

**WHA 76**

**Committee A – 23 May 2023**

**WHO HQ, Geneva, Switzerland**

**Item 15.1 – Strengthening WHO preparedness for and response to health emergencies.**

**WOAH Statement**

**Original EN**

Thank you, Chair,

I'm speaking on behalf of the World Organisation for Animal Health, WOAHA, established in 1924 as the OIE.

WOAH acknowledges the report by WHO Director General on “Public health emergencies: preparedness and response”.

We particularly recognize the reference made to **One Health**, and to the One Health Joint Plan of Action (JPA), developed by the Quadripartite, gathering FAO, UNEP, WHO and WOAHA, as the framework to support countries tackling health threats at human-animal- environment interface.

We underline the **Quadripartite Joint Call to Action**, issued by the Heads of the four Organizations on 27 March 2023, urging countries and stakeholders to undertake seven priority actions, including Prevention of pandemics at source, which is the first step to improve preparedness.

This must start by increasing collaboration between the human, animal and environment sectors.

In this regard, the Pandemic Instrument would not be complete without a solid and thorough One Health approach being incorporated as its foundational pillar. This would facilitate achieving the scope of the Instrument focusing on Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response.

One Health scientific and technical inputs should be made available to the governance structure of the Instrument, through its consultative body.

WOAH, as a member of the Quadripartite, remains fully committed in the on-going INB process and to make One Health operational at all levels.

I thank you Chair . /