World Health Organization

Seventh meeting of the open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the WHO Pandemic Agreement (resolution WHA78.1)

Agenda item 2

A/IGWG/7/3 Rev.1

7 July 2026

Working modalities and updated timeline and deliverables of the open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group

Background

1. Through resolution WHA78.1 (2025), the Seventy-eighth World Health Assembly established an open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group (IGWG) on the WHO Pandemic Agreement. Pursuant to operative paragraph 10 of that resolution, the Health Assembly also decided that the IGWG shall agree its methods and programme of work at its organizational meeting.[1]

2. Subsequently, through decision WHA79(7) (2026), the Seventy-ninth World Health Assembly decided that the IGWG shall continue its work as mandated in operative paragraph 9(1) of resolution WHA78.1 and shall, as a priority, draft and negotiate the Annex described in Article 12 of the WHO Pandemic Agreement (the "PABS Annex"), including to develop legally binding contracts to be negotiated and signed with WHO, and shall submit the outcome to the Eightieth World Health Assembly for its consideration or, as may be necessary, earlier by a special session of the World Health Assembly in 2026, with only one agenda item dedicated to this outcome. The Health Assembly further decided to subsequently facilitate, as necessary, activities related to the adoption of said Annex and the opening for signature, ratification, acceptance, approval, accession or formal confirmation of the WHO Pandemic Agreement.

3. At its sixth meeting, the IGWG decided that it would consider at its seventh meeting its working modalities and would update the timeline and deliverables of the IGWG. The proposals in the present document are consistent with the agreed methods of work set out in document A/IGWG/1/2 Rev.1 and suggest updates to the timeline and deliverables contained in document A/IGWG/1/3 Rev.1.

Proposed updates to the timeline and deliverables

4. As mandated by operative paragraph 9(1) of resolution WHA78.1 as well as decision WHA79(7), the timeline provided in the Tables below is structured to prioritize the drafting and negotiation of the Annex to the WHO Pandemic Agreement described in Article 12 of the WHO Pandemic Agreement. The meeting schedule covers primarily the period of July to November 2026, on the understanding that the IGWG at its proposed ninth meeting in

[1] See documents A/IGWG/1/2 Rev.1 and A/IGWG/1/3 Rev.1.

November 2026 may consider updating the workplan and convening additional meetings, as appropriate. The schedule provides potential dates for those additional meetings, as may be necessary to finalize the IGWG's work in advance of the Eightieth World Health Assembly in May 2027 and/or to progress the work of the IGWG in relation to the preparations for the first session of the Conference of the Parties of the WHO Pandemic Agreement.

5. In accordance with operative paragraph 9(3) of resolution WHA78.1, the timeline reflects the mandate of the IGWG to: (1) develop a proposal for the terms of reference for the Coordinating Financial Mechanism and the modalities for its operationalization and governance in relation to the implementation of the WHO Pandemic Agreement as described in Article 18 of the WHO Pandemic Agreement, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties; and (2) in this regard, cooperate with the States Parties Committee for the Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005) as referred to in Article 54 bis thereof and with its preparatory process.

6. Through resolution WHA77.17 (2024), the Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly requested the Director-General 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 54 bis of the amended International Health Regulations (2005), no later than one year after entry into force of the said Regulations. The first meeting of the States Parties Committee for the Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005) will be held during the first week of September 2026, which is reflected in the timeline.

Table 1. Timeline and deliverables

Timeline	Meetings and expected deliverables
6–17 July 2026	**Seventh meeting of the IGWG** **Deliverables:** – **Negotiation of, and agreement on, the draft PABS Annex** – **Session on the Coordinating Financial Mechanism, also covering possible ways to cooperate with the States Parties Committee for the Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005)**
24–28 August 2026	Regional Committee for Africa: seventy-sixth session
31 August–2 September 2026	First meeting of the States Parties Committee for the Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005)
7–10 September 2026	Regional Committee for South-East Asia: seventy-ninth session
14–18 September 2026	**Eighth meeting of the IGWG** **Deliverables:** – **Negotiation of, and agreement on, the draft PABS Annex** – **Session on the Coordinating Financial Mechanism**
Week of 21 September 2026	United Nations General Assembly high-level week
28 September–2 October 2026	Regional Committee for the Americas: seventy-eighth session
Week of 5–9 October 2026	**Reserved for IGWG informal meetings**
13–15 October 2026	Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean: seventy-third session

Timeline	Meetings and expected deliverables
19–23 October 2026	Regional Committee for the Western Pacific: seventy-seventh session
27–29 October 2026	Regional Committee for Europe: seventy-sixth session
2–13 November 2026	**Ninth meeting of the IGWG** **Deliverables:** – **Negotiation of, and agreement on, the draft PABS Annex** – **Determination of process for the convening, as appropriate, of a special session of the Health Assembly, provided that agreement is reached on the draft text of the PABS Annex**[a] ***AND/OR*** – **Consideration and agreement on an updated workplan and meeting schedule, depending on progress made**
Week of 16 November 2026	Member State mechanism on substandard and falsified medical products: fifteenth meeting
Starting on 18 November 2026	First candidates' forum in relation to the process for the election of the Director-General of the World Health Organization
Week of 14 December 2026	**Possible convening of a two-day special session of the Health Assembly**

[a] The deadline for calling for a special session of the Health Assembly by the Executive Board is Friday, 13 November 2026. A decision by the IGWG would therefore be required at the latest by Tuesday, 10 November 2026.

Table 2. Additional possible dates to progress the work of the IGWG

Timeline	Meetings and expected deliverables
30 November–4 December 2026	**Reserved for further IGWG meetings, as needed**
20–22 January 2027	Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board: forty-fifth meeting
25 January–2 February 2027	Executive Board: 160th session
15–19 March 2027	**Reserved for further IGWG meetings**
19–21 May 2027	Programme, Budget and Administration Committee of the Executive Board: forty-sixth meeting
23–30 May 2027	World Health Assembly: Eightieth session
5–9 July 2027	**Reserved for further IGWG meetings**
