Provisional agenda (annotated)

1. Opening of the session

2. Adoption of the agenda and method of work

3. Update on implementation of resolution WHA73.1 (2020) on the COVID-19 response

The Director-General will submit an interim report pursuant to requests made to the Director-General by the Seventy-third World Health Assembly in resolution WHA73.1 (2020) on the response to coronavirus disease (COVID-19). The report will provide a brief summary of WHO’s activities since January 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and will set out the steps taken to ensure that appropriate lessons are learned and best practices implemented as the pandemic evolves.

4. Update from the Co-Chairs of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response, the Chair of the IHR Review Committee and the Chair of the Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee for the WHO Health Emergencies Programme

Pursuant to a further request made by the Health Assembly in resolution WHA73.1, the Director-General initiated work to set up an Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response, appointing two Co-Chairs, who were mandated to independently select and appoint the members of the Independent Panel. The Co-Chairs will submit a written report on the initial work, together with an oral report from the first meeting with the Independent Panel, which took place 17 September 2020.

The special session will also consider updates from the Chair of the Review Committee on the Functioning of the International Health Regulations (2005) during the COVID-19 Response and the Chair of the Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee for the WHO Health Emergencies Programme.

5. Closure of the session