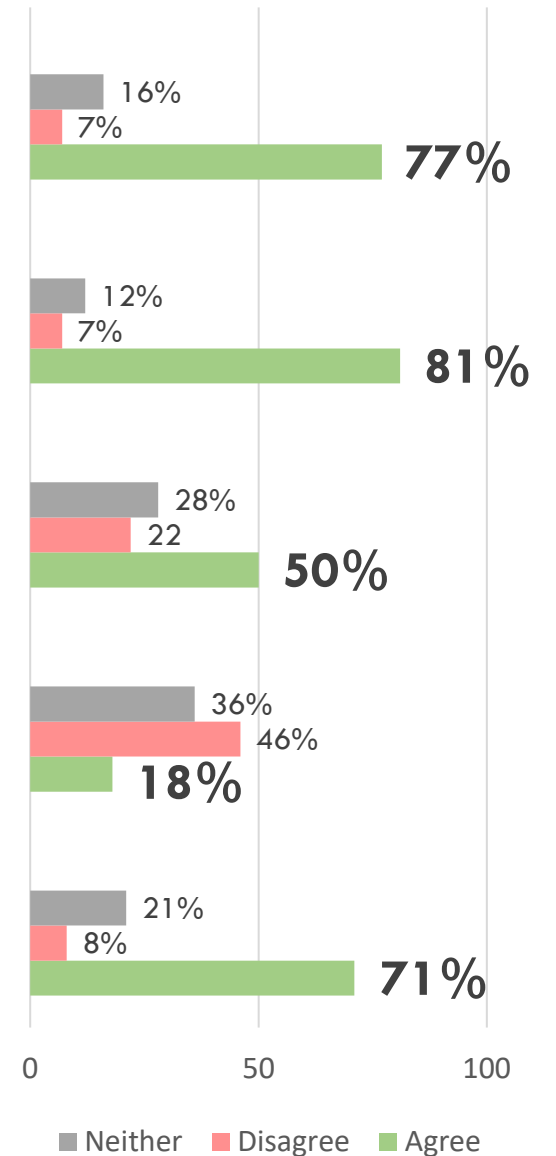
Focusing written statements on national experiences/examples is a good practice.

Allowing written statements to be posted online a few weeks before the opening of the EB is a good practice.

My delegation read the posted statements of other delegations.

The written statements of other Member States influenced the verbal statement that my delegation delivered.

Encouraging the use of written statements to focus on national experiences/examples is a practice that should continue in the future.



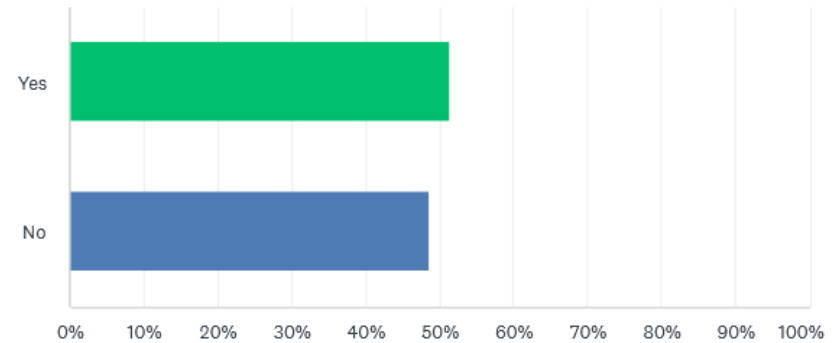
# Results

**Could written statements be improved?**



Answered: 37 Skipped: 24

Last year 51%



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Yes	51.35%	19
▼ No	48.65%	18
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>37</b>

# Results

**Could written statements be improved?**



## **Suggestions/observations included:**

- Ensure MS know where statements are posted
- Should be focused; short and precise
- Submitting Written statements should not substitute a comprehensive discussion
- As written statements do not go into the record, they are not an appropriate way for MS to be able to register their guidance or feedback to WHO
- Consider using only written statements for agenda items where expected outcome is only to note reports

## **Any other feedback for the Secretariat on EB154?**

## **Results**

- Overall positive experience despite time management challenges
- Thanks and appreciation to Secretariat for the hard work
- *“The members of the secretariat are wonderful. Extremely responsive and friendly. Congratulations on a well-run session”*

## 2) Updates on intergovernmental processes



# Member State mechanism on substandard and falsified medical products

## Steering Committee Meeting

12-13 Mar

- Updates on implementation of prioritized activities 2024/2025
- Update on evaluation of MSM

## Steering Committee Meeting

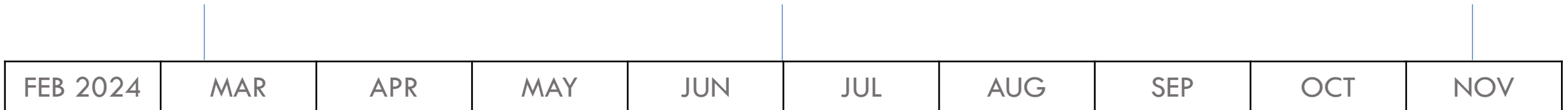
Jun/Jul TBC

- Updates on implementation of prioritized activities 2024/2025
- Update on evaluation of MSM

## Steering Committee Meeting + MSM13

Week of 18 Nov

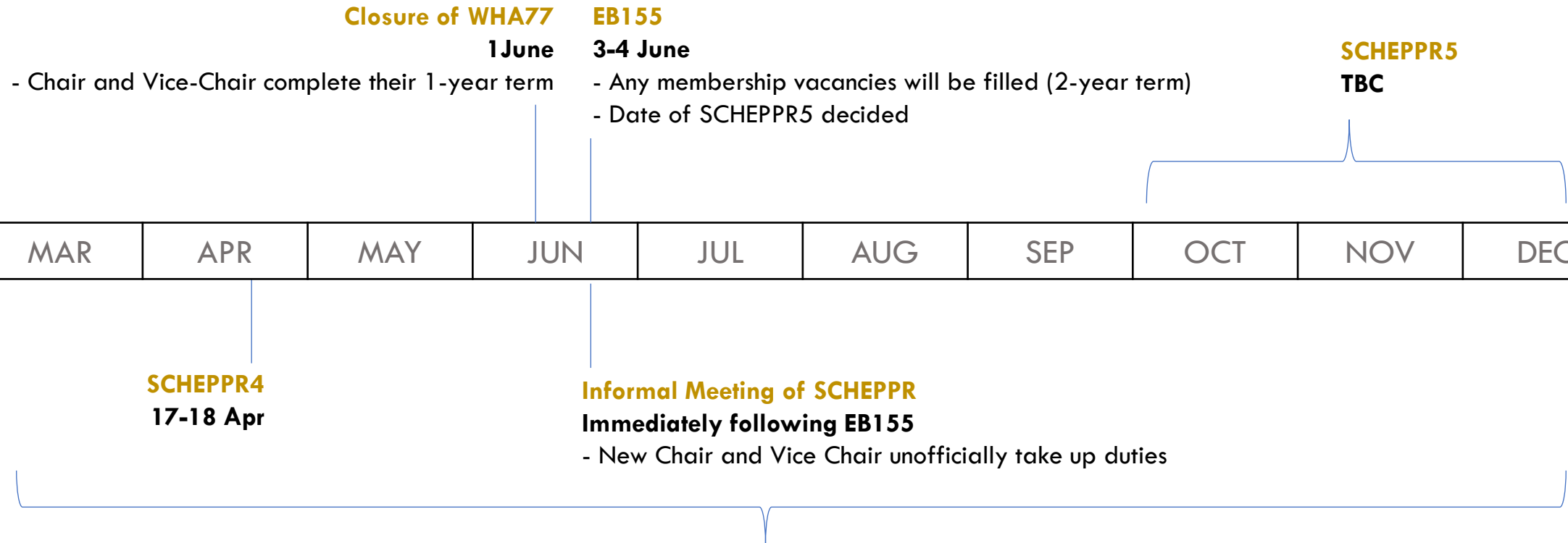
- Updates on implementation of prioritized activities 2024/2025
- Outcome of evaluation of MSM



Evaluation of MSM  
Ongoing

# SCHEPPR

## Standing Committee on Health Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response

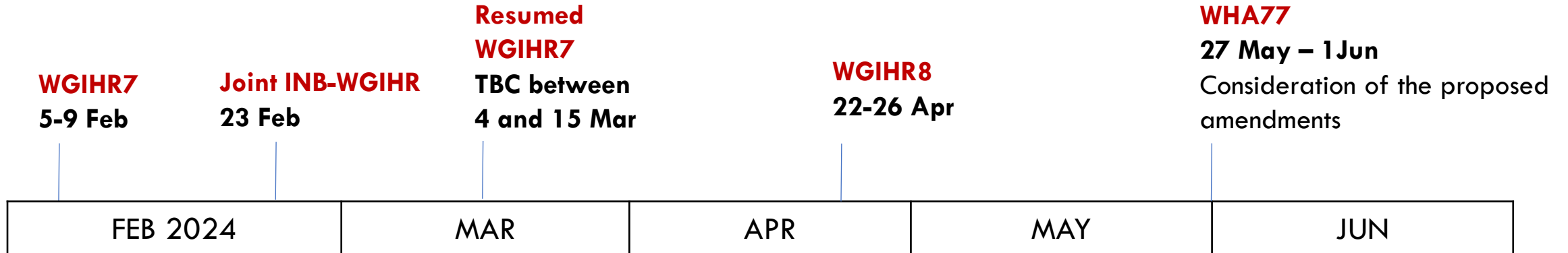


- Informal consultations with MS to further elaborate on the end-to-end design of the GBs meeting cycle, including the respective roles of the EB and **existing committees** [EB154(3)]
- DG to report on the functioning and impact of SCHEPPR and submit results and proposed recommendations to EB156 in January 2025 [EB151(2)]



# WGIHR

## Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations

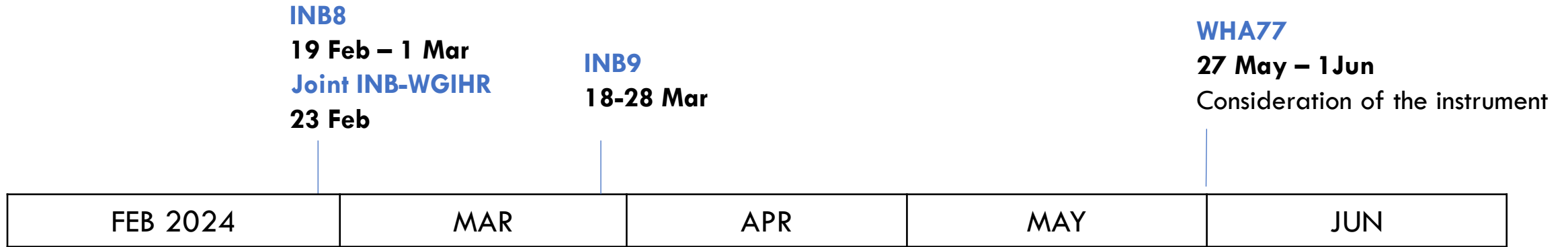


### Intersessional work including:

- Discussions among the proponents of various proposed amendments
- Discussions with relevant subgroups of INB on issues of common interest;
- Intersessional briefings and facilitated intersessional consultations (on a range of articles, annexes and topics)



# Intergovernmental Negotiating Body to draft and negotiate a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response



## Intersessional work including:

- Drafting Subgroup meetings and briefings in relation to specific articles
- Briefings by the Bureau

# MS-led Governance Reform

First meeting Member State-led governance reform no later than 30 April 2024 – development of a workplan for tracking implementation of remaining AMSTG recommendations; reporting on progress to EB156



- Consultations with MS to prepare draft TORs to strengthen the effectiveness of the functioning of the Officers of the EB (for EB156)
- Consultations with MS to further elaborate on the end-to-end design of GBs meeting cycle, including the respective roles of the EB and existing committees (before any further proposals are presented)

# 3) Other intersessional work leading to WHA77

# Intersessional work in preparation for WHA77

## Member-State led consultations leading up to WHA77

Resolution topic/title	Lead Member State(s)
<b>Social participation</b> for universal health coverage, health and well-being	Slovenia and Thailand
Strengthening <b>mental health</b> and psychosocial support before, during and after armed conflicts, natural and human-caused disasters and health and other emergencies	Netherlands, Ukraine
Accelerate progress towards reducing <b>maternal, newborn and child mortality</b> in order to achieve Sustainable Development Goal targets 3.1 and 3.2	Somalia
<b>Antimicrobial resistance:</b> accelerating national and global responses	Thailand
Strengthening health emergency preparedness for <b>disasters resulting from natural hazards</b>	Croatia, Fiji, Mozambique
<b>Climate change</b> and health	Netherlands, Peru
<b>Economics</b> of health for all	Finland

# Intersessional work in preparation for PBAC40/WHA77/EB155

Many other Member State information sessions scheduled / to be scheduled soon



**Governance**

Informal list of intergovernmental meetings (provisional)

FEBRUARY 2024			
Date/Time	Location	Meeting/intergovernmental process	
5-9 February	9:30-13:00/14:00-17:30	Hybrid	Seventh meeting of the Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations 2005 (WGIHR7)
12 February	9:00-12:00	Hybrid	INB sub-group meeting on Article 12
	13:30-16:30	Hybrid	INB sub-group meeting on Article 12
	17:00-19:00	Virtual	Member State Consultation on draft resolution on Climate change and Health (organized by the Netherlands and Peru)
13 February	10:00-12:00/14:00-15:30	Hybrid	Universal Health and Readiness Review (UHPR) Global Peer Review
14 February	10:30-12:00	Hybrid	Universal Health and Readiness Review (UHPR) Global Peer Review
	12:30-15:30	Hybrid	INB Briefing on Articles 19 and 20
	16:00-18:00	Hybrid	Briefing by the INB Bureau in advance of INB8
15 February	13:00-14:30	Hybrid	Member State Information session on Governing Body updates
19-29 February	9:00-12:30/14:00-17:00	Hybrid	Eighth meeting of the INB and continuation of the drafting group
MARCH 2024			
Date/Time	Location	Meeting/intergovernmental process	
1 March	9:00-12:30/14:00-17:00	tbc	Eighth meeting of the INB and continuation of the drafting group
7 March	13:30-16:30	Virtual	Member State consultation on draft resolution on Economics of Health for All (organized by Finland)
8 March	14:30-16:30	Virtual	Member State consultation on draft resolution on Acceleration towards the Sustainable Development Goals targets for maternal mortality and child mortality (organized by Somalia)
11 March	13:00-14:30	Hybrid	Quarterly Member State Information session on the Prevention and Response to Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (PRSEAH) other misconduct EB148 (4)
12-13 March	10:00-12:00/14:00-16:00	tbc	Steering Committee of the Member State mechanism on Substandard and Falsified Medical

Check the website regularly for updates

[https://apps.who.int/gb/gov/en/intergovernmental-meeting\\_en.html](https://apps.who.int/gb/gov/en/intergovernmental-meeting_en.html)



## Side-events at WHA77:

- No official side-events at the Palais during WHA77 due to limited room availability
- Member States are welcome to organize their own side-events at locations of their choice
- Member States may share information about their side-events with HQ Governing Bodies [hqgoverningbodies@who.int](mailto:hqgoverningbodies@who.int)
- WHA77 list of Member States led side-events will be published on our website and WHA77app



# Member State Information Session

## **GBS Updates**

15 February 2024

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