

Report of the meeting

1. The open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group (IGWG) on the WHO Pandemic Agreement held its third meeting from 3 to 7 November 2025 under the leadership of Ambassador Tovar da Silva Nunes of Brazil and Mr Matthew Harpur of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as Co-Chairs, with Ambassador Vuyile Dlamini of the Kingdom of Eswatini, Dr Hanan Mohamed Al Kuwari of the State of Qatar, Dr Viroj Tangcharoensathien of the Kingdom of Thailand and Ms Madeleine Heyward of Australia as Vice-Chairs.
2. In his opening remarks, the Director-General expressed his appreciation to all Member States for their continued commitment to the process, and particularly to the Bureau for developing the draft PABS Annex text to be considered by the IGWG. He acknowledged that the draft text was a genuine attempt by the Bureau to find as much middle ground as possible. He encouraged the IGWG to engage in open and frank discussion and to find compromise and flexibility, similar to what had been achieved to reach agreement on the WHO Pandemic Agreement. The Director-General reminded the IGWG of the urgency of its mandate.
3. The IGWG adopted its agenda with the deletion of agenda item 3 (Proposals from Member States of entities to be included in Annex D and/or Annex E of document A/IGWG/2/4 (if any)), as there had been no proposals received under this item. Discussions on agenda items 1 (Opening of the session and adoption of the agenda and programme of work); the open session on 2 (Draft PABS Annex text); 5 (Report of the meeting); and 6 (Closure of the session) were publicly webcast with the participation of Relevant Stakeholders. The discussions on agenda items 2 (Draft PABS Annex text) and 4 (Next steps) were held in closed session with the participation of IGWG members (namely Member States, Associate Members and regional economic integration organizations) and the Observer delegations of Palestine and the Holy See only. Relevant Stakeholders (Annexes A–E) were invited to join for open sessions each day where they were updated on progress and provided their views.
4. Following the adoption of the agenda and programme of work, the Bureau reported on the feedback from consultations regarding the decision by the second meeting of the IGWG, subject to further consultation and confirmation at the opening of the third meeting of the IGWG, to invite Relevant Stakeholders (Annexes A–E) to observe discussions of the third meeting, as a pilot, in relation to the drafting and negotiation of the PABS Annex. Whilst there was broad support for the engagement with Relevant Stakeholders in the IGWG process, some delegations expressed a preference to maintain the modalities of engagement with Relevant Stakeholders as agreed at the first meeting of the IGWG. The Bureau was encouraged to continue to explore ways to ensure meaningful engagement with Relevant Stakeholders.

5. The IGWG members discussed the draft PABS Annex text developed by the IGWG Bureau as requested at the second meeting and provided comments and textual inputs. The IGWG proceeded with an approach to reflect textual proposals on screen. The Secretariat was then requested to share the on-screen text version with IGWG members and Relevant Stakeholders on a daily basis. Some delegations expressed their reservations on the efficiency, at that stage, of engaging in a drafting exercise with the submission of textual inputs in all areas, with a preference for an approach that focused on areas of convergence. The Secretariat would circulate the on-screen version of the text to IGWG members and Relevant Stakeholders. IGWG members agreed to continue informal discussions during the intersessional period with a view to finding common understanding on specific topics through informal sessions, without prejudice to formal drafting text.
6. The IGWG requested the Bureau, with the support of the Secretariat, to organize and circulate at the earliest, the format, topics and schedule for interactive, focused informal dialogues during the intersessional period, open to all IGWG members and Relevant Stakeholders.
7. The IGWG adopted its report and the Co-Chairs closed the meeting.
