

Report of the meeting

Interim report of the meeting

1. The first meeting of the States Parties Committee for the Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005) (SPCIHR) was held in a hybrid format from 31 August to 2 September 2026.
2. The SPCIHR elected Dr Vernon Lee of Singapore as Chair and Dr Fernando Simón Soria of Spain as Vice-Chair.
3. In his opening remarks, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, congratulated the Chair and Vice-Chair on their election. He noted that the Committee, established through the 2024 amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) (IHR), had a practical mandate to review implementation of the Regulations, identify gaps and challenges, promote and share best practices, and support States Parties in meeting their obligations. He encouraged the SPCIHR to focus on four key priorities: (i) practical, country-level implementation to ensure that international agreements were translated into national action; (ii) measurable progress to strengthen monitoring and accountability; (iii) equity and solidarity to ensure that no country was left behind; and (iv) interoperability and coordination to avoid fragmentation and maximize impact. He underscored that the WHO Secretariat stood ready to support the Committee through the provision of data, analysis and technical guidance.
4. The SPCIHR adopted the agenda, as amended, contained in document SPCIHR/1/1 Rev.1.
5. Following the adoption of the agenda, the Secretariat provided an overview of the purpose, nature, functioning and technical scope of the SPCIHR.
6. The Committee then considered its terms of reference as contained in document SPCIHR/1/2 and delegations provided comments. The meeting agreed to further consider the revised version, with a view to adoption. States Parties were invited to provide any further written comments by 18 September 2026. The Chair and Vice-Chair would circulate an updated version in advance of the resumed session referenced in paragraph 8 below.
7. The SPCIHR further considered the draft terms of reference of the Subcommittee of the States Parties Committee for the Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005) as contained in document SPCIHR/1/3. The meeting agreed to further consider the revised version at the resumed session referenced in paragraph 8 below. Owing to limited time, the Committee did

not consider the draft terms of reference for the Coordinating Financial Mechanism under Article 44 bis of the International Health Regulations (2005) and decided to take up that matter at the resumed session.

8. The SPCIHR decided to hold a resumed session of its first meeting from 16 to 18 December 2026. In preparation for the resumed session, the SPCIHR requested the Secretariat to identify proposed technical topics for discussion.

9. The SPCIHR considered and approved its interim report, following which the Chair suspended the meeting.
