



JOURNAL

Second special session of the World Health Assembly

Journal No. 3 1 December 2021

Programme of meetings

Time	Plenary
10:00	Fifth meeting

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Interpretation

Interpretation will be provided in the official languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) to help delegates to follow the discussions. Delegates are requested to speak clearly and at a normal speaking pace to enable clear and accurate interpretation through the virtual platform. Copies of all statements should be submitted at least one hour in advance by email to interpret@who.int. Clearly indicate the name of the country delegation/group in the subject line of the email. Note: a statement of three minutes at normal speaking pace is equivalent to approximately 330 words.

Documentation

Documents for the Second special session of the World Health Assembly are available at: https://apps.who.int/gb/e/e_whassa2.html#top on the WHO website.

1. Programme of work

Wednesday, 1 December 2021

Fifth meeting

10:00

Item 2 continued

Consideration of the benefits of developing a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic preparedness and response with a view towards the establishment of an intergovernmental process to draft and negotiate such a convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic preparedness and response, taking into account the report of the Working Group on Strengthening WHO Preparedness and Response to Health Emergencies

- Documents SSA2/CONF./1 Rev.1 and SSA2/CONF./1 Rev.1 Add.1

Item 3

Closure of the Health Assembly

Closing ceremony

2. Report of meetings

Third meeting

In the Chair:

H.E. Professor Benjamin Hounkpatin (Benin)

First Vice-President of the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly

Report of the Committee on Credentials

The Vice-President presented the report of the Committee on Credentials (document SSA2/4) which was approved by the Health Assembly. Subsequent to the report of the Committee on Credentials, Eritrea and Trinidad and Tobago were accepted as having submitted valid credentials.

Item 2 continued

Consideration of the benefits of developing a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic preparedness and response with a view towards the establishment of an intergovernmental process to draft and negotiate such a convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic preparedness and response, taking into account the report of the Working Group on Strengthening WHO Preparedness and Response to Health Emergencies

The Vice-President resumed consideration of item 2. At the invitation of the Vice-President, the WHO regional directors of the Eastern Mediterranean, European and South-East Asia Regions addressed the Assembly.

The floor was opened for discussion and the Vice-President invited the first two speakers to address the Assembly: the delegate of Thailand and the delegate of Singapore. These speakers were followed by the delegates of Albania, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Azerbaijan, the Republic of Korea, Cyprus, Tunisia, Gabon, the Dominican Republic, Zambia, Namibia, Tanzania, Mauritania, Fiji, Estonia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Georgia, Canada, Ethiopia, Bangladesh, the Netherlands, Cabo Verde, Luxembourg, Burundi, Sweden, Ireland, Israel, Guatemala, Suriname, Senegal, Kuwait, Armenia, Belarus, Jordan, Tonga, Madagascar, Ukraine, Malawi, Rwanda, the Gambia, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Philippines.

The meeting was adjourned.

Fourth meeting

In the Chair:

H.E. Hanan Al-Kuwari (Qatar)

Third Vice-President of the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly

Item 2 *continued*

Consideration of the benefits of developing a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic preparedness and response with a view towards the establishment of an intergovernmental process to draft and negotiate such a convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic preparedness and response, taking into account the report of the Working Group on Strengthening WHO Preparedness and Response to Health Emergencies

The Vice-President resumed consideration of item 2 and invited the first two speakers to address the Assembly: the delegate of India (who spoke on behalf of the Member States of the South-East Asia Region) and the delegate of Sao Tome and Principe. These speakers were followed by the delegates of Niger, Kazakhstan, Japan, Equatorial Guinea, Iraq, Uruguay, Saudi Arabia, Timor-Leste, Sri Lanka, the Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Nepal, Andorra, Malaysia, Romania, Sudan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, India, Haiti, Slovakia, Switzerland (who spoke on behalf of the Member States of the European Region), Cambodia, Belize, Central African Republic, Serbia, Oman, Barbados, Qatar, Togo, United Arab Emirates, Nicaragua and representatives of the Holy See, Palestine, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), GAVI Alliance, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), World Bank, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), South Centre, and Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

29 non-State actors in official relations with WHO were invited to provide their statements.

The report as contained in document SSA2/3 was noted by the Assembly.

In accordance with Rule 57 of the Rules of Procedure, the delegations of China and Israel exercised the right of reply.

The meeting was adjourned.

3. Arrangement for the conduct of discussion in meetings

Verbal statements

Member State delegations are asked to observe the time limit for verbal statements during the virtual sessions: individual statements by Member States and Associate Members will be limited to three minutes (330 words). Regional and group statements will be limited to four minutes (440 words). Delegations providing group statements are discouraged from taking the floor subsequently to provide a national statement. In addition, delegations on whose behalf a group statement is provided, are discouraged from subsequently taking the floor except to provide any brief additional comments that were not covered by the group statement.

Statements by Observers, invited representatives of the United Nations and of other participating intergovernmental organizations will be limited to two minutes (220 words) and statements by non-State actors in official relations with the Organization will be limited to one minute.

To ensure that statements are interpreted as clearly as possible, delegates are requested to submit a copy of their statements at least **one hour** in advance by email to interpret@who.int, to close windows to reduce background noise and to use high quality headsets with echo cancelling microphones.

Written statements

Member States and Associate Members are invited to submit written statements for posting on the website in the language of submission in accordance with the guidelines for written statements in decision EB146(17).

Observers, invited representatives of the United Nations and of other participating and intergovernmental organizations are also invited to submit written statements in accordance with those guidelines. Non-State actors are invited to submit written statements as per the practical information for representatives of non-State actors in official relations with WHO.

In accordance with the guidelines, statements may be provided in any of the six WHO official languages and should be limited to 500 words for individual statements and 800 words for group statements. They should be submitted to statements@who.int, clearly indicating the relevant agenda item or sub-item in the subject line.

Video statements

Pre-recorded statements will be played in lieu of live interventions as per the speakers list. Video statements will be included in the live streaming and therefore will be included in the official records.

4. Announcements

Hybrid meeting format for the Health Assembly

As decided by the Executive Board, up to two delegates per Member State or Associate Member will be given physical access to the meeting room.

The Zoom platform will be used for delegates joining the Health Assembly virtually. In order to ensure good sound quality on the virtual platform, please ensure that when taking the floor to deliver a statement, you select the language on the interpretation channel in which you are planning to speak and use high-quality headsets with echo cancelling microphones and webcam. We recommend that you use a personal computer, rather than a smartphone or tablet, and download the latest version of the Zoom software. Please deliver your statement at a moderate speed that allows for its interpretation and ensures your message is conveyed clearly and accurately.

Support

For support related to physical access to the meeting room, please contact INDICO@who.int. For support related to the virtual platform, please send an email to GBS-IT-Support@who.int.

Video streaming

The sessions will be webcast in the six UN languages. The webcasts can be viewed on Mac and PCs, as well as all mobile devices including iPhone, iPad, Android and Windows-enabled phones.

Arabic:	https://player.4am.ch/who/20211129-1201_WHA74/player.html?lang=ar
Chinese:	https://player.4am.ch/who/20211129-1201_WHA74/player.html?lang=zh
English:	https://player.4am.ch/who/20211129-1201_WHA74/player.html?lang=en
French:	https://player.4am.ch/who/20211129-1201_WHA74/player.html?lang=fr
Russian:	https://player.4am.ch/who/20211129-1201_WHA74/player.html?lang=ru
Spanish:	https://player.4am.ch/who/20211129-1201_WHA74/player.html?lang=es

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