



Outcomes of EB156 & Looking ahead to the *May* governing body meetings

Member State Information Session

March 2025

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

Agenda

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Instructions for using the card-based system for requesting the floor
3. Outcomes of the 156th session of the Executive Board (3-11 February 2025)
4. Update on the preparations for PBAC42 (14-16 May 2025), WHA78 (19-27 May 2025) and EB157 (28-29 May 2025)
5. Side event application process
6. Questions and answers
7. AOB

Card-Based System for Requesting the Floor



In request

Activated

Deactivated



- Considered 15 items and sub-items and provided recommendations to the Executive Board on matters that would appear on the EB156 agenda, including on reform, the proposed programme budget 2026-2027, human resource matters, and engagement with non-State actors.
- Piloted new innovations including projection on screen of the speakers' list and summaries of PBAC recommendations; as well as, managing time with the use of chimes linked to the traffic light system and eventually the cutting of microphones of speakers exceeding the time limits.

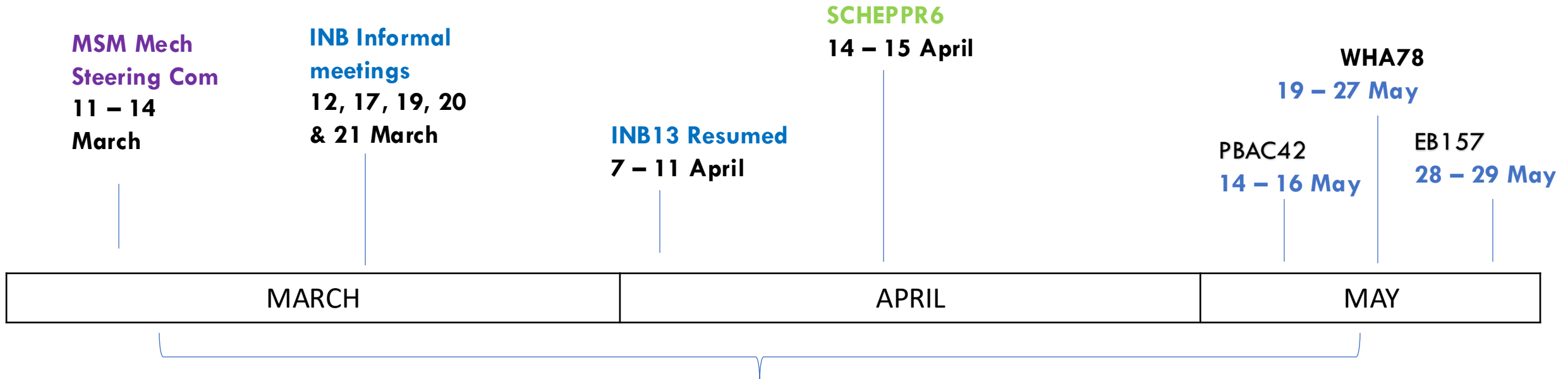


- Considered 47 items and sub-items and adopted 7 resolutions and 40 decisions, approximately 29 of which contain proposals for the consideration of the Health Assembly in May largely on technical matters.
- Highlights include that: the Member State-led governance reform process was extended; the mandate of the SCHEPPR was extended by 1 year; and that informal consultations will be conducted during the intersessional period to finalize proposals with respect to the Proposed Programme Budget 2026-2027, the process for handling and investigating potential allegations against WHO Directors-General, the draft global action plan climate change and the draft strategy on traditional medicine.

MS information sessions on finance, management and governance

Meeting Title	Type of meeting	Date	Time	Format
Member State Information session on preparations for the upcoming constitutional meetings	Information Session	18-March	10:30-12:00	Hybrid
Member State information session on Member State-led Governance Reform	Information Session	18-March	14:00-15:30	Virtual
Member State information session on updates to GPW 14 impact measurement	Information Session	20-March	09:00-10:30	Virtual
Member State information session on WHO Prioritization and the proposed programme budget 2026-2027	Information Session	24-March	11:00-12:30	Hybrid
Member State informal consultation on Member State-led Governance Reform	Consultation	3-April	14:00-16:00	Virtual
Member States consultation on the process for handling and investigating potential allegations against WHO Directors-General	Consultation	4-April	14:00-16:30	Hybrid
Second briefing on management response to financial situation		tbd		
Member State information session on the proposed programme budget 2026-2027	Consultation	16-April	14:00-15:30	Virtual
Member States information session on costing of resolutions	Information session	tbd		

Schedule of intergovernmental processes



- MS consultations on resolutions and decisions for WHA78
- EB and PBAC Chair consultations on the process for the handling of potential allegations against DGs
- Proposed Programme Budget consultations
- Information sessions and briefings on technical matters
- Informal meeting of PBAC members

Information sessions/Informal consultations



Informal list of intergovernmental meetings (provisional)

Previous years

Previous months - 2025

Previous days (2025)

MARCH 2025

Date/Time		Location	Meeting/intergovernmental process
11-14 March	09:00-12:00/13:30-16:00	tbc	Steering Committee of the Member State Mechanism on Substandard and Falsified Medical Products
12 March	09:30-12:30	Hybrid	INB informal meeting on Articles 11 and Articles 13 and 13 bis
13 March	16:00-17:30	Hybrid	Member State information session on Member State-led Governance Reform
17 March	09:30-12:30	Hybrid	INB informal discussions on article 4
	14:00-17:00	Hybrid	INB informal discussions on article 12
18 March	10:30-12:00	Hybrid	Member State Information session on preparations for the upcoming constitutional meetings
19 March	09:00-11:00	Virtual	Member State informal consultation on the WHO traditional medicine strategy 2025-2034
	14:00-17:00	Hybrid	INB informal discussions on article 12
20 March	09:00-10:30	Virtual	Member State information session on updates to GPW14 impact measurement
	10:30-13:30	Hybrid	INB informal discussion on chapter 1 and the preamble
	14:30-16:30	Virtual	Member State consultation on draft resolution on Social Connection (organized by Chile and Spain)
21 March	09:30-12:30	Hybrid	INB informal discussion on chapter 3
24 March	11:00-12:30	Virtual	Member State information session on the proposed programme budget 2026-2027
25 March	14:30-15:30	Virtual	Member State information session on recognizing progress on access to assistive technology: MS 2025 Progress Indicator Survey
26 March	09:00-10:30	Virtual	Member State information session on Antimicrobial resistance: implementing 2024 commitments and updating the global action plan

APRIL 2025

Date/Time		Location	Meeting/intergovernmental process
1 April	09:00-10:00	Virtual	Member State information session on the Health Technology Access Program
	10:30-12:30	Virtual	Member State informal consultation on the Final Draft Global Plan of Action on Climate Change and Health
4 April	14:00-16:30	Hybrid	Member States consultation on the process for handling and investigating potential allegations against WHO Directors-General
7-11 April	09:30-12:00/14:30-17:00/18:00-20:30	Hybrid	Resumed Thirteenth meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB13)
14-15 April	13:00-15:30	Virtual	Sixth meeting of the Standing Committee on Health Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response
16 April	14:00-15:30	Virtual	Member State information session on the proposed programme budget 2026-2027
17 April	14:00-17:00	Virtual	Informal WHA78 pre-meeting for Member States, non-State actors in official relations and the Secretariat
23 April	09:00-12:00	Virtual	Informal WHA78 pre-meeting for Member States, non-State actors in official relations and the Secretariat
29 April	14:00-17:00	Virtual	Informal WHA78 pre-meeting for Member States, non-State actors in official relations and the Secretariat

MAY 2025

Date/Time		Location	Meeting/intergovernmental process



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

INB Informal meetings

12, 17, 19, 20
& 21 March

INB13 Resumed
7 – 11 April

WHA78
19 – 27 May

MARCH

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World Health Organization

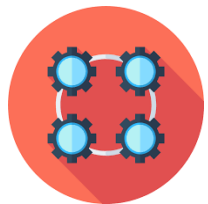
SEVENTY-SEVENTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY
Agenda item 13.4

WHA77(20)
1 June 2024

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

(OP)1. DECIDES:

- (1) to extend the mandate of the INB to finish its work as soon as possible, and submit its outcome for consideration by the Seventy-eighth World Health Assembly in 2025, or earlier by a special session of the World Health Assembly if possible in 2024 with only one agenda item dedicated to this outcome;
- (2) that for its future work, the INB shall allow for the rotation of the Bureau, as appropriate, and if agreed within each region;
- (3) that the next meeting of the INB shall be held in July 2024, in hybrid mode with interpretation, with the dates to be confirmed by the Secretariat as soon as possible, in order to consider and agree on its workplan and meeting schedule and consider, as appropriate, updates to the INB's method of work, consistent with this decision and decision SSA2(5) (2021);
- (4) to request the Director-General to continue to support the INB, including by providing the INB with the necessary services and facilities for the performance of its work, including complete, relevant and timely information and advice.



MSM

Member State mechanism on substandard and falsified medical products (WHA65.19)



Future timeline

The 78th World Health Assembly to adopt the decision to submit the report of the 14th meeting of the Member State Mechanism to the 79th World Health Assembly through the Executive Board at its 158th session, pertaining to the independent evaluation (2024). (Decision, EB156/11)



For more information visit:

<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-MVP-EMP-SAV-2019.04>

<https://apps.who.int/gb/sf/>

March

April

May

June

Steering Committee Meeting

11- 14 March 2025

- Preparation for the draft list of prioritized activities for the period of 2026-2027
- Evaluation planning (draft theory of change)

Informal Meetings of Steering Committee

16 April 2025 / tbd

- Evaluation planning (draft theory of change)

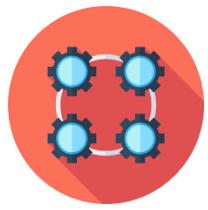
Steering Committee Meeting

23- 25 July 2025

- Finalization of draft prioritized activities for the period of 2026-2027 and a new Theory of Change/ Result Framework (Evaluation Planning)

Steering Committee Meeting + MSM14

• November 2025



Member States-led Governance Reform

Follow up from EB156

Decision EB156(1):

- to develop a sustainable model for representing the membership's interests in Member State-led governance reform
- to report on progress made in tracking the achievement of, and/or implementing, the remaining Agile Member States Task Group recommendations to the Executive Board at its 158th session
- to continue to support informal discussions for Member State-led governance reform, open to all Member States, by providing expert technical advice, inputs and logistic support

Documents for EB157

- Improving the effectiveness of the WHO governing bodies: implementation of the discretionary mandate on the postponement of agenda items (decision EB154(3) (2024)).
- Matters emanating from the Agile Member States Task Group on Strengthening WHO's Budgetary, Programmatic and Financing Governance: results of the questionnaire on the preparation of draft resolutions and decisions (decision EB153(2) (2023)).
- Proposals for improving the effectiveness of the governing bodies.

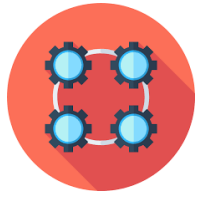
Timeline

Information session
18 March

Consultation
3 April



**Survey on preparing
resolutions and
decisions**
10 – 28 March



SCHEPPR

Standing Committee on Health Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response

SCHEPPR6
14 -15 Apr

MARCH	APRIL	MAY
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Proposed agenda items include:

- Update on ongoing public health emergencies of international concern.
- Update on strengthening health emergency prevention, preparedness, response and resilience (including health threats that require additional preparedness).
- Proposed agenda and annotated agenda to be posted online shortly.

Additional points to note:

- C.L. sent to Member States on 12 March
- Registration through INDICO from 17 March
- Related documents to be shared in early April
- Format: Fully virtual
- Time: 13:00 – 15:30 on 14 and 15 April

- **Dates and location:** 14 to 16 May 2025 at WHO Headquarters
- **Chair:** Dr Cathrine Marie Lofthus (Norway)
- **Vice-Chair:** Dr Ibrahima Sy (Senegal)
- **Agenda:** will contain PBAC specific items, as well as items that will also appear on the agendas of WHA78 and EB157, such that the PBAC will be able to provide recommendations on these matters.
- **Invitation:** to be circulated 8 weeks prior to the convening of the sessions

Dates and location: 19 to 27 May 2025 at the Palais des Nations

Officers of the Assembly:

- President from the Western Pacific Region, and five Vice-Presidents from the other regions
- Chair of Committee A- from the African Region
- Chair of Committee B- from the European Region

Those 8 Officers, plus 17 Member States make up the General Committee

Invitations: to be circulated not less than 60 days prior to the opening

Preparing for WHA78 - Overview of formal agenda

- **Heavy agenda with 75 items/sub-items; Most items have already been considered by EB156**
- **Three Pillar 1 items have not been considered by EB156;**
 - 12. The role of the global coordination mechanism on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases in WHO's work on multistakeholder engagement for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases: report on independent evaluation
 - 14. Health in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
 - 15. Antimicrobial Resistance
- **Only two Pillar 2 items have not been considered by EB156:**
 - 16.1 Strengthening the global architecture for health emergency prevention, preparedness, response and resilience
 - 16.2 Intergovernmental Negotiating Body to draft and negotiate a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response
 - 16.3 Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005)
 - 16.4 The Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee for the WHO Health Emergencies Programme
- **All Pillar 3 items have not been considered by EB156**
- **Most Pillar 4 items and sub-items will have been considered by either PBAC42 or EB156 by the time of the meeting:**
 - 20. Health conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including east Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan
 - 25. Reassignment of Indonesia from the South-East Asia Region to the Western Pacific Region 26. Agreements with intergovernmental organizations 27. Collaboration within the United Nations system and with other intergovernmental organizations
 - 12. progress reports under Matters for information

Dates and location: 28-29 May 2025 at WHO Headquarters

Officers: Chair to be provided by the Western Pacific Region; Vice-Chairs to be provided by the Regions of Africa, Europe, the Eastern Mediterranean and South-East Asia; the Rapporteur to be provided by the Region of the Americas

Agenda: CL.3.2025, which contains the draft provisional EB157 agenda, was circulated to Member States on 7 March. Member States have until 19 March to provide any proposals on the agenda. Such proposals should be sent to governanceunit@who.int and include an explanatory memorandum in accordance with Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure.

Interpretation and the posting of written statements

To facilitate accuracy and clarity in interpretation, Member States are kindly requested to send a copy of any statements to be delivered in-session to interpret@who.int at least 30 minutes in advance of delivery.



- Written statements to be posted on the WHO website should be sent to statements@who.int.
- It is proposed for written statements to be posted up to 7 days before the start of the session.
- In all cases, please identify the Member State (or region) submitting, as well as the governing body session and specific agenda item to which the statement relates.

Speakers list for General Debate

- A link to inscribe will be sent to Member States at the beginning of May
- Member States are encouraged to have a single person per each delegation inscribing once on the list.
- Live list of speakers will be available on the WHO App and on the screen outside the meeting room
- Secretariat cannot change the position of a Member State on the list, except as bilaterally agreed between two delegations.

Side events during WHA78 (1/2)

- Side-events will be reintroduced at the Palais des Nations in May 2025 (Monday 19 May through Saturday 24 May 2025).
- Based on room availability, **an approximate 40+ slots** are anticipated to be available for Member States and entities in Official Relations with WHO at lunchtime and in the evening.
- Considering the financing constraints facing WHO, side-events can only be reintroduced based on a **full cost recovery mechanism**.
- Timeline and process:
 - A **call for applications** will be sent on 21 March to Member States and other entities, including guidelines and criteria for selection.
 - The **timeline for reception of applications** is 4 April.
 - A complete **list of selected events** will be released on the GBS website by 24 April.
 - **Confirmation of the slot** by paying for the room and associated technical support by 1 May.

Side events during WHA78 (2/2)

Cost recovery mechanism:

- Capacity of rooms ranges between 200 and 600 participants.
- Interpretation and catering will be arranged/charged separately once the event is confirmed.

Criteria for selection:

- Regional diversity and balance, and multi-stakeholder approach: Member States from at least 3 regions, or 2 regions in collaboration with UN entity and/or relevant Intergovernmental Organization or non-State Actor;
- Contributions to one or more themes of the GPW14, relation to WHA78 agenda item or focus on new topics;
- Gender-balance and intergenerational approach will be given priority;
- Events may be held in any of the six official WHO languages;
- One event per topic.

All details will be in the Guidelines: please review them before applying!



Send any further questions to:

Governance/programmatic matters: governanceunit@who.int

Protocol/registration matters: hqgoverningbodies@who.int