Strengthening preparedness for and response to public health emergencies through targeted amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005)

Draft resolution proposed by France, Indonesia, Kenya, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia and the United States of America

The Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly,

(PP1) Recalling resolution WHA58.3 (2005) adopting the International Health Regulations (2005), as subsequently amended through resolutions WHA67.13 (2014) and WHA75.12 (2022);

(PP2) Recalling also decisions EB150(3) (2022) and WHA75(9) (2022);

(PP3) Acknowledging with appreciation the work of the Review Committee regarding amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) convened by the Director-General pursuant to decision WHA75(9) (2022);

(PP4) Expressing appreciation for the work of the Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) (WGIHR) and acknowledging with appreciation the leadership of its Bureau;

(PP5) Recognizing States Parties’ right to notify the Director-General of rejections or reservations, pursuant to Articles 59, 61, and 62 of the International Health Regulations (2005), to the amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) annexed to this resolution,

1. ADOPTS, in accordance with Article 55 of the International Health Regulations (2005), the amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) annexed to this resolution (hereinafter referred to as the “amended International Health Regulations (2005”));

2. DECIDES:

   (a) in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 54 of the amended International Health Regulations (2005), that a review of the functioning of the Regulations shall be made by the Eightieth World Health Assembly;

   (b) that amendments to the Model International Certificate of Vaccination or Prophylaxis contained in Annex 6 will only apply to certificates issued after the date of the entry into force of the amended International Health Regulations (2005);
that future instruments on public health emergencies or pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, adopted pursuant to the WHO Constitution, may utilize the Coordinating Financial Mechanism contained in Article 44bis of the amended International Health Regulations (2005) to serve the implementation of such instruments;

3. REQUESTS the Director-General:

(a) to give prompt notification of the amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) adopted through this resolution, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 65 of the International Health Regulations (2005), on the understanding that, prior to such notification, the Director-General shall ensure the uniformity of the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts of the amendments, allowing for State Party review and input on language conformity and accuracy;

(b) to inform other competent intergovernmental organizations or international bodies of the amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) adopted through this resolution, including specifically the International Maritime Organization (IMO) regarding amended Article 37 and Annexes 3, 4, and 8;

(c) to commence work, in advance of the entry into force of the amendments adopted through this resolution, on matters addressed in all amended Articles, and to prepare and publish a consolidated version of the amended International Health Regulations (2005);

(d) to collaborate with States Parties, to the extent possible, in the mobilization of predictable, sustainable and timely financial resources to support developing countries in developing, strengthening and maintaining the capacities required under the amended International Health Regulations (2005);

(e) to facilitate the process for the Eightieth World Health Assembly to review the functioning of the amended International Health Regulations (2005), in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 54 of the amended International Health Regulations (2005);

(f) to facilitate the convening of the first meeting of the States Parties Committee for the Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005), in accordance with Article 54bis of the amended International Health Regulations (2005), no later than one year after entry into force of the amended International Health Regulations (2005); and

(g) to develop, and regularly review in consultation with Member States, the risk assessment approach to inform the determination of public health emergencies of international concern, including pandemic emergencies.